Monthly Parent Note

January, 2016

Banting Elementary School

Banting Bobcat

**Important January Dates:**

**Dec. 23 – January 3 Winter Break**

**Jan. 4** School Resumes

**Jan. 14 11:30 a.m. – 12:50 p.m. Bobcat Corner Store Open**

**Jan. 14 6:30 p.m. PTO meeting Banting in the Banting Library**

**Jan. 18 5:00 -8:00 p.m. Culver’s Family Night**

**Jan. 28 11:30 a.m. – 12:50 p.m. Bobcat Corner Store Open**

**Jan. 13 6 – 7:00 Family Wellness Night; Zumba Night**

**Jan. 14 Banting Open House**

**Jan. 22 No classes – Staff Development**

**Jan. 25 Staff Development**

**Jan. 28 4:00 – 7:30 p.m. Parent/Teacher Conferences**

**The Cold Weather Has Arrived**

****Please be sure that your child is dressed appropriately for the cold weather. We will be going outside unless the temperature is below 0 or below 0 wind chill. Please be sure students are wear boots when there is snow on the ground. We want students to be able to play in the snow but they will need to have appropriate attire.

**PTO Corner**

Thanks to everyone who participated and volunteered at the Holiday Shop. The kids had a great time shopping for gifts and we made approximately $1000 for our school. Thank you!

A big thank you to everyone who participated in the Marcus Movie Pass fundraiser, which made over $700 for Banting. We hope you have fun at the movies!

The PTO sponsored Bobcat Corner Store will be open every other Thursday starting Jan. 14, outside of the gym during your student’s lunch/recess, 11:30-12:50 p.m. We sell pencils, pens, highlighters, erasers, pencil sharpeners, bookmarks, folders, and more! Most items are between $.25 - $2.00. Parent volunteers are needed! You can volunteer once, twice, or every Thursday we’re open. We appreciate any help you can give! Contact [bantingelementarypto@gmail.com](mailto:bantingelementarypto@gmail.com) for more info and to sign up to volunteer.

Look for information coming home soon on our first Movie Night in February!

Join the Banting Elementary PTO Facebook page for information updates, photos, and more. Happy New Year! We are looking forward to a wonderful 2016 at Banting!

**Diversity Enhances our Environment - Banting Community Highlights (In this section we will highlight a Banting community member and their roots.) We learn to become better global**

**citizens when we learn more about our differences.**

Volunteer Parent, Antara Chaterjee, is the mother of Yuvraj Banerjee in second grade at Banting. Their home country is India in the city of Calcutta. In Calcutta the weather is very warm with the coolest weather usually about 60 degrees during winter in December and January. Antara has been here for 9 years and says she does miss the weather in India. She learned Bengali as her primary language and says that students in some schools begin to learn English in 6th grade. She also knows Hindi and English and understands a few other languages. Diwali, the festival of lights, is the largest festival in India. It celebrates the victory of good over evil. Antara shares that the food in India is usually very spicy. She says she loves a dessert called Rosa Golla. It is cheese balls in sugar syrup. Sounds sweet. Thanks for sharing your culture with us Antara and Yuvraj.

**Join Us for Zumba to promote Family Wellness**

See the date above. Bring the whole family and Shake the Winter Blues Away.

Dear Banting Families,

As we close out the year, we look at all the blessings we have had. Banting is a special place to be. You are part of making it what it is. As we enter the holiday season, regardless of how you celebrate, enjoy a wonderful time with family and friends. We look forward to a 2016 filled with fun, goal setting and growth. Don’t forget to have your kids read over the winter break. Happy Holidays!!

Sincerely,

Mary Garcia-Velez