



1025 Morningside Drive, Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6C3
Telephone: 250-758-5711
Website: <http://hb.schools.sd68.bc.ca>
School Year: 2020-21
Issue #1 – September 2020

Principal: Christine Bohm
Vice-Principal: Kelly Payne
Secretaries: Susan Clark
Karen Corrigan

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 our newsletters are distributed via email. Please ensure that your email address is correct on the Student Verification forms coming home. Please let us know if your address changes throughout the year too, so you can continue to receive the newsletters and Friday Reminders. Newsletters are also uploaded to our school website every month.

We have had some staffing changes over the summer and will continue to have some changes throughout the month of September. We will keep families informed, as necessary, if these changes impact classroom staffing assignments. We are currently staffed for 15 divisions and 336 students. Below is the staff list for this year thus far:

Librarian – Mme. Jacqueline
SST - Mme. St-Pierre & Mme. Novotny
Music/Band – Mme. De Verteuil/Mr. Bamford
Kindergarten – Mme. Isabelle
Kindergarten – Mme. Camposano
Grade 1 – Mme. Natascha
Grade 1 - Mme. Raduta
Grade 2 – Mme. Kim
Grade 2 – Mme. Monica
Grade 3 – Mme. Anneli/Mme. Novotny
Grade 3 – Mme. Bailey/Mme. Katie (Jan)
Grade 4 – Mme. Payne/Mme. Novotny
Grade 4/5 – Mme. Wallace
Grade 5 – M. Palmer
Grade 5/6 – Mme. Nicole/Mme. Dominique
Grade 6 – M. LaBounty
Grade 6/7 – Mme. Ashworth-Clarke
Grade 7 – M. Kevin
Aboriginal EA – Mme. Stewart/Mme. Dickinson
EA – Mme. Sue-Ellen
EA – Mme. Lindsay
EA – Mme. Kim S.
Library Clerk –Mrs. Kim
Custodians – Mr. Ritchie
Counselor – Ms. Nika
Psychologist – Ms. Worth
Speech & Language – Mme. Ziemanski
Child & Youth Care – Ms. Sandy
Secretary (Main) – Mrs. Clark
Secretary (Tues & Fri) – Ms. Corrigan
Vice-Principal – Mme. Payne
Principal – Mme. Bohm

Our school year will look different this year due to Covid-19. Field trips, except for walking excursions to Neck Point, have been postponed, as well as NETPEA Sports League, until further notice. In addition, assemblies will not be taking place. We hope to find an alternative way of showcasing our students learning to the school community and parents. Also, while we greatly enjoy having parents volunteering in our classrooms and school, we will not be able to open our doors to you this fall. Following the School District's direction, schools will not be open to parents/community members until further notice. Teachers will make every effort to connect with families digitally. In some instances, face to face meetings may be required. In these instances, **appointments (with teachers and/or other staff) must be made through the School Principal.** Please call the school at 205-758-5711 or via email at cbohm@sd68.bc.ca. A complete list of the changes to how the school operates was sent home at the start of the school year. If you did not receive it, please contact the school office.

School District 68 has gone cashless. Families have been provided the information by the District's Communications department to register their children in the Key Cashless system. We are aware of some issues with the system, and the District is currently working to resolve them. Please contact the school if you are experiencing challenges registering your children.

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.

Foundation Skill Assessments has been postponed until January 2021 by the Ministry of Education. More information to follow in the new year.

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

Vice Principal Message

I would like to thank the students and staff for a fantastic September start up. It is so nice to see all the familiar faces! It has also been a pleasure to welcome and visit with our new kindergarten students. Bienvenue à École Hammond Bay! September is a busy month and many permission forms and information sheets are being sent home. Just a reminder to families to make sure that your signed permission forms are submitted so all students have the opportunity to participate in our outings. We have had our Terry Fox run, celebrated International Dot Day, honored Orange Shirt Day and are getting ready for our regular Neck Point excursions.

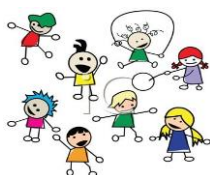
I am excited about continuing to teach in the Grade 4 classroom as well as work with many other grades in different capacities this year. My office hours will be Tuesday afternoons and Thursday mornings. I can be reached via email at Kelly.payne@sd68.bc.ca and by phone at the school 250-758-5711.

Warm Regards,

Kelly Payne

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.



BELL SCHEDULE – 2020-21

We have a new bell schedule this year! Our bell schedule is as follows:

MONDAY - FRIDAY

8:35 a.m.	Start
9:55-10:10 & 10:15 – 10:30 a.m.	Short Recess
11:45 a.m. – 12:20 & 12:25-1:00 p.m.	Lunch Recess
2:15 pm	Dismissal



Nut Aware

We greatly appreciate the effort Hammond Bay families make to ensure that our school is safe food zone for all students. While we cannot guarantee a nut free environment, we are reminding parents/guardians that snacks and foods containing nuts are not encouraged to be brought to school. We have a number of students and staff with severe life threatening allergies to nuts. We thank you for your attention and cooperation.

PAC

Our Parent Advisory Council’s executive for this month is: Bonnie Heys (Chair), Stacy Brown (Vice Chair), Leslie Sansalone (Secretary), and Erin Kenning (Treasurer). In October, PAC will be holding its AGM when a new slate of representatives will be nominated and voted it. If you are interested in any position within the PAC, please do not hesitate to connect with our current PAC Chair.

On behalf of the staff of Ecole Hammond Bay, thank you to the current slate of PAC members. We have greatly appreciated all your time and hard work this past year helping to enrich the learning experiences of our students and supporting community of families.

Meetings usually occur every month on the second Monday evening from 7-9 pm on Zoom. Please visit the PAC’s Facebook page for the link to the meeting. All parents of Ecole Hammond Bay are welcome to attend.

If you have any questions regarding the fundraising they do or questions in general about the role of PAC, please do not hesitate to contact them directly at: ecolehammondbaypac@gmail.com or visit their Facebook page.

Rainbow Groups

Rainbows is a peer support group program for children who have had significant changes happen in their family. Those changes could include divorce, death, foster care or any other loss. The purpose of the Rainbows group is to alleviate the pain that accompanies grief, loss and change. The group focuses on 12 different topic areas helping children to share feelings and learn coping strategies. The groups are small and delivered for different age groups, the groups are led by me and I am a trained Rainbows facilitator. The group will meet during school hours (for about 30-60 minutes) and will last for 12 weeks. If you have questions about the group or would like your child to participate, please contact me at 250-668 8493.

Sandy Posnikoff
Child and Youth Family Support Worker

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 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 short term parking 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 or double park.**
- The traffic flows only one way – entry to the right.

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!

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 8:35 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/Agendas

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. Should you wish to purchase a School Student Agenda, they are available for purchase at the cost of \$6.00. Please pay online and once payment has been received, an agenda will be provided to your student(s).

Student Supplies

Each classroom teacher has provided a paper copy of the classroom's supply list. Please connect with the teacher if you have not received a list or have a question regarding it.

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. If you change your phone number throughout the year, please let the office know right away; so that in case of emergency or illness we can contact you. Please return all the forms to the classroom teacher as soon as possible.

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 2:30 pm. 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 park in the Handicap Parking.

Meet the Teacher Night

Our "Meet the Teacher Night" will be done differently this year. During the week of September 28 to October 2, your child(ren)'s classroom teacher(s) should be connecting with all of the families of their students with an overview of what your children will be learning this year and their classroom expectations. Each teacher is connecting in a different way: socially distanced presentation on the field,

phone calls, youtube video, etc. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's progress, please contact the classroom teacher(s).

Parent Teacher Interviews

Parent Teacher Interviews are coming up Monday, October 19 to Thursday, October 22. Students will be dismissed at 1:15pm to allow teachers to meet online with parents. We will be using the School Appointment online program again this year to book times for these conversations to take place. Teachers will be using the Microsoft Teams program for these interviews. More information and directions on how to use Microsoft Teams and the School Appointment program will be sent home in October.

Sports

Unfortunately, we will not be offering sports teams this year. The NETPEA league has postponed the sports programs until further notice. We will, however, offer students opportunities to participate in sporting activities at school which comply with the Covid Health and Safety Guidelines of the School District. Currently, Mme. Kelly, M. Palmer and Mme. Novotny are sponsoring a Cross Country Run club for grades 4-7. Practices will be taking place on our school grounds at lunch recesses.

PAC News

Hammond Bay's Parent Advisory Council had its first meeting on September 9th at 7pm at the school. PAC meetings are open to all parents/guardians. For a full list of meeting dates, please visit the school's website under PAC Corner. We hope you will join us.

If you have questions or comments for the PAC, please contact them directly via their email address: ecolehammondbaypac@gmail.com

Upcoming Important Dates

October 2	World Smile Day
October 5	World Teachers Day
October 9	Non instructional Day – no school for students
October 12	Thanksgiving Day – schools are closed
October 15	Great Shakeout Day
October 19-22	Parent Teacher Interviews/Early Dismissal at 1:15 pm
October 20	Picture Day
October 23	Non Instructional Day – no school for students
October 30	Halloween Dress Day – everyone is invited to come to school in their costume