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School Year 2018/2019
Issue #5 January 2019

Principal: Christine Bohm
Vice-Principal: Justin Mark
Secretaries: Susan Clark
Marina Lockhart

Principal's Message

Welcome back everyone! We hope that you all had a wonderful and restful holiday, and wish you the very best for the New Year.

Registration for Kindergarten and Academies began on January 9th. French Immersion Kindergarten registration will be open until January 31st; English Kindergarten until June 15th and Academies until March 31st. More information regarding Registration is posted on the bulletin board across from the office.

French Immersion Kindergarten siblings have a space reserved for them if parents complete the online registration form by the closing deadline. Please contact the school office by January 25th, if you have a child coming into Kindergarten in September 2019 and has a sibling currently attending Ecole Hammond Bay. If you have a Grade 7 student continuing on to NDSS French Immersion, the school automatically completes the registration for you. (Please see the section below entitled GRADE 8 NDSS REGISTRATION). If you are choosing to attend another secondary school in SD68, please complete the online registration form and contact the secondary school of your choice. Online Registration Forms are available at www.sd68.bc.ca under the Registration tab. If you have any questions about registration, please do not hesitate to contact the office at 250-758-5711.

NDSS counselors will be visiting Grade 7s at Ecole Hammond Bay on January 22nd to begin the process of Grade 8 course selection. If you are not planning on attending NDSS, please complete the online registration form and contact your secondary school of choice for their course selection options and school tour.

Mid-Year Progress Reports will be coming home to families on February 8th, 2019. The written comments and a sliding scale are the two important components of this document. There will be no letter grades provided on this reporting document. For questions or concerns about your child's learning progression, please speak to the classroom teacher directly.

Although students have enjoyed the use of the gym in December, we will be having a GYM GRAND OPENING CEREMONY on January 24th from 9-10

am. We hope that parents will join us for this special occasion.

A big thank you to PAC for the purchase of the new playground equipment. Our Intermediate students have been enjoying the climbing wall and the swings!

As always, if you have questions or concerns about the education program of your child(ren), please do not hesitate to contact me.

Christine Bohm

Vice Principal's Message

I hope everyone enjoyed a restful holiday and that students have returned well rested and ready to do their best. Just a reminder to students to make sure to bring appropriate footwear and clothes for outside play as the weather has been very wet and cold this January. I would also like to congratulate all the volleyball teams and their coaches for a terrific season and wish the teams that are competing in the playoffs good luck.

I am also very excited to help support our House Team intramural programs on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the gym. We will be starting January off with volleyball followed by dodgeball. I encourage students to participate. The intermediate classes will also be starting to train for the Northern games competition which highlights Inuit based sports. We will be learning the different events in PE classes and come together for a Northern Games challenge in February.

January and February look to be busy and exciting months here at Ecole Hammond Bay so I would like to remind all students to stay organized and to focused on your studies as this is such an important time for learning.

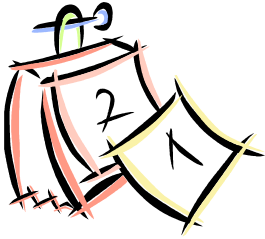
Kindest Regards Mr. Mark

Student Lates



We are noticing an increasing amount of students arriving late to school. We would like to remind parents/guardians that school begins promptly at 8:35 am. Students arriving consistently late disrupt the

instruction already taking place and are missing key pieces of information for the day. Please help us set your child up for success by arriving on time. All students arriving late must report to the office to receive a late slip. In case of emergency, it is important that we have an accurate attendance.



Upcoming School Events Jan/Feb

Jan 9	Applications for French Immersion begin
Jan 11	Wear House Colours Day
Jan 14	PAC meeting
Jan 24	GYM Grand Opening Ceremony at 9 am
Jan 30	Gym is closed for Elections BC
Jan 31	French Immersion Kindergarten Registration closes
Feb 1	Mid-Year Progress Reports go home
Early Feb	Lottery Night (closed to the public)
Feb 11	PAC Meeting
Feb 14	Valentine's Day
Feb 18	BC Family Day – schools are closed
Feb 25-26	District Pro D (classes not in session)

Library News from Mme Jacqueline, your friendly Teacher Librarian!

Curiosity, Creativity, Connection **Curiosité, Créativité, Branché**

Dear families and friends of the Library, January is Family Literacy month! Literacy is not just something that schools promote; families and parents have a big impact on how, when, and why children read. Get excited about reading together! Choose a family book and read aloud every night, if you can. Make reading a priority in your family. At school we will be honouring literacy in many ways this month. And we will celebrate with our annual Dress as Your Favourite Book Character Day near the end of the month. Stay tuned for the date!

For more family literacy, the second annual Parent and Preschooler Storytime is also tentatively scheduled to be held for 3 sessions in the library on Wednesday mornings from 8:45 to 9:30 starting on Wednesday January 16. Visit Mme Jacqueline in the library or email jkellam@sd68.bc.ca. More details to come!

WHAT IS YOUR CHILD READING?

Remember to ask your child about the books they bring home! In the library, choice is important. Ask how they are deciding which books they want to take out. Ask them what they want to read next. Are

they interested in stories? Or real life? Or science? Or space or ancient Rome? Maybe they are keen to read a series. When you show interest and excitement around their reading choices, they learn that reading is valued and important.

BOOK CARE:

Responsible care of books that are on loan from the library is an important part of being a good citizen at school. Please keep your child's library books away from leaky lunch bags, water bottles and pets. Choose a regular spot to keep books for the week, and enjoy reading daily with your child. On library day, carefully slide books into the backpack. You might even consider putting books in a large ziploc bag to keep them in good shape!

BOOK DONATIONS:

If you are considering donating your children's books to the library, please consider the following criteria:

- Since we are a French Immersion school, French books are a priority
- Books that are in excellent condition (look new or near-new)
- Books that have been recently published
- Books that fit current curriculum needs
- Books appropriate for the ages of our students

Acquisitions are very carefully considered. All books and resources for our library must meet standards of currency and relevancy, including items that are gifted. If you think you have books that meet the criteria, please bring them by the library and Mme Jacqueline will assess them. Thank you for thinking of us!

Happy Reading!

Mme Jacqueline Kellam
Teacher-Librarian

Winter Carnival

We are currently planning our annual Winter Carnival activities and are looking for donations of white yarn. Please drop off donations at the office. Thank you so much for your help.

Student Council

Happy 2019!

Student Council is very excited to announce that thanks to the generous support of the École Hammond Bay community, our Book & Bake Sale was very successful! We raised \$461! Thanks also to all of the parents that helped out at the sale. It truly was a group effort!

The students on council have chosen to help fund the WE Charities water pillar and we will be

sending \$500 to a country most in need. This translates into 5 homes that will have access to a direct water pipe rather than walking miles to a well. This is especially meaningful for the girls and women that often do this job.

We were also able to deliver all the unsold books to the Rotary Club of Nanaimo so that they can sell them in their spring book sale. We were thrilled to be able to help out locally as well globally! We are very grateful to work with such a wonderful group of dedicated and thoughtful students who come out each week to brainstorm and plan how they can make a difference. We will have another event in February so stay tuned. In the meantime, remember that no act of kindness ever goes unnoticed - big or small, we can all make a difference.

We wish you a happy and healthy start to the year,

Mme Natascha and Mme Kim

Filming, Photography and Student Privacy

There are a variety of school events, activities or sports games that take place during the year and there is no better way to document these events by taking photos or videos. However, we must still be mindful of our student's privacy.

A parent wishing to film or photograph students and then post these images to a website (i.e. Facebook/Twitter/YouTube/Vimeo) must have signed permission for the students by their parents before posting their image online. To do so without signed permission is a violation of BC privacy legislation.

While the responsibility lies solely with the person taking the photo or video, the district wants to take this opportunity remind all parents and guardians to remain respectful of everyone's privacy.

NDSS Grade 8 Registration

Grade 7 students are automatically registered and scheduled at Nanaimo District Secondary for Grade 8, as NDSS is our catchment high school. There is no need to apply to NDSS as this is automatically taken care of for your child.

Students wishing to transfer to a secondary school other than our catchment area high school, should notify their Principal and Grade 7 teacher and apply online at www.sd68.bc.ca.

If you are interested in applying to one of our District Secondary Academies, please visit our website for more information: District Secondary Academies.

Registration opens January 9th, 2019.

- From Nanaimo District Secondary School



Leave Your Footprint

Students in the social justice classes at Ecole Hammond Bay have been learning about equality and equity. As part of this class, students would like to raise funds to buy running shoes for children in San Antonio Palopo in Guatemala. Members of the Chemainus Rotary Club are going to San Antonio Palopo on January 29th to build homes for families and buy running shoes for children. Money raised by Ecole Hammond Bay will help increase the number of children receiving shoes.

On January 16th, 18th and 21st student will have an opportunity to "Leave a Footprint" by donating one dollar and their "Footprint" will be displayed in the school.



Dressing for Outside

We 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.

District Policy for School Closures on Snow Days

It is that time of year again, when the school district would like to remind parents about school closure procedures. The most common reasons that schools might be closed are dangerous road conditions due to a heavy snowfall or ice.

If you are wondering if schools are open on a particular day, for the most current updates listen to local radio stations (WAVE 102.3 FM and WOLF 106.9 FM) in the mornings.

We also attempt to put an announcement of any school closure on the school district website, www.sd68.bc.ca, and on Twitter and Facebook, but our ability to do so could be affected by such things as power outages and technical issues. If there is no announcement on the website or social media, please be sure to listen to local radio stations.

We would like to remind parents that it is their right to make the final decision as to whether it is safe for their children to travel to school on any given day. While the district strives to make the best decision possible for students across the district, there may be circumstances in your neighbourhood that lead you to decide to keep your children home, even though schools are open.

PAC News

Thank you to everyone for their generous donations towards the Holiday Raffle Baskets. All winners were called on the last day of school before Christmas break. We raised \$1065.00 for our future garden educational outdoor space!

The next PAC meeting is January 14th at 7 pm.

Local School Calendar 2018 - 2019

Monday, February 18	BC Family Day
Monday, February 25	Non-Instructional Day (District Pro D Day)
Tuesday, February 26	Non-Instructional Day (School-based Pro D Day)
Friday, March 15	Last Day of Classes before Spring Vacation
Monday, April 1	School re-opens after Spring Break
Friday, April 19	Good Friday
Monday, April 22	Easter Monday
Friday, May 10	Non-Instructional Day
Monday, May 20	Victoria Day
Friday, June 28	Administrative Day – Schools are Closed