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

Principal's Message

As we head into the weeks before the Winter Break, I would like to this opportunity to congratulate all of our students on their enthusiasm for learning and being an active participant in making our school community such a positive, caring and pleasant place to learn.

In our foyer, our House Totem poles are coming together. Each one represents a House Team: Orca, Wolf, Eagle, and Raven. Students will be working on House emblems in the next few weeks, which will cover the totem poles. In other House news...ballon chasseur (dodgeball) has ended. We had numerous teams, with over 100 students participating in the lunch hour games. A big thank you to M. LaBounty for organizing and supervising all of the games! Coming up next is cup stacking. This event will be open to all grade levels, and after a few practice sessions, will collimate in a tournament. No skill is required to participate, just enthusiasm.

Thank you to all of our families for your generous donations and for supporting the Student Council's *We Scare Hunger* food drive. Each division's food hamper was overflowing with items, which were donated to the local chapter of Loaves & Fishes. Their next fundraising activity will be a Bake Sale on December 15th.

Thank you to M. LaBounty's Grade 6 class, Mme. Anneli's Grade 2/3 class, presenting students, and the Band and Choir, under the direction of Mme. De Verteuil, for the moving Remembrance Day Assembly. Thank you also to the Canadian Legion for the donation of poppies for our assembly.

Coming up on November 30th, Ecole Hammond Bay PAC are sponsoring the White Hatter presentations about Internet safety and Digital Citizenship for Grades 4-7 students. In addition, we will be holding a "What Parents Need to Know" evening presentation from 6:30-8:00 pm in the Gym. The White Hatter comes highly recommended and we encourage everyone to join us for an interesting and informative presentation. For more information about the

White Hatter, please visit their website at: <http://www.personalprotectionsystems.ca/programs/internet-safety/the-white-hatter.html>

In other news...

During the first few months, teachers have been administered the NLPS (English) and ALPIN (French) District assessments. These assessments are formative, designed to determine the strengths and challenges in our students' learning. Teachers have analyzed the data during successive PLC's (Professional Learning Community) with the aim to improve instructional practice and increase target learning. As an Immersion school, our mandate is to develop the learning of a second language (French). In the primary years, we focus most upon oral expression, building the vocabulary base needed for reading and writing in a second language. As their knowledge of the language increases, the students will extend their oral expression by engaging more frequently in French conversations. This in turn augments their reading and decoding skill sets. Our objective is to develop stronger and more confident French language learners. This year's school goal is: To build capacity and resiliency through a focus on increasing vocabulary and expressions (communication skills) in the French language. For more information on how this skill will be applied in your child's classroom, please speak with the classroom teacher. For more general information about our school goal, please visit our school's website and/or contact M. Mark or Mme. Bohm for a conversation.

The Foundations Skills Assessment (FSA) for 2017 is complete for Grades 4 and 7. Students participated in numerous assessments involving reading comprehension, writing, and numeracy, both online and in paper form. The FSA is a Ministry of Education mandated assessment given to all Grade 4 and 7 students across the province. The results of the assessment are used by the school as a component of formative assessment, and will further guide our instruction practices. They are not included in the Mid Year Written Progress Report nor the End of Year Summative Report. Each student's booklet and online assessment results will be sent home to parents. If you wish to discuss the FSA further or have questions about how to read the results, please do not hesitate to contact M. Mark or

Mme. Bohm. We would be happy to help guide you.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns about your child's educational plan, please do not hesitate to contact me. I look forward to our ongoing conversations.

Christine Bohm

Vice Principal's Message

Well the beautiful fall weather has finally given way to the cold and the rain, but I'm pleasantly surprised to see that it hasn't dampened the enthusiasm and commitment of the Hammond Bay staff and students.

I was very impressed with our cross country district finalists who braved the cold and wet to represent our school so well. It was nice to see our school add a couple more banners to the gym as well. Thank you to Mr. Palmer and Mrs. Bohm for their commitment in coaching and organizing the XC team this year. In addition both of our Football teams advanced to the finals and brought home top 3 finishes.

I also wanted to take a moment to thank the Student Council for their "We Scare Hunger" drive to collect food for the food bank.

Hammond bay collected close to 600 non-perishable food items in just one week. Bravo!

Perhaps my highlight of the month was the absolutely beautiful and fitting Remembrance Day assembly. This assembly was hosted by Mr. La Bounty's class and the program student driven and fitting for such an important day of remembrance. In addition, I was extremely proud of the way that our students respected the tone and importance of this day with their excellent attention and behaviour. Thank you so much to Mr. La Bounty and Mrs. DeVerteuil for the extra time and effort they committed to organizing and arranging.

As the days get shorter and colder, I remind students to stay engaged and focused on their lessons and studies. As well I encourage all students to participate in as many school activities as possible. I am very excited about the upcoming Volleyball season in addition to the Cup Stacking Challenges that will be taking place at lunch.

Merci,

Justin Mark

Library News:

Nu'wil'm! Welcome!

The library is a busy place! There are always students visiting with their classes, meetings taking place, and clubs gathering! Every student at our school visits the library at least once a

week. Our library also has a professional collection designed for teachers, so it is a place of resources for educators. I would like to make it a place for the wider school community as well, so watch for announcements about events to be held in the library.

When your child comes to the library, I teach several different things: information literacy skills (where subject areas are located, how to find the books you want, with the intermediate students learning the Dewey Decimal System of categories), library skills (we are working on autonomy by learning to check books out by ourselves – involving the child in the process – they scan their codes and their books on their own), and of course creating a love of reading (by doing book talks about books and authors, and encouraging a period of quiet reading).

SD68 Teacher Librarians are focusing on reconciliation this year, and in the years to come. Along with introducing students to aboriginal stories (fiction and non-fiction), I am incorporating the First Peoples Principles of Learning (<http://www.fnesc.ca/wp/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/PUB-LFP-POSTER-Principles-of-Learning-First-Peoples-poster-11x17.pdf>) as well as words and phrases in Hul'qumi'num.

We also seek to promote social justice and responsibility. You may have heard about Wonder by RJ Palacio: #choosekind and #weareallwonders are an overarching theme in our library! The Library is an exciting and dynamic place!

I have been a French Immersion teacher in SD68 since 1991, teaching mainly in the primary grades, and working for over half of my career as a school support teacher (Used to be called the Special Education teacher) and chairing the School Based Team. It was time for a change though, and I plan to continue in the role as Teacher Librarian at Ecole Hammond Bay for many years! As such, I am working on a 5 year plan to move toward a Library Learning Commons, a responsive and dynamic place where students gather and ideas are encouraged and developed. This plan will involve refreshing the physical space, the collection, and the things students and teachers can do here.

Currently, I am working on several projects.

1. **ABORIGINAL THEME** It is part of the library plan to grow and develop our aboriginal collection. This year's focus for SD68 Teacher Librarians is Reconciliation. A major project I hope to realize this year is to purchase a new rolling shelf/display unit to make the Aboriginal collection more visible to more students and to provide a way for it to visit classrooms.
2. **UPDATING THE COLLECTION** Continuing the work of Mme Lou and

Mme Alison, of editing the collection, to ensure that it remains current. This also means the thoughtful acquisition of new books and materials. You may wish to donate books that have been loved and read by your family. We are looking for high quality picture books, particularly medal winners. Non-fiction books (such as animals, transportation, sports, crafts, and science) published since 2010 are much appreciated, as are books about BC or Canadian First Peoples. Books in French are of course a priority. Please bring your donations to the library Tues-Thurs and chat with me. Merci beaucoup! We have been developing a wish list of books and resources to support themes relating to our Redesigned BC Curriculum. You may wish to purchase one of these books for the school. I will send out our first list before Christmas.

3. Improving the work flow in the library, including the library work room. We are in need of a new shelf system so that we can create current and seasonal subject teaching bins. I will be visiting other school libraries to research what solutions are in place in other schools in the district.
4. In the next few years, coding and a makerspace will be an area of focus. Stay tuned!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: As a lending library, we are always in need of volunteers who can come in on a regular basis (every week) for 15-30 minutes. The start of the day and the end of the day are ideal times, after dropping your kids off, and before picking them up.

Please visit Mme Jacqueline in the Library if you would like to sign up for a specific day and time. You are always welcome!
Happy reading!

Social Media education session for parents -

Digital literacy education presentation for parents:

The White Hatter, Internet, Social Media Safety and Digital Literacy Education 101

Thursday, Nov 30th from 6:30-8:30pm.

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.

Inclement Weather

As the wet and snowy days approach, please ensure that your children are dressed appropriately to be outside for recess. Winter jackets and rubber boots are highly recommended. We have seen an increase in students wishing to stay in at recess due to not being dressed appropriately for playing outside at recess. In addition, if you have not already done so, please send an extra set of clothing to school with your child. When it rains our fields become very soggy. It's nice to have a change of dry clothes at school when someone is wet.



School Closure

If schools are closed due to snow, or any other weather-related problems, announcements will be on local radio stations (WOLF 106.9 FM and WAVE 102.3 FM) by 7 a.m. on the day of the closure. Please do not call the radio station – tune in and listen for the announcements, which will be made on a regular basis. In addition, the district will post the information on the district's website (www.sd68.bc.ca), Twitter and Facebook, unless there are technical problems or a power outage.

Parent Teacher Conferences

We held the Parent Teacher Conferences in October over a four day period. If you missed your appointment or would like to continue the conversation with your child's classroom teacher, please do not hesitate to contact the teacher directly.



Upcoming School Events – Nov/Dec

- Nov 13 Remembrance Day Stat Holiday
- Nov 16 Metis Awareness Day
- Nov 20 Volleyball season begins
- Nov 23 -27 Scholastic Book Fair
- Nov 24 Hot Lunch
- Nov 28 Fire House Grade 3
- Nov 29 PAC Christmas Plant delivery
- Nov 30 White Hatter Presentations (for Parents: 6:30-8:00 pm)
- Dec 1 Hot Lunch
- Dec 8 Festive Fun Night
- Dec 11 PAC Meeting
- Dec 15 Hot Lunch
- Student Council Bake Sale
- Dec 18 Monthly Assembly
- Dec 19-21 Seasonal Sing-alongs
- Dec 22 Last day of school before Winter Break
- Jan 8 Schools reopen after Winter Break

Sports:

Volleyball

We are just beginning our Volleyball season! Thank you to all the parents and teachers who have graciously volunteered their time and expertise to coach and/or sponsor a team. Permission slips have been distributed and practices have started. We have presently five teams: Pee Wee Boys and Girls, and Bantam Boys (2) and Girls.



A reminder to all parents/guardians who attend the games that pictures and video taping is not permitted. For the privacy of our students and families and those from other schools, we ask that you please refrain from taking pictures.

Craft Activity – Dec 21



Each year Hammond Bay alternates between a Winter Concert and Craft Event. This year we will be hosting our Craft activity for Grades K-7 students during the last hour of the day on Thursday, December 21st.

Lost and Found

The Lost and Found box is filling up rapidly again with clothing items. If your child is missing a clothing article (jacket, pants, shirt, shoes, boots, etc.) please take a look in our Lost and Found box. The items will be put on display in the foyer during the last school week in December. All remaining items will be donated to a local charity on the 21st of December.



Scholastic Book Fair

Give the Gift of Reading! Ecole Hammond Bay PAC is hosting the Scholastic Book Fair in our Gym:

November 23 from 1:00-3:00 pm
 November 24 from 11:30-6:00 pm
 November 27 from 11:30-3:00 pm

There will be a large selection of both English and French books, as well as other fun items for children.

If you are available to donate a few hours of your

time to volunteer at the Scholastic Book Fair, please contact the PAC directly at ecolehammondbaypac@gmail.com. They are always looking for extra helping hands. Thank you!

Festive Fun Night

Mark your calendars! Once again the PAC and the Grade 7 class will be offering Festive Fun Night on December 8th. Students are invited to participate and stay after school for games, crafts, dinner and a movie. More information and the registration form will be coming home soon. Thank you to our PAC, Grade 7 Parents and students, M. Kevin, Mme. Isabelle, M. Mark and Mme. Bohm for volunteering their time to facilitate and supervise this fun evening activity.

Winter Themed Activities

The last two weeks prior to the Winter Break, Ecole Hammond Bay will be having a series of fun activities (ie. Santa Hat Day, Green/Red Dress Day, Ugly Christmas Sweater Day, etc.) for students and staff to participate in to build school spirit and community. House points will be collected, so encourage your child(ren) to participate. For a full schedule of activities, please visit the school calendar on our website.

Fundraisers at our School

We have a few fundraisers presently underway. Thank you for continuing to support our school.

Division 13 is organizing a Purdy's fundraiser. Order forms have gone home already.

The Grade 7 Parent Group and Grade 7 classes are continuing to fundraise for the Grade 7 Year End field trip to Camp Qwanoes. Currently underway are campaigns for Epicure Dip Mixes and the Specialty Cheese Gift Packs.

PAC Poinsettia Fundraiser is now closed. Christmas Plant delivery is set for November 29th.

If you would like more information about any of these fundraisers, please contact the school.

