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School Year: 2018-2019
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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!

PAC has requested that the monthly newsletter be distributed to parents during the first week of every month, so parents are reminded of activities coming up that month at the school and in the community. *Please note that October and November newsletters have been combined and therefore only one newsletter will be distributed.* Friday Reminders will continue to be distributed via email every Friday to all parents with a list of events coming up the following week. Please also visit the school's website for the latest information about the school/district and our calendar of events.

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. Teachers may be discussing the results of these assessments with parents at the Parent Teacher Interviews.

This year we tried a new system for parents to book appointments for Parent Teacher Interviews. We hope that you have found it easy and more convenient. Mr. Mark and I would welcome any feedback which you might have regarding using this system in the future. Please do not hesitate to contact us at the school.

We also have a new school notification system. Parents no longer are required to subscribe to our new system. Notifications will be sent directly to the emails indicated on the Student

Verification forms. We are always looking for feedback, and would welcome any comments about our new system.

The gym construction is coming along. You will have noticed that the exterior walls and roof are on. The interior is now being wired and insulated. We are on track, barring any unforeseen delays, to have all construction completed by the end of November.

Football Season is coming to a close. Our Bantam Girls have been doing well this season and will be moving into the playoffs. We wish them the best of luck! Thank you to Mr. Heringa and Mme. Raduta for coaching and sponsoring the team.

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.

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 month. I can't remember an October with such nice weather. This has made our temporary loss of a gym much easier as we have enjoyed such fantastic conditions for outside gym classes. It has also been a blessing for our Cross Country and Football teams. Our bantam girls football team is enjoying a very strong season so far and I wish them best of luck in their final games. I would also like to take a moment to celebrate the hard work and dedication of our cross country runners who have been working very hard at lunch on Tuesdays and Thursdays in preparation for the zone meet. I wish all of our athletes the best of luck in their upcoming zone runs and for those who qualify for the district meet.

A big thank you to parents and teachers for another successful parent teacher meeting week.

I was so nice to observe and experience so many positive conversations happening around the development of our students. I would also like to thank staff and parents for adapting so quickly to the new online scheduling system for these meetings. Please let me know if you have any feedback so we can streamline it for next year.

I would like to extend a big shout out to Mme. DeVerteuil and the students participating in rock band club at lunch. It is fantastic to see students pursue their passion in music and I can't wait to hear the first concert. In addition my thanks go out to the students participating in student council and for organizing the "We Scare Hunger" initiative. Thank you everyone for your contributions.

Lastly, I would like to acknowledge the grade 3-7 students who participated in the Mountain Bike Club this fall and to thank my wife Carey Mark for volunteering her time and instruction expertise for our sessions. It warms my heart to see such a strong passion for cycling from our school community.

Thanks everyone and have a fantastic November,

Merci,

Justin Mark
Vice-Principal
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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.

Student Council

Thanks to our large and very enthusiastic student council, the WE Scare Hunger food drive to support the Loaves and Fishes food bank is well under way. The drive runs from October 22 - 26th but non-perishable items will still be accepted until November 2nd. Our goal is 500 items which is between 1 -2 items per student. We are very grateful for the participation of our school and community in this important event.

On November 22, we will be accompanying 20 representatives from student council to Vancouver in order to participate in WE Day. It is a celebration of all the work and commitment from the previous year as well as ideas and encouragement for the upcoming year. This year, we were extremely fortunate to be awarded extra tickets to this exciting event!

Student council will be planning a used book sale before the winter break so start combing through your unread or gently used books. As students plan and organize the event, we will send more information home. Look for the sale to happen sometime in December.

We thank you for your continued support!

Mme Natascha and Mme Kim

Remembrance Day

This year Remembrance Day will look different at Ecole Hammond Bay. Without a gathering space for all students, we will be doing our remembrance over the PA system. A number of classes have volunteered speakers and musicians to contribute to the broadcast. We will be having our minute of silence promptly at 11:00 am. Thank you for your understanding this year.

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.**

Nov. 2	District Cross Country Meet (am)/Wear House Colour Day
Nov. 8	Fire Safety House for Grade 3
Nov. 9	Remembrance Day Broadcast/Hot Lunch
Nov. 12	Remembrance Day – no school
Nov. 14	Lockdown Drill
Nov. 19	PAC Meeting
Nov. 20	Volleyball season starts
Nov. 22	Me to We Day – Student Council
Nov. 23	Hot Lunch

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.

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 \$247.00 to the Terry Fox Foundation.

Halloween

Halloween was a little different this year at Ecole Hammond Bay. We did a Halloween Costume Showcase Parade through the school in the morning. It was wonderful to see everyone’s costumes. Grades 5-7 were invited to Ecole Quarterway for their annual Halloween Dance. Thank you to Ecole Quarterway for hosting this fun interschool event.

Grade 3 Swim to Survive

Again this year, we are happy to offer to our Grade 3 students the Swim to Survive program. Students will be learning basic skills to survive in the water. There is a classroom lesson, followed by three lessons in the NAC pool. Permission slips were sent home already. For more information, please contact your child’s teacher.

Grade 3 Fire House Safety

On November 8th, the Fire Department will be visiting our school with the Fire House. This program is designed to teach Grade 3 students what to do in case of a fire at home. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school office for more information.

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 Thursday, October 25th. We had over 40 runners participating – Bravo!

Friday, November 2nd 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 and Mr. Mark for sponsoring the Cross Country run team and organizing the Zone and District meet participation.

Sports

Football season is coming to an end, with playoffs starting Oct 29th. Thank you to Mr. Heringa and Mme. Raduta for volunteering their time.

Volleyball is coming up. If you are interested in coaching a volleyball team, please contact Mme. Bohm at cbohm@sd68.bc.ca. Please note participation in the league will depend on the gym construction completion date.

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.

