



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: 2015-16  
Issue #1 – September 17, 2015

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

## Principal's Message



To both our returning and our new families, Welcome to Hammond Bay! We hope you and your family have had a wonderful and restful summer break. The staff is looking forward to another exciting year of learning with your child(ren).

Every month, Hammond Bay distributes a newsletter, containing important and pertinent information for the upcoming month. It is also an avenue to celebrate students' achievements. All of our newsletters are distributed online to those who have signed up for the Newsletter List Serve, using the link on our website. They are also uploaded to our school website every month. For more information on how to register your email address, please visit the section below entitled "Paperless". If you require a paper copy, please contact the school office.

We have had some additional staffing changes over the summer. We are currently staffed for 14 divisions and 354 students. Below is the staff list for this year:

Librarian/SST – Mme. Soucy  
SST – Mme. Jacqueline  
Band (Gr 6 & 6/7) – Ms. De Verteuil  
Kindergarten – Mme. Kathleen  
Kindergarten - Mme. Linda  
Grade 1 – Mme. Natascha  
Grade 1 - Mme. Raduta  
Grade 2 – Mme. Kim  
Grade 2 - Mme. Monica/Mme. Antoinette  
Grade 3 – M. Mercier  
Grade 3 – Mme. Anneli/M. Palmer  
Grade 4 – Mme. Williams  
Grade 4/5 – Mme. Serenius  
Grade 5 – Mme. Dominique/TBD  
Grade 6 – M. La Bounty  
Grade 6/7 – Mme. Danielle  
Grade 6/7 – M. Kevin  
Aboriginal EA – Ms. Shade  
EA – Mme. Sue-Ellen  
EA – Mme. Stephanie  
Noon Hour Supervisor – TBD  
Library Clerk – Mrs. Trickett  
Custodians – Mr. Vallee & Mr. Faber  
Counselor – Ms. Sharun (Wednesdays)  
Psychologist – Ms. Cote  
Speech & Language – Ms. Tissington  
Child & Youth Care – Ms. McArter

Secretary (Main) – Mrs. Clark  
Secretary (Wed & Thurs) – Mrs. Lockhart  
Vice-Principal – Mrs. Andruski-Collins  
Principal – Mme. Bohm

If you have questions or concerns regarding your child's educational plan, please do not hesitate to contact the classroom teacher or myself. I look forward to meeting with you.

Christine Bohm

## Mrs. A's Corner

I would like to thank the staff of Hammond Bay for the wonderful start-up this year! Classes are settling quickly and students appear to be fully embracing their new school year. We are fortunate to have a positive school community. Choir registration took place on Tuesday and we have about fifty students again this year. Permission letters were sent home and are to be returned by Tuesday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> when we have our first rehearsal. Rehearsals will be every Tuesday at long recess.

It is time to send recorders back to school as well. Grade Four and Five students already have a recorder. Please label the recorder and its case before sending it to school. If you are replacing a lost recorder, please purchase a Suzuki, Yamaha or Allos brand soprano recorder. Dollar store recorders are not well engineered and can be difficult to play. If you want to use a school recorder, please send a note and I will honour your request promptly.

Our Parent Advisory Council is sponsoring several performing groups this year. The first group is *Rock the Arts Puppet Theatre* coming on October 28<sup>th</sup>. We are also hosting the *Bohemia Ballet* on October 29<sup>th</sup>. Their presentation will be an excerpt from Ravel's Mother Goose Stories. We thank Mrs. Ho for orchestrating this event.

It has been wonderful meeting new families and catching up with returning families. I look forward to another year at École Hammond Bay!

## BELL SCHEDULE – 2015 – 2016

We have a new bell schedule for this year:

### MONDAY

<b>8:35 a.m.</b>	<b>Start</b>
10:15 – 10:30 a.m.	Short Recess
11:45 a.m. – 12:20 p.m.	Lunch Recess
<b>1:27 p.m.</b>	<b>Dismissal</b>

### TUESDAY – FRIDAY

<b>8:35 a.m.</b>	<b>Start</b>
10:15 – 10:30 a.m.	Short Recess
11:45 a.m. - 12:20 p.m.	Lunch Recess
<b>2:27 p.m.</b>	<b>Dismissal</b>

## Absences

If your child is absent from school or know of dates your child will be away, we would ask you to please give the school a call by 8:45 am at 250-758-5711. If we are unavailable to take your call, please leave a detailed message on our answering service. Your child's safety is of the utmost importance to us.

## Planners

The teachers would like to use the Student Agenda again this year. However, pursuant to the Office of the Superintendent's letter dated October 2006, the purchase of School Student Agendas must be optional. The School Student Agendas have been customized and include useful information. Should you wish to purchase a School Student Agenda, they are available for purchase at the cost of \$8.00 from the classroom teacher until September 18<sup>th</sup>; and thereafter from the office.

## Student Supplies

Each classroom has a Student Supplies List. These lists are available online at the website listed above under Parents. Paper copies of the Student Supplies List will be available from the classroom teacher. Teachers may also be asking for supplemental supplies or funds for specific supplies used in the classroom. Please make cheques payable to School District 68.

## Student Verification Forms

In September the school sends home Student Verification Forms for parents/guardians to look over and sign. This form contains important information about your child: current home address and phone numbers, medical information, allergies, etc. It is vital that this information is up to date for each school year. Please return this form to the classroom teacher by September 18<sup>th</sup>.

## Earthquake Comfort Kit

Every year we ask parents/guardians to provide their child with an Earthquake Comfort Kit. The kit is usually a ZipLock bag (medium sized)

which contains some items designed to provide comfort to your child while they wait for their parent/guardian to pick them up from school after an emergency has occurred. Items such as a playing deck of cards, a small toy, and a note from the parent/guardian is usually included. Please refer to the Earthquake Comfort Kit letter insert in the June Report Card envelope for more details. Please ensure that your child has his/her own Comfort Kit at school by September 18<sup>th</sup>. Classroom bins of Comfort Kits will be stored in our Earthquake Kiosk on September 22<sup>nd</sup>.

## Class Placements

In assigning students to their new classes, the staff worked carefully as a team for over two months, discussing the best placement for each student.

We consider the following criteria when making these decisions.

- Gender balance
- Mix of academic ability levels
- Student learning style
- Teaching style
- Student's special needs
- Child and parent relationship with teacher
- Maturity level
- Work habits
- Physical and intellectual growth
- Contractual agreement
- Educationally relevant information from parents

The criteria used to construct split classes is the same as straight classes. The decision for placement is primarily based on the recommendation of the student's present teacher(s), and the person(s) most familiar with their needs, but according to the *School Act*, it is ultimately the principal's decision and responsibility.

Changes to class lists will not be made, except for extenuating circumstances. Please make an appointment with the Principal to review your child's educational plan.

## School Entrances/Exits & Parking Lot

On the first day of school, teachers will be reviewing the areas of entering and exiting for the students in their classrooms. We will be encouraging students to use these specific doors for entering and exiting the school at all times. The front door is not for student use.

The parking lot is a very busy place at the beginning and end of our day; and parking spaces for parents will be at a minimum. Parking is encouraged on Morningside Drive, at Neck Point Park and on Shores Drive. Please arrange a location for drop off and pick up with your children.

Kindergarten students will enter and be dismissed directly from their classrooms' outside

doors. Grade 1 and Grade 2 (Mme. Kim) will use the exterior courtyard door (towards the upper playground). Grade 2 (Mme. Monica/Mme. Antoinette) and Grade 3 will be entering and exiting via the back door in the Fire Lane. Grade 4 (Mme. Williams) will use the side door in the Fire Lane. Grades 4/5 and 5 will use their exterior classroom door; and the classes in the Portables will enter and dismiss directly from their rooms.

### **Drop Off and Pick Up**

The school provides supervision 15 minutes before school and after school. Students should not arrive at school prior to 8:20 am, unless they are attending the Kidz Company daycare or are involved in a school run morning activity. Similarly, please ensure that your child(ren) are picked up at the end of the day by 1:45 pm (Mondays) and 2:45 pm (Tuesdays-Fridays). Students whose parents are late will be asked to remain at the office. If you know you will be late, please contact the office a *minimum of 15 minutes before the end of the day*, so that the office staff can locate your child and relay the message.

We would ask everyone to please respect the No Parking in the upper round about. This area is reserved for Day Care drop off and pick up and for those needing to parking in the Handicap Parking.

### **Volunteering**

Parent volunteers are always welcome in our school. If you have time and/or a particular area of expertise, please do not hesitate to have a conversation with the classroom teacher(s). A Criminal Record Check must be completed and be on file at the school. Please visit the RCMP detachment office to have your form processed. Forms and a letter from the school are available at the office or through the classroom teacher. Drivers for field trips and/or teams must also have, in addition to the Criminal Record Check, a Volunteer Driver Form completed. These forms are available in the office.

### **Hammond Bay Paperless**

We will be making a concerted effort this year to go as much as possible paperless. To receive our monthly newsletters and other important information, please visit our school's website and sign up to be on our Newsletter List Serve. (Instructions are on the home page). If you change your email address throughout the year, please make sure to re-subscribe yourself. You can unsubscribe at any time. Thank you for helping us trying to be a "green" facility.

### **Meet the Teacher Night**

We will be having our "Meet the Teacher Night" on Thursday, Sept 24<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-7:30 pm. There will be 2 sessions for parents, both a half an hour long. This gives families with more than one child an opportunity to visit the sibling class.

Teachers will be explaining daily routines and classroom/school expectations, in addition to their curricular outlines. If you have specific questions/concerns regarding your child, please make an appointment to meet with the teacher at an alternate time.

Please bring your calendars/agendas to the evening as Parent-Teacher Conference signup sheets will be posted.

### **Library News - Volunteers**

We are extremely grateful for the parent volunteers who work in the library!! Thank you - Merci :-)

Volunteers are essential to the smooth running of the library and we would be hard-pressed to meet the needs of our community without them. Volunteers shelve books and help with book sales. If you have time to spare, you're welcome to come help shelve books. The best times to drop by to volunteer are **Thursday** and **Friday** all day (students do not come to the library on those days) or anytime after school (children welcome).

When all students' barcodes from MyEducation BC will be received, book exchanges and information searches will also begin. The library would then be open:

**8:35 - 8:45 AM** Monday-Tuesday-Wednesday - **Book Exchange Everyone Welcome** -

\*\*\*Parents accompanying students and students with teacher permission\*\*\*

Please contact the teacher-librarian if you would like to find out more about volunteering in the library.

Welcome back!

Louise-Andrée Soucy - Teacher Librarian

*Tammy Trickett, Library Assistant*

### **Terry Fox Walk/Run**

On September 23<sup>rd</sup> will be honoring the memory of Canadian Hero: Terry Fox by participating in the annual Terry Fox Walk/Run at Neck Point. Thank you to Mme. Lena's Grade 4/5 class for organizing this school-wide event at Hammond Bay. All money raised will be donated to the Canadian Cancer Society. Thank you for your support!

### **PAC News**

Hammond Bay's Parent Advisory Council had its first meeting on September 14<sup>th</sup>. It was wonderful to see such a large number of Hammond Bay parents attend. The PAC meetings are open to all parents/guardians of

students attending our school. Mark your calendars with the following PAC meeting dates: October 5, November 9, December 14, January 11, February 15, April 4, May 9, and June 13. Meetings begin at 7 pm at the school.

The FunLunch information has been sent home for the Fall/Winter 2015-16 season. For inquiries or additional information, please contact the PAC directly at [ecolehammondbay@gmail.com](mailto:ecolehammondbay@gmail.com)

## Spirit Days

Each month, we will be encouraging our students and staff to wear our school colours: blue and yellow. Spirit Days are part of our campaign to build a welcoming school community. Our first day is Friday, September 18th.

## Sports

Football season is upon us! The league games begin on September 21<sup>st</sup>, with our Bantam Boys and Bantam Girls teams participating.

Cross Country has also begun. Our Neck Point Runs are part of the training regime for the Cross Country Zone and District competitions. This year, Hammond Bay will be once again hosting the Large School North Zone competition on October 28<sup>th</sup>. Sign up's for Cross Country competition entry will occur shortly. Please encourage your Tyke, Pee Wee or Bantam to participate.

Students born in the year 2006-07 are considered to be "Tyke", in 2004-05 they are "Pee Wee" and in 2002-03 they are "Bantam". These categories are determined by NETPEA and pertain to all sports offered through the association.

## Mark your calendars!

Sept 10 Fire Drill

Sept 11 Earthquake Drill

Sept 14 PAC meeting in Library at 7 pm

Sept 15 First Full Day for Kindergartens

Sept 16 Welcome Assembly at 1:40 pm

Sept 17 Fire Drill

Sept 18 Hammond Bay Spirit Day (wear school colours: blue/yellow)

Sept 22 Earthquake Drill & Comfort Kits go into the Kiosk. School Picture Day

Sept 23 Terry Fox Run/Walk at 11:00 am

Sept 24 Meet the Teacher Night at 6:30-7:30 pm (Parent Teacher Interview sign up available)

Sept 28 Non-Instructional Day

## Canadian Parents for French announcements

As a network of volunteers, the Canadian Parents for French (CPF) supports French immersion and core French education in schools through the promotion and creation of learning opportunities, as well as advocacy. We will update you regularly on our events and other French language opportunities locally. Contact us at [cpf.nanaimoladysmith@yahoo.com](mailto:cpf.nanaimoladysmith@yahoo.com) and <http://bc-yk.cpf.ca/chapter/nanaimo-ladysmith>

The CPF Back-to-school picnic is Saturday, September 19, 2015 at the Bowen Park lower shelter from 11:30 am to 2:30 pm. French music, games, disc golf, and community!

Our next CPF meetings are September 15 and October 13, 7:00pm to 8:30pm in the AFN boardroom (31-1925 Bowen Road).

Support your student's French skills with events outside of school. Try the Association Francophone de Nanaimo (AFN)'s corn roast at McNab's Corn Maze, 3pm, Saturday, September 27, 2015. Live folk music, hay rides, hot dogs, marshmallows and more!

Looking for a French course to keep up with your kids? 8 wk session starts September 14 (Beginner on Monday, 7:30pm to 9pm; Intermediate on Monday, 5:45pm to 7:15pm or Saturday, 9am to 10:30am; Advanced on Saturday, 11am to 12:30pm). Register at the AFN office, tel 250-729-2776. Fee \$95.00

Thank you for supporting French as a second language in Nanaimo and Ladysmith, home of one of the largest French immersion student populations in BC. Support us by becoming a member - [www.cpf.ca](http://www.cpf.ca)

## Conversations with Pre-Teens

Quarterway Elementary will be hosting Kerri Isham on October 1<sup>st</sup> from 6:30-8:30 pm. Ms. Isham will be presenting 6 Must Have Conversations with your Pre-Teen. Topics include: Consent, Sexual Harrassment, Sexting, Pornography, Gender Violence, and Sexual Fluidity. For more information please contact Quarterway.

## Community Tennis

Certified Tennis Canada instructor, Kazue Fujiki, will be offering tennis lessons after school on the community tennis courts adjacent to Hammond Bay school. The sessions will be from 2:45-3:45 pm for ages 5-7, and from 3:45-4:45 pm for ages 8-12. Lessons will be given on September 17, 24, October 1, 8, 15 for a fee of \$54.00. Maximum number of participants is 12. For more information and/or to register your child, please contact Kazue Fujiki directly at [nanaimotennis2015@gmail.com](mailto:nanaimotennis2015@gmail.com).

## Hub City Hoops – Gr 6/7 Boys – Mini League and Gr.6/7 Boys & Girls Mini Mariners League -

<http://www.hubcityhoops.com/mini-mariners.html>