



1025 Morningside Drive, Nanaimo, BC, V9T 1N5  
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Website: <http://schoolsweb.sd68.bc.ca/hammondbay/Pages/default.aspx>  
School Year: 2015-2016  
Issue #4 – December 2015

Principal: Christine Bohm  
Vice-Principal: Sharyn Andruski-Collins  
Secretary: Susan Clark  
Secretary: Marina Lockhart

## Principal's Message



We have had a busy month! Thank you to the students in Band 6 and Band 6/7, Choir, Ms. De Verteuil and Mrs. Andruski-Collins for the wonderful Winter Concert. The talent of our youngsters is amazing!

Thank you to PAC, M. Kevin, Mme. Danielle, and Mme. Kim for organizing and leading the fun-filled Festive Fun Night. With approximately 60 students participating, activities included a scavenger hunt, crafts and a movie.

Thank you to Student Council, Mme. Natascha and Mme. Williams for organizing PJ Day on December 11<sup>th</sup>. It was fun to see everyone get into the "cozy" holiday spirit in the PJs. All proceeds collected throughout the day will be donated to the Free the Children Organization to help support a village in a underdeveloped country.

Thank you also to our parent coaches and teacher sponsors for donating their time and volleyball expertise to our teams. We are looking forward to a fabulous season end in January.

Congratulations to all the choir singers! Your concert at Woodgrove Mall was a huge success. Well done! Thank you to Mrs. Andruski-Collins and Mme. Raduta for sponsoring.

Our Craft Night was once again a huge success! Thank you to everyone who came out to make the evening filled with fun and excitement for our youngsters.

Congratulations to all students on their report cards for the first term. They were truly a pleasure to read and sign. Well done everyone! Report Cards went home on December 9<sup>th</sup> with students.

We will be having a staff change in January! Mme. St-Pierre is returning to us from maternity leave and will be working Mondays-Wednesdays in our Student Support Services Department.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our families a happy, healthy and safe holiday season.

Joyeux Noel et Bonne Annee!

*Christine Bohm*

## Mrs. A's Corner

I would like to thank our Parent Advisory Council and the Vancouver Foundation for sponsoring the Professional Performances for students of Ecole Hammond Bay. All our bookings fell in the autumn session and students enjoyed learning from each unique presentation. Rock the Arts Puppet Theatre, Bluesberries, and Hamelin featured puppetry, music and drama. The student audience was interactive and respectful.

Our Choir has now completed its season. Performances at the December Band Evening and at the Woodgrove Centre's "Sounds of the Season" event. Choir members were enthusiastic all season and I am proud of the singers at Ecole Hammond Bay.

In February, Grade Four classes will be travelling to see the Vancouver Island Symphony. The Grade Fours across the district are bused to the Port Theatre for this live performance. School District 68 and the Vancouver Island Symphony underwrite this experience. We are appreciative of the leadership the Symphony provides to build audience capacity for symphonic music. I wish all of you a wonderful winter break! Thank you for supporting the development of the arts for the students of Ecole Hammond Bay.



## 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](http://www.erasebullying.ca) for more information.

### Scent Sensitive Site

Hammond Bay has become a “Scent Sensitive” site. We would ask everyone to please refrain from wearing strong scents (ie. Perfume, cologne, scented creams) while visiting our school, as they may cause allergic reactions and respiratory concerns for students and staff. We greatly appreciate your vigilance and cooperation in supporting us to ensure that everyone is healthy at Hammond Bay.

### Communication – Friday Reminder

Starting in January, “Friday reminder” emails will be distributed via our News Listsrv. Please ensure you don’t miss out on all the important news by making sure to subscribe. For the subscription link, please visit our school website at

<http://schoolsweb.sd68.bc.ca/hammondbay/Page/default.aspx> under the School Newsletter tab (top left of the home page).

### Information about Kindergarten Registration for 2016/2017

The application period for French Immersion for the 2016-17 school year for Kindergarten and Grade 1 French Immersion will be from **Monday, January 4, 2016 until Friday, January 22, 2016**. This form must be completed and returned to the District Administration Centre (DAC), 395 Wakesiah Avenue, Nanaimo or École North Oyster Elementary, 13470 Cedar Road, Ladysmith **by Friday, January 22**. The **Lottery Night will take place on January 28<sup>th</sup>**, starting at 6 pm at the DAC Conference Room. This event is open to the public.

Detailed information is available at [www.sd68.bc.ca](http://www.sd68.bc.ca).

### FSA Assessments: FOUNDATION SKILLS ASSESSMENT 2015-16 GRADE 4 and 7:

In January and February, **all Grades 4 and 7 students in British Columbia** will be taking the provincial Foundations Skills Assessments (FSAs) in Reading Comprehension, Writing and Numeracy.

This year, the FSAs will be administered between Monday, January 11 and Friday, February 19.

Each of the three assessments has two components – a written component and an online component. A ‘walk-through’ of the assessment is available on-line at:

[http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/assessment/fsa/sample\\_tests.htm](http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/assessment/fsa/sample_tests.htm)

The FSAs have been administered every year since 1999 and they provide a provincial, system-wide measure of achievement for

elementary students. These tests provide a snapshot of information that tells parents, teachers and schools in each district across the province how well students are doing in reading, writing and numeracy. The assessments are based on the learning outcomes of the curriculum and the results help educators plan for improving student achievement.

### The tests are mandatory for all Grades 4 and 7 students.

The few exceptions include:

- students with IEPs documenting a disability that significantly impacts their performance in reading, writing or numeracy and who cannot meaningfully participate in all or part of the assessment, even with adaptations,
- students with IEPs who would need extensive adaptations or who would need such extended periods of time as to create a hardship for the individual student,
- English-as-a-Second Language students who have not yet reached a level of proficiency sufficient for them to provide meaningful responses.

Parents can request that the Principal excuse a student in the event of a family emergency, a lengthy illness or other extenuating circumstances. Extenuating circumstances are those which are unforeseen, unexpected, and significantly disruptive and beyond a student’s control. If this applies to your child, you should contact Mme. Bohm directly to discuss the details. The FSA results do not make up part of a student’s report card marks, but parents may wish to discuss the results with their child’s teacher. Individual tests and results will be sent home to parents on or before.

For more information about the FSAs, visit the Ministry of Education’s website at: <http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/assessment/fsa>



### 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](http://www.sd68.bc.ca)), Twitter and Facebook, unless there are technical problems or a power outage.



## Library News

- We would like to welcome Julie Kim to Hammond Bay, our new Library Clerk! Julie will be working in the library every Wednesday. Please say hi to her and make her feel welcome at our school.
- The Elf on The Shelf “Flocon” has officially landed to Hammond Bay all the way from the North Pole! He will stay with us in the library until the winter holidays. Flocon understands French, likes to bring new books to the students he and will keep a close eye on all readers in the library. Warning: he is a bit sneaky and likes to play tricks on Mme Lou and her students. Come and see what he is up to!
- We are currently looking to add to our children movie collection. If you have gently used DVDs which your family is no longer watching, we would be pleased to have them. Donations can be made directly to the Library. Thank you!

Merci et bonne lecture.

Mme Lou, Teacher Librarian

## Science Fair

Book your calendars! February 4th and 5th are our Science Fair days. With so many entries over the years, we have decided to extend our Science Fair to two days – the 4<sup>th</sup> for Primary classes and the 5<sup>th</sup> for Intermediate classes. Information about the Science Fair, the scientific process and permission slips will be coming home the first week of January.

## National Literacy Week

The week of January 25-28 is National Literacy Week. Help us celebrate the reading achievements of our students! Encourage reading at home in both French and English, while we do the same at school. Our week of reading activities culminates on Thursday, January 28<sup>th</sup> with our annual “Drop Everything and Read” campaign.

## Anxiety and Children

### Presentation

Our counselor, Ruth Sharun, has organized a Parent Information Night about Anxiety in Children for January 14<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-8:00 pm. This event is free and open to all parents. Thank you to Mr. Boychuk, from Child and Youth Mental Health for presenting.

## A Day at the Symphony

Grade 4 students are invited to take part in the “Day at the Symphony” on February 12<sup>th</sup>. This is an opportunity to visit the Symphony, see

them play and to have an interactive experience with the artists and their instruments. Permission slips will be coming home in January.

## Swim to Survive

Every year the Grade 3 students participate in this important program designed to teach children how survive in the water. There are three pool dates (February 19,26 and March 4). This program is free and is offered to all Grade 3 students in the District. Permission slips will be distributed in January.

## Dressing for winter

I would like to remind parents that we expect our students to go outside to play during our recess breaks. This is a healthy activity. Thank you for sending your children to school prepared for the cold, wet winter conditions.



It is also helpful for students to have spare clothing available at school in case they get wet or fall in the mud.

## Head Lice

We have recently noticed an increase in the number of incidences of head lice in our school. We would ask parents to be diligent and to please let the school know immediately if your child shows symptoms.

## Upcoming School Events – Dec/Jan

Dec 18	Santa Hat Day Hot Lunch Last Day before Winter Break
Jan 4	Schools Re-Open Applications for French Immersion become available
Jan 11	FSA for Grades 4 & 7 begin
Jan 14	Fire Drill practice
Jan 15	Hammond Bay Spirit Day
Jan 22	Deadline for Applications for French Immersion
Jan 28	Lottery Draw for Kindergarten and Grade One @ 6pm at the District Administrative Office
Jan 25-28	National Literacy Week
Jan 29	Implementation Day for Teachers – Schools are closed for students

## PAC News

Did you know that PAC has a Facebook page? Please 'like' us at 'Ecole Hammond Bay PAC' for parent info and reminders of activities.

Mark your calendars! The next PAC meeting is January 11<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at the school. All parents are welcome.



**Local School Calendar 2014-15**

December 18	Last day before Winter Vacation	
January 4	School Reopens	
January 29	Implementation Day	
February 8	B.C. Family Day	
February 22	District PRO D Day	
February 23	District PRO D Day	
March 11	Last day before Spring Break	
March 25	Good Friday	
March 28	Easter Monday	
March 29	School Reopens	
	May 13	Non-Instructional Day
	May 16	Implementation Day
	May 23	Victoria Day
June 30	Last Day of School	



**Triple P parenting Program**

SMALL CHANGES BIG DIFFERENCES.

THE POSTIVE PARENTING PROGRAM PROVIDES SIMPLE SOLUTIONS TO MAKE PARENTING EASIER.

I am offering a Triple P Parenting Program at Park Ave in January 2016. This 5 week program is offered to all parents/caregivers in our community with a focus on children aged 2-8 years.

Where: Park Avenue Elementary School  
 Date: Tuesdays January 12, through February 9, 2016  
 Time: 6:00 p.m.-8:00p.m.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL

Louise McArter 250-713-6089 email: [lmcarter@sd68.bc.ca](mailto:lmcarter@sd68.bc.ca)  
 (Child, Youth and Family Support Worker)

**Volleyball BC**



Train and Play Document (2).pdf



Boys Train and Play Document (2).pdf



HOUSE LEAGUE FLYER FINISHED (3).

**VIU Mariners Group Promo**



VIU group pkg 2.pdf



2015-2016 Home Schedule Poster - Pro

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Gary Anaka Presentation – Jan 26<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 7pm: Understanding the Teenage Brain**



GaryAnakaFullPage.pdf

**MEND – Where Families get Fit and Healthier Together**



MEND Program Description.docx



MEND Program.pdf



Childhood Anxiety Ad Child.pdf

**Freestyle Ski Club – Mt.**

**Washington**

Try Freestyle Dec 20 and Dec 27th for non Freestyle Club members - Limited spots available - sign up early!  
 contact Janice at [registrarmwfc@gmail.com](mailto:registrarmwfc@gmail.com) or call 250-618-2078



**Piano Lessons – registered teacher**

Chelsea Peckett is a registered piano teacher in Nanaimo. Please see the link below for more information.

<http://www.musicnanaimo.com/directory/teachers/chelsea-peckett>



ZingerBug.com