



1025 Morningside Drive, Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6C3
Telephone: 250-758-5711
Website: <http://hb.schools.sd68.bc.ca>
School Year: 2020-21
Issue #2– October 2020

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

Principal's Message

We have had a very busy start up the school year. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

We will be having a staffing change this month. Mme. Clark, our school secretary, has decided to retire. Her last day with us will be Friday, October 16th. We wish Mme. Clark all the very best for her retirement.

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.

For the school year we are using the online system for parents to book appointments for Parent Teacher Interviews. Please note that all the Interviews will be virtual this year. Teachers will be sending Microsoft Teams meeting invitations to parents on October 15 & 16. **To accommodate the Parent Teacher Interviews, students will be dismissed Monday, October 19-Thursday, October 22 at 1:15 pm.** Please ensure someone is here to pick them up, as teachers will be moving directly after dismissal into interviews.

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 cannot believe how busy and engaged 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.

A reminder to students to bring their recyclables and compost home, as we do not have our regular bins here at school. Due to COVID we only have garbage bins available. It would benefit the environment greatly if these can be done at home. If we all work together, we can make a big difference.

We had a wonderful welcoming assembly in September, and celebrated Terry Fox Day. It was lovely seeing and saying hi to all the teachers and classrooms virtually through our Microsoft TEAMS platform.

I have organized another online registration for parent teacher interviews. It is the same program that was used last year. A reminder that we have early dismissal the week of October 19th-22nd. 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 for more information.

Monthly Assembly

This month's assembly will be on October 30th. We will be having a mini-dance in each classroom via a Microsoft Teams meeting for all classes.

Remembrance Day

Division 14 is hosting the Remembrance Day assembly on November 10th at 10:40 am via Microsoft Teams. Thank you to Mme. Danielle and the students of Division 14 for organizing this important event for the school.

Food at School

We are seeing an increase in the number of students coming to the office for lunches. Unfortunately, due to the Health and Safety Guidelines, we are not able to provide extra food to students. If you require support in this area, please contact the school office.

Dress for the Weather

Rain or shine, we will be having recesses outside. Please ensure that your children are dressed appropriately to be outside every day. A pair of indoor shoes is also a necessity as the weather becomes rainy. Changing out of our wet and muddy boots helps keep our school clean for everyone.

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 15	Great Shakeout
Oct 20	Picture Day
Oct 19-22	Early Dismissal at 1:15 pm for Parent Teacher Conferences/Interviews
Oct 23	Provincial Professional Development Day – no school for students
Oct 30	Halloween at school
Nov 3	Picture Retakes
Nov 10	Remembrance Day Assembly
Nov 11	Remembrance Day – no school
Nov 13	Fire Drill
Nov 26	Lockdown practice

Halloween

For the first time ever our entire school population will be participating in a virtual Costume Parade/mini-dance all at the same time on October 30th! 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 always meet. Thank you for your support and cooperation.

Sports

Cross Country practices are underway. Mme. Payne and Mme. Novotny are coaching our runners this year. Although there will be no District Cross Country event, we are pleased that so many students in Grades 4-7 continue to participate.

PAC News

Congratulations to our new executive, who were voted in at the last PAC meeting's AGM. For a full list of executive members, please visit the school's website and/or the PAC's Facebook page.

A big thank you to our outgoing PAC executive. We have greatly appreciated all that you have contributed to the school community.

The next PAC meeting will be November 9th at 7:00 pm via Zoom. Please see the PAC's Facebook page for the link to the meeting. All parents of currently enrolled Hammond Bay students are invited to attend.

Fruit and Vegetable Program

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

