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Website: <http://hb.schools.sd68.bc.ca>  
School Year: 2019-2020  
Issue #2– October 2019

Principal Christine Bohm  
Vice-Principal: Kelly Payne  
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!

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. Once again, 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.

Foundation Skills Assessments (FSA) is currently underway in the Grade 4 and 7 classrooms. This is a mandatory assessment from the Ministry of Education, which we complete every year in October. Information gathered from this assessment is used at Ecole Hammond Bay to help design specialized programming and resource allocation, as well as drives our school goal(s).

For the school year we are using the online system for parents to book appointments for Parent Teacher Interviews. We hope that you have found it easy and more convenient. Mme. Payne and I would welcome any feedback. Please do not hesitate to contact us at the school.

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. Paper based RCMP Criminal Record checks will no longer be accepted.

As part of the curriculum's core competencies, Mme. Payne and I will be hosting STEM challenges for all of the students at Ecole Hammond Bay every second month. These challenges allow students to develop creative and critical thinking and communication skills. They work cooperatively in their house team to solve a challenge. During the month of October, the Intermediates were challenged to build the tallest balloon tower and the Primaries were challenged to build the tallest straw tower, with a limited supply of resources. You may see some pictures of our STEM challenges in the School District news (media consents were verified) and/or be used in the upcoming Parent Teacher Conferences. The next challenge is coming up in December.

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**

Dear Hammond Bay families,

I can't believe how busy and hard working all our staff and students are on a daily basis! I am so proud of how hard everyone is working and

how much learning is going on at our marvelous school.

Cross country has started and I am enjoying running with our team at our regular practices. We are so lucky to have a beautiful area such as, Neck Point, to run through as well. Our meet will be in the morning on Wednesday October 30<sup>th</sup>, and we welcome parent volunteers to help marshal the run through Beban Park.

A reminder to students to wash their plastic containers and put them in the appropriate recycling bins. We want to maintain a clean and orderly recycling station at the school and do our part to help the environment. If we all work together we can make a big difference.

We had a wonderful welcoming assembly in September, and I was very humbled and grateful for having a local elder from the local Snuneymuxw community come and speak about their culture and lead us in prayer for the coming years endeavors.

I have organized another online registration for parent teacher interviews. It is the same program that was used last year. Please keep an eye out in our Friday reminders and emails about dates and where and when to sign up for your appointments.

I look forward to meeting some of you during our parent teacher conferences.

Kind regards,  
Kelly Payne  
Vice-Principal Hammond Bay School



### **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.



Watch for immunization consent packages for grade 6 students that will be sent home early in the fall. Students in grade 6 will be offered immunizations in school-based clinics (November 13<sup>th</sup>) with the consent of a parent(s), guardian or representative.

Also being offered again this year is the Kindergarten screener for vision and hearing on November 27<sup>th</sup>.

Please contact the local Health Unit at 250-755-3388 and ask to speak with a Public Health Nurse if you have any questions.

### **Library News**

#### **NEWS FROM MME JACQUELINE IN THE LIBRARY**

**Scholastic Book Fair** is coming to our school! This library fundraiser will be held in the gym during the week of Parent-Teacher Conferences, October 21-24. The Book Fair will be open for purchases from 1:30 – 3:30 Monday to Thursday that week. Cash, credit cards, and cheques are all accepted.

**Parent volunteers** will be needed to have a successful book fair. Please email Mme Jacqueline at [jkellam@sd68.bc.ca](mailto:jkellam@sd68.bc.ca) or visit the library M-Th to add your name. A minimum of 4 volunteers per day helps so much! If you can volunteer for one hour, either 1:30-2:30, or 2:30-3:30. At least two people per hour makes it run more smoothly. I understand it is the same week as conferences, but since you're here anyway, come and give us a hand at the Book Fair!

Also this month:

#### **Pumpkin Decorating Festival in the Library:**

This is a creative home project to enliven our library. Decorate a pumpkin with a **book character theme!** There is no need to carve the pumpkin – that way, the pumpkins will stay fresh during their display. Get creative with paint, paper, fabric, googly eyes, and more! Students will participate in a secret ballot to choose the winners. There will be book prizes for the creators of the winning pumpkins! For lots of fun ideas, check out “Book Character pumpkins” on Pinterest.

Bonne lecture! Happy Reading!

*Jacqueline Kellam*

### **Student Council**

This year, student council will be participating again in the WE Schools We Scare Hunger campaign. Throughout the weeks of October 21-November 1 we will be collecting non-perishable food items to be donated to Loaves and Fishes Nanaimo. Any items you can spare can make a huge difference towards ending hunger in our community.

Mme. Danica and Mme. Janelle  
Teacher Advisors

### **Monthly Assembly**

Join us on October 30<sup>th</sup> for our monthly assembly. Division 9 is presenting. See the school's website for more information.

## Remembrance Day

Division 13 is hosting the Remembrance Day assembly on November 8<sup>th</sup> at 10:40 am. More details will follow in the November newsletter.

## 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.

Oct. 7	PAC meeting 7pm
Oct. 11	Pro D Day (classes not in session)
Oct. 14	Thanksgiving Monday
Oct. 25	Pro D Day (classes not in session)
Oct. 28	PAC Halloween Dance
Oct. 30	Monthly Assembly
Oct. 31	Halloween Costume Parade
Nov. 4	PAC Meeting
Nov. 8	Remembrance Day Assembly
Nov. 11	Remembrance Day – no school

## Halloween

For the first time ever our entire school population will be participating in the Costume Parade and mini-dance all at the same time on October 31<sup>st</sup>! Just a reminder that masks and weapons will not be permitted to be worn at school. We also ask that students have a change of clothing for recess, as we would not like to have costumes soiled or damaged before the big night. Please keep Halloween candy at home, as it does not meet the Healthy Food Guidelines which the school must meet at all times. Thank you for your support and cooperation.

## 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. In November there will be a classroom lesson, followed by three lessons in the NAC pool. Permission slips will be going home. For more information, please contact your child's teacher.

## Grade 3 Fire House Safety

On November 7th, 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.

## Grade 7 Parent Group

The Grade 7 teachers and administration met with Grade 7 parents recently to establish the Grade 7 Parent Group and fundraising activities. Milk orders are currently underway and information was sent out about the upcoming Bottle Drives. The first bottle drive is on October 18<sup>th</sup>.

## Sports

Football season is coming to an end. Thank you to Mr. Kevin for volunteering his time to coach and sponsor the Bantam Boys team.

Volleyball is coming up. If you are interested in coaching a volleyball team, please contact Mme. Bohm at [cbohm@sd68.bc.ca](mailto:cbohm@sd68.bc.ca).

Cross Country is underway. Tykes Pee Wees and Bantams are currently training for the upcoming North Zone Large School and District Meets on October 30<sup>th</sup> (am) and November 5<sup>th</sup> (am) respectively. Thank you to Mr. Palmer and Mme. Payne for coaching and sponsoring. Permission slips for the Zone Meet will be going home shortly.

## PAC News

We have had our second PAC meeting already! Fun Lunch and Popcorn have started. Yellow Point Cranberries has completed and Hammond Bay Spirit Wear is just starting. Thank you to our parent community for their continuous support!

Hammond Bay Spirit Wear try on for sizing will be taking place every day next week right after school until 3 pm, in the foyer.

Here are the **Fun Lunch** dates for the year. Please mark your calendars!

Wednesday October 2nd  
 Wednesday October 16th  
 Wednesday October 30th

Wednesday November 13th  
 Wednesday November 27th

Wednesday December 11th

Wednesday January 15th  
 Wednesday January 29th

Wednesday February 12th  
 Wednesday February 26th

Wednesday March 11th

Wednesday April 1st  
 Wednesday April 15th  
 Wednesday April 29th

Wednesday May 13th  
 Wednesday May 27th

Wednesday June 10<sup>th</sup>

**Fruit and Vegetable Program**

The fruit and vegetable program has begun. Students have enjoyed apples 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.



**Parent Session at McGirr Elementary: Anxiety**



McGirrPoster.pdf

DO YOU WANT YOUR CHILD TO IMPROVE THEIR FRENCH READING SKILLS THIS SUMMER?

**"J'AMÉLIORE MA LECTURE AVEC MME JULIE"**

WITH MME JULIE, I'M GETTING BETTER AT READING FRENCH

A place for children to have fun as they reinforce and develop:

- Decoding
- Fluency
- Pronunciation
- Phonemes
- Comprehension

Located at: Nanaimo Language Centre  
 4750 Rutherford Rd  
 Nanaimo, North Town Centre

[nanaimolanguage2@gmail.com](mailto:nanaimolanguage2@gmail.com)  
 Nanaimo Language Centre TEL: 250-585-0826

**WHAT WE OFFER**

This program provides a fun and well-rounded curriculum that will reinforce what students learn in school and help them get ahead. In this program, we offer:

- Support/ Tutoring
- Reading Club

**HOW IT WORKS**

- The different grades of the students do not affect the other members of the group. All students will have a portfolio with adapted worksheets for them to complete, with different goals to achieve.
- Students bring in their school materials.
- 8 students maximum per class.

**WHO CAN ATTEND**

- French language learners of any academic level.
- Students who have completed grade 1 up to grade 7.

**SCHEDULE**

- GROUP 1: MONDAY 4:15PM - 6:15PM  
 SEPTEMBER 30 - DECEMBER 16 (20 HOURS)
- GROUP 2: THURSDAY 4:00PM - 6:00PM  
 OCTOBER 3 - DECEMBER 19 (24 HOURS)

Register online: [www.nanaimolanguage.ca](http://www.nanaimolanguage.ca) Tel: 2505850826  
[nanaimolanguage2@gmail.com](mailto:nanaimolanguage2@gmail.com)

**For Parents of School Aged Children: Digital Citizenship**



parenting in a digital word flyer fill