

Candy at School:

We have been noticing an increased amount of candy and gum being brought to school. In some cases large bags of candy with at least 50 pieces are being brought and then shared among students. While this is a very friendly and kind gesture, we have some concerns and wonderings:

- Students may be eating more sugar than their families would normally find acceptable
- Some students may be eating candy rather than their healthy snacks at recess
- There has been an increase in litter (candy and gum wrappers) on the playground
- Most students do not brush their teeth at school, which means it could be hours before they can clean their teeth. We recently learned that the rate of tooth decay in the Thompson area is 24 percent among Kindergarten students. The provincial rate of decay for that age group is 14 percent. This is something to think about.
- Sharing and eating during class time may distract students from their learning
- Some students may be hoping to gain some new friendships through this sharing. However, we know that true lasting friendships are developed through sharing interests and values and by being kind to one another
- We have a “community fridge” that has snacks like fruit and eggs for students that may be hungry. Students can help themselves to a snack if they did not bring enough food to school.

Therefore, we would like to **reduce the amount of candy and gum consumed at school, and we will start with a “no sharing candy or gum” policy at school for the everyday.** Of course, there may be times like birthdays or holiday parties that students may want to bring in a special treat for their classmates. In this case, please check with their teacher.

If you have any questions or some other insights please share them with Mrs. Hoffinger

Important Dates:

March 11th-14th Spirit Week.

March 14th: Last day before Spring Break

April 2nd: First Day back after Spring Break

April 24th: 2nd Term Report Cards available after 3 p.m.

Date TBA: Track and Field event in May for gr. 3-7

Date TBA: Talent Show in May

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to call the school at 604- 668-6420 or email me at shoffinger@sd38.bc.ca

Sincerely,

Mrs. Sharon Hoffinger

Principal, James Thompson Elementary School

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thompson.sd38.bc.ca](http://thompson.sd38.bc.ca)***