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School Year: 2017-2018
Issue #2 – October 2017

Principal Christine Bohm
Vice-Principal: Justin Mark
Secretary: Susan Clark
Secretary: Marina Lockhart

Principal's Message

We have had a very busy start to this school year and are in full swing once again, with many programs starting up for our students. Thank you to all of our volunteers!

At the start of any school year, teachers regularly employ diagnostic assessments in reading, writing and mathematics. These assessments are meant to determine the relative strengths and challenges for our students, so that we may begin to build and implement support plans and extension projects. This year, Ecole Hammond Bay will be working with the ALPIN and NLPS Reading Assessments. These assessments have been designed by teachers of our district and are available in both English and French. Our Grades 1-7 students will be assessed throughout October, and Kindergarten will be completed in January once they have a working knowledge of the French language. The results of these assessments are to inform our instruction and help us plan the next steps in our school goals.

We have had two exciting community presentations so far this year: Science World and Free Rangers: Animal Conservation.

Football Season is coming to a close. Our Bantam Girls and Bantam Boys teams have moved on the playoffs. We wish them the best of luck! Thank you to Mr. Stevenson, Mrs. Lewis, Mr. Kevin and Mme. Isabelle for coaching and sponsoring our teams.

Student Council is sponsoring the We Scare Hunger campaign again this year for the week from October 30-November 3. We are encouraging families to donate a non-perishable food item to the food box in your child(ren)'s classroom. All items will be donated to a local food bank. Thank you for your cooperation.

Halloween is fast approaching. We would like to remind everyone that objects resembling weapons are not to be brought to school, even though they may part of the costume. Also mask or any object covering the face will be asked to be removed. This is for the safety of all students. For more information please see the section below entitled: *Halloween at School*.

To receive our monthly newsletters electronically and/or receive information regarding school fundraising activities and community events, please visit our school website and subscribe. You can unsubscribe at any time.

It is important for us to have current phone numbers to reach you in case your child is sick or has an accident. If you change your phone numbers throughout the year, please let the office know immediately, so we can keep your child's contact information up to date.

Parents/guardians wishing to volunteer in our school or participating in our extra-curricular activities must complete a Criminal Record Check. The link to the Online Criminal Record Check is available on our school website on the "Parents Page". In the drop down box, scroll down to "Resources" link to find the process instructions and the live link. *Please do not forget to send me your full name and birth date once you have completed the online form.* I forward your information to the District office where they are maintaining a master list per school. The RCMP sends your clearance document to them, and then in turn they inform the schools. It is a monumental task to connect volunteer to school if we do not have a thread to follow (ie. your email to me indicating your information). If you completed the online form and are not sure if you have been cleared, you can verify with the RCMP or the school, or ask your child's classroom teacher.

During the month of September, we discussed behavior expectations with our students. We are encouraging our students to be friendly, positive and helpful to each other, to participate in various activities, and to help build our school community. We also discussed, with our intermediate students, exclusion and bullying in the context of online gaming and social media. We would encourage families to continue these conversations, which are needed to keep our children safe online.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's educational program, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Christine Bohm

Vice Principal's Message

I would like to thank the students and staff for a great October. It is so exciting to be part of such an amazing school. I am so thrilled to see so many students taking part in the House Games and participating in Dodgeball "Ballon Chasseur" at lunch. A big thanks to M. La Bounty for his leadership on this and for giving up his lunch every day to ref these exciting games. Although I wish all the students the best of luck, I am always secretly cheering for members of "Les Loups". It has also been a pleasure to see our boys and girls football teams do so well in their games. I had the pleasure of refing one of our girls games and they were amazing.

One of my favorite activities at Hammond Bay has been our weekly school wide Neck Point runs. It is a great feeling to see so many students actively enjoying the outdoors and our beautiful setting.

These runs have also provided a great opportunity for members of our Cross-Country to get some extra training. I looking forward to cheering our runners on in their upcoming meets.

A big thank you to Madame Natasha and Madame Jacqueline for leading a student council field trip to Vancouver for "We Day." This inspirational provincial youth gathering is such a rich opportunity for students to come together and focus on potential leadership ideas.

I was very pleased by the fantastic turnout for our grade 4/5 Mountain Bike Club. Students participated in a 4 part skills session and I have really enjoyed witnessing the improvement from our young mountain bikers. I am really looking forward to working and riding with the grade 6/7s in the spring.

Again thanks to the entire Hammond Bay Elementary community for making me feel at home. Just a quick note that my Vice Principal office has moved locations. It is located in the former meeting room in the courtyard. My office hours will be Tuesday afternoons and Thursday mornings. I can be reached via email at jmark@sd68.bc.ca and by phone at the school 250-758-5711.

Merci,

Justin Mark

Vice-Principal

250-758-5711

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Erase Bullying Resource

The Ministry of Education in conjunction with School Districts across the province have developed and implemented an online student and parent resource about and to report bullying incidents. Please visit www.erasebullying.ca for more information.

Library News

Bon retour and welcome back to another great year at Ecole Hammond Bay! If your child or children are just starting here, welcome to our little community.

I have taught at Hammond Bay for many years (since 2000!), and this year I am delighted to say that I have taken the position of Teacher Librarian, following in the wonderful footsteps of Monsieur Lussier, Madame Lou, and Madame Alison, most recently. I look forward to spending many happy years in our Library Learning Commons at Ecole Hammond Bay. I am ably assisted one day a week by Julie Kim, our Library Clerk.

In upcoming newsletters, I will let you know more news about books and library events. I am sure you are looking forward to the Scholastic Book Fairs that come to the school! In the months of April and May we will be welcoming visiting authors, as part of the Vancouver Island Childrens' Book Festival. Stay tuned...

At this time, all classes have visited the library several times and students are in the groove of signing out books. Take note of your child's library day and keep a reminder on your fridge or front door, or even better, in your child's agenda! Books that are read, enjoyed, and returned for others to enjoy are happy books and your librarian will be even happier!

If you are interested in volunteering in the library, please visit me after school on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, or Thursdays.

Happy reading! Bonne lecture!
Madame Jacqueline

Student Council

On October 18th, fifteen lucky members of our student council had the opportunity to travel to Vancouver to participate in WE Day at Rogers' Arena. They pledged to continue working to help others at school, locally, and globally. Our students came back with many great ideas for how to change the world!

We will be running two events this month with proceeds going to Loaves & Fishes Foodbank as well as the Nanaimo Breakfast Program. On October 27th there will be an Autumn - Halloween craft activity during long recess in the

gym. The event is for K-3 students and a small coin donation is encouraged (\$1 or 50cents).

We Scare Hunger begins on October 30th through to November 3rd. All students are asked to bring in non perishable items for the food bank. Our goal is 500 items! Donation boxes will be set up in each class and at the office.

Many thanks to our diligent Grade 5, 6, and 7 council members for planning this and to our school staff for supporting and encouraging the students at Hammond Bay to make a difference. Bravo!

Mme Natascha, Mme Kim, & Mme Jacqueline

Parking Lot Safety Concerns

We recognize that our parking lot is crowded and difficult to navigate during our peak hours (morning and afternoon), however to keep everyone, especially our students safe, please be reminded that:



- the speed limit should be very slow. Children do not always look before they step out into the traffic.
- that there is no long term stopping in the paved round-about area at the top of the parking lot. Only vehicles with a designated handicap sign in their window and daycare buses are allowed to stop in this area.
- The lower round-about is for drive through only. ***Please do not park in this area.***
- If you are choosing to park in the school parking lot, please do not block our entrance and exit. We have had a number of complaints of cars being double parked, making it difficult for families to leave, and others to enter.
- The traffic flows only one way – entry to the right. We have noticed a number of vehicles coming into the parking lot using the left side.

We encourage parents to use other parking areas which are available around the school site: along Morningside, Neck Point Park and Shores Drive to facilitate the large amount of traffic through our parking lot.

Thank you for helping to keep our students safe!



Upcoming Events – Oct./Nov.

Oct 27	Hot Lunch / PAC Halloween Dance
Oct. 30	Halloween Assembly: Kindergartens & Safety with Constable Dmytar
Oct. 31	Costume Parade for Primary students
Nov. 2	District Cross Country Meet (am)
Nov. 3	Photo retake Day
Nov. 6	PAC Meeting
Nov. 9	Fire Drill
Nov. 10	Remembrance Day Assembly / Hot Lunch
Nov. 13	Remembrance Day – no school
Nov. 21	Volleyball season starts
Nov. 22-27	Scholastic Book Fair
Nov. 24	Hot Lunch
Nov. 28	Firehouse Presentation – Gr.3
Nov. 29	PAC Christmas Plant delivery
Nov. 30	White Hatter presentation Gr.4-7

Safety Procedures

During the months of September and October we reviewed with the students a number of safety procedures. We have had fire drills, earthquake drills, and in lock down procedure. Students participated well and have taken our drills seriously. Thanks to all parents who have sent the student care packages to school.



Halloween at School

On Tuesday, October 31st, students are invited to bring costumes to school. We ask students to not wear masks or bring weapon props to school. Please leave them at home to enjoy when you are trick-or-treating. We will also ask students to remove their costumes (as best as possible) prior to going out for recess. In this way, we can ensure that everyone’s costume will look perfect for the evening.

Halloween Safety

Please review these Halloween safety tips with your children:

- Wear a costume that is bright and non-flammable;
- Choose make-up over a mask;
- Visit only well lit homes and never go inside;
- Accompany children;
- Save treats until checked by an adult.

Please remind students that school district policy states that the use or possession of fireworks at

school is illegal and is a serious offence which will result in a school suspension. Have fun!

Terry Fox Run

A big thank you to all the students, parents and staff who participated in this year’s Terry Fox Run/Walk. Our students donated over \$445.45 to the Terry Fox Foundation.

North Zone Cross-Country Meet

This year the Large School North Zone’s Cross-Country Meet was held at Beban Park in the afternoon of Tuesday, October 24th. We had over 50 runners participate – Bravo!

Thursday, November 3rd is the District Cross Country Meet. Students who finished in the top 20 in each category at the Zone will move on to the District Meet.



Thank you to all the parent volunteers, Mr. Palmer, Mr. Mark and Mme. Bohm for sponsoring the Cross Country run team and organizing the Zone and District meet participation.

Sports

Volleyball is coming up. If you are interested in coaching a volleyball team, please contact Mme. Bohm at cbohm@sd68.bc.ca.

Fruit and Vegetable Program

The fruit and vegetable program has begun. Students have enjoyed strawberries to date. For a complete list of items coming every month, please contact the school office. Thank you to the BC Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation for funding this program for our students.



Community Events:

Healthy Families BC



SN-HP-107-01 Handwashing for Hi



SN-HP-107-12 Kindergarten Vision



SN-HP-107-06 Head Lice Awareness.docx



SN-HP-107-31 Trick or Teeth.docx



SN-HP-107-23 Life-Threatening For



SN-HP-107-07 Who Should Get the Seas



SN-HP-107-25 Breakfast - The Mosi



SN-HP-107-03 Kindergarten Hearin



SN-HP-107-26 Healthy Snacks.docx



SN-HP-107-13 Keeping Your Child !

Nanaimo Gr. 5-12 Wrestling Club

Have you ever been curious about Olympic Style Wrestling? Although individual schools in our district do not have a wrestling team, our school district has a Wrestling club that is open to both boys and girls from grades 5-12. Practices are held on Monday and Thursday evening from 6-8 PM at Island ConnectEd (4355 Jingle Pot Road -- near Long Lake).

Wrestling builds physical fitness and tremendous character. It is a unique sport in that it provides an opportunity for athletes of all ages, shapes, sizes and genders to participate on the same team and to achieve individual goals/successes. If you are curious, we would love to see you experience the sport.

For more information or to register, please visit the team’s website: <https://sites.google.com/view/nanaimowrestlingclub/home>

Halloween Safety Tips

- Costumes should be light-coloured and flame resistant with reflective strips so that children are more easily seen at night.
- Costumes should be short enough to avoid tripping.
- Use face paint rather than masks or things that will cover the eyes.
- Remind children to walk on sidewalks - not in the street, cross only at intersections.
- Explain to children that calls should be made along one side of the street first and then the other, and that it's best to cross the street only at intersections or crosswalks.
- Remind children to look both ways before crossing the street to check for cars.
- Provide yourself or the children with a flashlight to see better and to be better seen.
- Have children plan their route and share it with you and the family.
- Trick or Treaters should travel in groups and young children should be accompanied by an adult.
- Visit homes that have the porch light on.
- Make sure children know they should accept treats at the door and must not get into cars or enter the homes or apartments of strangers.
- Remind children not to eat their treats and goodies until they are examined by an adult at home.
- Set agreed-to boundaries with your children and explain the importance of arriving home on time.

For more Halloween safety tips visit The RCMP, ICBC, Canadian Red Cross and the Government of Canada Healthy Canadians websites (links are posted on our school webpage)



The end of October is near and with Halloween fast approaching the safety of our students is foremost in our minds. We want our students to have some fun but we also want them to stay safe.

Guidelines for costumes at school

Hammond Bay is a K to Grade 7 French immersion school and this means that our students have a very wide range of ages and levels of maturity. We have to be sensitive about costumes both for personal safety as well as to protect some of our students from being frightened during a time that is intended to be fun. As families are looking at purchasing or making costumes for Halloween, please keep in mind that costumes must not pose a tripping hazard or make it difficult for the student, or others, to participate in class activities.

Hammond Bay costume guidelines:

1. Students may wear Halloween costumes but must be recognizable, i.e. no full masks or full facial coverings. Masks may be worn for the costume parade but not in class or at recess.
2. Face painting is allowed if the student is recognizable and the painting applies to the costume being worn, i.e. whiskers for a cat, nose for a clown.
3. No toy (or real) weapons or costume components that pose a safety risk.
4. If a costume is determined by a staff member to be a disruption in the classroom, a possible safety hazard, or inappropriate (dress code still applies) the student will be asked to change.
5. Any student wearing a costume must fully prepare before arriving to school. Spray cans, hair coloring, spray string, face painting, etc. will NOT be allowed at school.
6. Group costumes are discouraged when they promote the exclusion of other students.
7. Parents are encouraged to supervise their child's costume choice – keeping in mind that ultimately school is a place of learning, safety and appropriateness. **Please do not have costumes that will frighten or offend others in the school.**
8. If students do wear inappropriate costumes, the administration reserves the right to ask them to change.