



1025 Morningside Drive, Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6C3
Telephone: 250-758-5711 Fax: 250-751-1873
Website: <http://schoolsweb.sd68.bc.ca/hammondbay/Pages/default.aspx>
School Year: 2015/2016
Issue #2 – October 16, 2015

Principal Christine Bohm
Vice-Principal: Sharyn Andruski-Collins
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 (Choir, Student Council, Sports, etc.) Thank you to all of our volunteers!

During this past week we have had an addition to our teaching staff. We would like to take this opportunity to welcome to our school Mme. Abbott, who is teaching opposite Mme. Dominique in Grade 5 and will be with us on Thursdays and Fridays.

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 NLPS Reading Assessments. These assessments have been designed by teachers of our district and are available in both English and French. Our students will be assessed primarily in the French reading and comprehension skills. Grades 1 through 7 will be assessed in this first term, whereas 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: Literacy and Numeracy. They will not be used as part of a summative grade on end of term report cards.

The Board of Education of Nanaimo-Ladysmith Public Schools is currently conducting consultation meetings at various locations across the district with regards to the New Facilities Plan. Your input is valued and we would encourage parents and guardians to attend. For a complete list of the consultation meeting dates and locations, please see the section below entitled: [Consultation Meetings 2015](#).

Closer to home, the City of Nanaimo will be replacing pipes along and across Morningside Drive this fall. This may impact access and parking to our school. As more information becomes available, families will be notified by the school via email.

Our communication system to you (Parent Notification emails) will be changing in the next few weeks, as the new Ministry of Education's MyEdBC computer system becomes fully functional. We hope to make this switch seamlessly. Thank you for your patience.

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.

If you have not yet returned to your child's teacher the Student Verification Form, please do so as soon as possible. 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". Scroll down to the "School Documents" section 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.

Thank you to our police liaison officer, Constable Wilson for facilitating these important discussions. 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

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.

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. **Drop off and pick up in this area is still permissible, however we ask that you do not park and wait.**
- 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. 19-22 Parent Teacher Interviews – Early Dismissal
Hammond Bay Spirit Wear available to order
- Oct. 23 Non-Instructional Day – No school
- Oct. 28 Rock the Arts Fine Arts Presentation
Div. 11 & Halloween Safety Assembly
- Oct 29 Immunizations for Grade 6
Ballet Bohemia Presentation
South Zone Cross Country Meet (am)
North Zone Cross Country Meet (pm)
- Oct. 30 Costume Parade/Dance
- Nov. 10 Remembrance Day Assembly
- Nov. 11 Remembrance Day
- Nov. 13&16 PAC Scholastic Book Fair

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 November will practice our 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. It is not too late if you are still working on completing your child’s pack. We will add them to the emergency kiosk throughout the month of November. Please remember to keep the pack small and compact. Do not send water or juice – we have some in the kiosk for all students.

Parent Teacher Conferences October 19th – 22nd

Each year the District allows schools to dismiss earlier to facilitate parent-teacher conferences. Students will be dismissed at the following times:

Monday at 1:27 pm

Tuesday at 1:07 pm

Wednesday at 1:07 pm

Thursday at 1:07 pm



We kindly ask parents to ensure that their child(ren) are picked up promptly during this week, as teachers will be starting interview sessions soon after dismissal.

Child minding will not be available this year. Friday is a Provincial Specialist Professional Development Day. Schools will be closed.

To make/change appointments, please contact the teacher directly or contact the school to leave a message for the teacher.

Consultation Meetings 2015: Facilities Plan Update – French Immersion

The Board of Education is currently consulting parents, students and the public about its Facilities Plan Update. During the next several weeks, the Board will be holding public forums to discuss the proposals in the plan. The format of these forums has been designed to encourage dialogue and discussion. At each meeting, there will be a short introductory session, a presentation; a facilitator-led discussion group on topics of importance to each community; and a short closing session.

The meeting to discuss the proposed relocation of French Immersion in the district will be held on Tuesday, October 27 at Nanaimo District Secondary School, beginning at 7 p.m.

For your convenience, below is a complete list of meeting location and dates:

October 13th at Frank J. Ney @ 7pm – for McGirr and Randerson Ridge elementary schools

October 20th at Woodlands @ 7 pm

October 27th at NDSS @ 7pm – for District programs and Learn@ Home - District programs include Skills for Life, StrongStart Centres, VAST, RAVENS, CTC, French Immersion, OWL, ABOUT, Specialty Academies (hockey, soccer, beach volleyball and lacrosse)

Student Council

Student Council is a group of dedicated and energetic students from Grades 5-7 that organize and participate in a variety of events aimed at helping others. This is done at three levels: school, community and global. This year we have over 40 students giving up a lunch hour to work together for others. Very inspiring!

Student Council is participating in the We Scare Hunger Campaign again this year from Free the Children in order to address poverty and hunger at a local level. The students will be collecting canned and dried goods from October 26-October 30 and have set a goal of 350 items. Please help us stamp out hunger by sending in a non-perishable food item. There will be boxes in each classroom as well as one at the office. All donations will go directly to the Loaves and Fishes Food Bank in Nanaimo.

On October 21, twenty-two students from Grade 6 and 7, accompanied by Mme Williams and Mme Natascha, will be attending Me2We Day in Vancouver. This event is organized every year

to encourage students to “Be the Change”- to foster leadership, to take initiative and facilitate change in our school, community and the world. Me2We is an amazing experience for our young leaders. We look forward to supporting all of their endeavors. Service in student council events throughout the year will earn our tickets for next year's participants! Bravo!

Natascha Proctor
Lynda Williams
Teacher Advisors

Halloween at School

On Friday, October 30th, 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.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www2.worksafebc.com/enews/141021/141021.htm>

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!



Grade 7 parents

Thank you to all the parents attended the September 30th Grade 7 Parent Meeting. Your executive group was created that evening, along with voting to continue to support the Strathcona end of year field trip. Mark your calendars! June 17th was determined to be the evening of the Year End Celebration.

Here is a message from your executive:

Reminder to all Grade 7 parents: please submit your \$50.00 cheque for the Strathcona trip in as soon as possible. Cheques must be made payable to SD68.

The Milk Program will be starting up soon.

Fundraising is starting to gear up, there will be an account set up at the recycling depot on Kenworth and we will also be heading out to do bottle drives over the next couple of months. A Firewood Fundraiser is in the works, dates to come soon.

If any parents were not able to attend the meeting on September 30th, would you please give your contact info to Kim Letwin - Chair of the Grade 7 Committee.

Have you checked our Website lately?

Please visit us at

<http://schoolsweb.sd68.bc.ca/hammondbay/Page/default.aspx> for all the latest information going on at our school.

Terry Fox Run

A big thank you to all the students, parents and staff who participated in this year's Terry Fox Run/Walk; and especially to Mme. Lena's Grade 4/5 class for organizing the assembly and the Run/Walk event. Our students donated over \$600.00 to the Terry Fox Foundation. A special recognition is given to Sophie C. who raised an additional \$200.00 going door to door for donations.

North Zone Cross-Country Meet

This year the Large School North Zone's Cross-Country Meet will be held at Hammond Bay School/Neck Point on Thursday, October 29th from 12:30-2:10 pm. We have over 100 participants from Hammond Bay – Bravo! Permission slips will be going home soon for those who signed up. A reminder that the last day to enter your name for Tyke, Pee Wee or Bantam is Friday, October 16th. Orders for the numbered pinnies will be entered after school that day.



New this year...Ecole Hammond Bay/Neck Point will also play host to the Large School South Zone Cross Country Meet on October 29th in the morning. We are pleased to welcome over 1000 students from 12 schools to our fantastic site and wish them all the best of luck. Thank you to Front Runners for the ongoing support with the staging of the meets, rabbiting for our runners, and providing all the numbered pinnies.

If you would like to volunteer your time for both or just our North Zone meet, please contact Mme. Bohm. We are looking for 15-20 volunteers to help make this event success! Criminal Record Checks must have been completed and be on file at the school.

Football

Football season is at the half way point already! We have two teams participating in NETPEA's extra-curricular inter-school games. Congratulations to both the Bantam Boys and the Bantam Girls on all their hard work and continued commitment to their respective teams. Thank you to Mr. MacIlquham for coaching and M. Kevin for sponsoring the Bantam Boys; and to Mr. Fridriksson for coaching and Mme. Bohm for sponsoring the Bantam Girls.



Choir

We have over 40 students from Grades 3-7 who are participating in Choir again this year! Students meet every Thursday at lunch recess in the Music portable with Mrs. Andruski-Collins to hone their lyrical skills and learn new repertoire. We look forward to hearing them perform.

Library News

Student Volunteers Needed!

I am proud to introduce to you the very first Hammond Bay Library Squad. Grade 6/7 students can volunteer in the library to help shelve books during short recess on Monday-Tuesday-Wednesday from 10:15-10:30. Learn how the Dewey system works, have fun with your friends and listen to French music while helping your school library. Interested? Come see Mme Lou for more info. Thank you.

PAC News

The Parent Advisory Council is an active participant in Ecole Hammond Bay. Many of the presentations and programs which we offer our students are in direct result of the fundraising efforts of the PAC and parent community. Thank you!

PAC meetings are held the first Monday of every month in the school library at 7pm. All parents of Ecole Hammond Bay students are welcome to these meetings and are encouraged to attend. Our next meeting will be Monday, November 9th.

This year's PAC executive are:

Chair – Jennifer Therriault
Vice Chair – Adrienne LeGuyder
Secretary – Sonia Batten
Treasurer – Mariah Patterson

If you have comments or questions about any of the programs/activities PAC is sponsoring, please do not hesitate to contact them at ecolehammondbay@gmail.com

Mark your calendars! Here are a few PAC sponsored events coming up this month:

October 19-22 – Hammond Bay Spirit Wear

- October 22** – PAC presentation about the Facilities Plan Update
- October 23** – Nanaimo Clippers School Cheer Off event at Clippers game
- October 28** – Fine Arts Performance: Rock the Arts
- October 30** – PAC Halloween Dance

PAC will be hosting an Information Night for Hammond Bay parents/guardians on October 22nd at 7-8 pm in the School Gym about the Facilities Plan update.

Nanaimo Clipper School Cheer Off: On October 23rd at 7pm, come out and support our school as we cheer off against Nanaimo Christian School. Tickets will be available at a cost of \$5.00 and we have been given 100 tickets. Order forms will be coming home this week. For more information, please contact PAC at ecolehammondbay@gmail.com

The PAC Halloween Dance is once again being organized for October 30th. Information has already been sent home. If you missed it or would like more information, please contact PAC directly.

Fruit and Vegetable Program

The fruit and vegetable program has begun. Students have enjoyed grape tomatoes and pears already. 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.



Student Learning on Display

We have many wonderful examples of student learning displayed throughout the school all year long. When you visit the school, we encourage you to take a moment to stroll through our halls to see their efforts. Here are but a few...



Local School Calendar 2015/16

<http://www.sd68.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/Calendar-2015-16-revision-to-final-June-10-15.pdf>

Oct 12	Thanksgiving Day
Oct 19-22	Parent Teacher Interviews
Oct 23	PSA Day
Nov 11	Remembrance Day
Dec 18	Last Day before Winter Break
Jan 4	Schools reopen
Feb 8	BC Family Day
Feb 22	District Pro D Day
Feb 23	School Based Pro D Day
March 11	Last Day before Spring Break
March 25	Good Friday
March 28	Easter Monday
March 29	Schools reopen
May 13	Non Instructional Day
May 23	Victoria Day
June 29	Last day for students
June 30	Administrative Day

Community Events:

Symphony Community Days

The Vancouver Island Symphony is hosting a free event for all ages 6-96 on Saturday, October 24th at the Port Theatre. Try an instrument at the Musical Instrument Zoo, meet the Conductor and a Composer and enjoy the Symphony in Rehearsal. For times, complimentary tickets, and more information please contact the Port Theatre Centre at 250-754-8550

Grade 5 Fabulous Fives Choir

Vancouver Island Symphony is calling all Grade 5 students that love to sing to join their Fabulous Fives Choir. The Registration Package document is attached in this email for your convenience. Paper copies will also be available at the front office.

***Vancouver Island Symphony
Children's Choir***

Vancouver Island Symphony is calling all Grade 6-8 students that love to sing to join the Children's Choir. The Registration Package document is attached in this email for your convenience. Paper copies will also be available at the front office.