



1025 Morningside Drive, Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6C3  
Telephone: 250-758-5711  
Website: <http://hb.schools.sd68.bc.ca>  
School Year: 2020-21  
Issue #3 –November 2020

Principal Christine Bohm  
Vice-Principal: Kelly Payne  
Secretary: Brooke Washburn  
Secretary: Karen Corrigan

---

## ***Principal's Message***

We have had a very busy start to this school year and are in full swing once again.

We have had a few staffing changes thus far this school year: Mrs. Clark retired and Mrs. Washburn joined us as our new school secretary. We said goodbye to Mme. Ashworth Clarke, who moved to Ecole North Oyster to assume a Vice Principal position and welcomed Mme. Lloyd who is the new Division 14 teacher. We wish both Mrs. Clarke and Mme. Ashworth Clarke the very best in their new endeavors.

Staff met virtually with parents/guardians for the Individualized Education Plan Review Days on October 19-21. We meet twice per year to review student progress and further plan additional goals for students with a Ministry Designation. If you have questions or concerns about your child's IEP or the process, please do not hesitate to speak to the classroom teacher.

Plans continue to be underway for the construction of the new wing of Ecole Hammond Bay. The contract will go out to tender through the month of November, with construction slated to start in January. One hiccup we have encountered is that the City of Nanaimo has withdrawn its initial commitment for a review of the traffic patterns of Hammond Bay Road, Morningside Drive and the access to Neck Point Park. While we are saddened by this news, we remain optimistic that the City of Nanaimo will re-engage in talks as the construction on our site commences. If you have any questions about this, I encourage you to connect with the City of Nanaimo. For inquiries about the construction project, please call the school. I will be sending a further update as the tender process closes.

The Halloween Costume Parade and mini-dance was enjoyed by both students and staff. It was the first time we have held a virtual Halloween. It was nice to be able to have been able to have the whole school together for this type of activity.

We had a Remembrance Day Assembly outside and physically distanced this year. Thank you to all the staff and students who participated in this special event.

Cross Country has also come to an end. We had lots of students participating again this year in the Club. Congratulations to all the runners! Thank you to Mme. Payne, Mme. Novotny and M. Palmer for sponsoring and coaching Cross Country this year.

We have a few families that still have not returned the Student Verification Forms. It is important for us to have current phone numbers to reach you in case your child is sick or has an accident. Please send them back to school as soon as possible. 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.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's educational program, please do not hesitate to contact Mme. Payne or myself.

*Christine Bohm*

## **Vice Principal's Message**

I would like to thank the students and staff for a great month. Although the weather did start to get chilly and wet in the beginning of the month, I am so grateful for the sunshine and warmer climate for our cross country runs and school meet.

I would 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 Fridays after school in preparation for the school meet. Thank you to Mme. Novotny for helping with the coaching and training of the team.

A big thank you to parents and teachers for another successful parent teacher conference week. It 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 using the online scheduling system for these meetings. Having a new online platform, TEAMS, to create virtual meetings had its challenges, and I want to applaud all parents and staff who put the effort into learning this new program. Please let me know if you have any feedback so we can streamline it for next year.

I very much enjoyed seeing our students at our October assembly. It was amazing to see all the costumes and connect, as well as dance together virtually, from our classrooms. You all did a fantastic job!

Thank you everyone and have a fantastic November,  
Merci,

*Kelly Payne*  
Vice-principal  
Kelly.payne@sd68.bc.ca



### **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.

### **Covid-19**

We have noticed that many families are congregating close together at both drop off and pick up times in and around the school and playground. To help keep everyone safe at school, we are kindly reminding families to physically distance for other parents and students not in their current social bubble while on school property. If physically distancing cannot be done, adults are asked to wear a mask.

For families who are choosing to keep their children home as a precaution, please be aware that the classroom teachers are not required to provide homework.

### **Everyday Anxiety Strategies for Educators (EASE)**

EASE is a collection of evidence-informed anxiety prevention and resilience-building resources for use with students in grades K-7. The resources use cognitive behavioural strategies to address the thoughts, feelings and behaviours associated with anxiety. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the EASE classroom activities were adapted for use at home by parents and caregivers to support children's mental health and continuous learning. These fun and practical strategies help guide parents and caregivers in managing their children's anxiety and worries in the comfort of their home during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond.

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/managing-your-health/mental-health-substance-use/child-teen-mental-health/ease>

### **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.***
- 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.
- Please do not park in the staff parking in the center of the lot. We have designated spaces for our staff to ensure that they can find parking and be on time for work. Thank you for your cooperation.

We encourage parents to use other parking areas which are available around the school site: along Morningside, Neck Point Park and Shores Drive (when it becomes available again) to facilitate the large amount of traffic through our parking lot.

Thank you for helping to keep our students safe!

## **Safety Procedures**

During the months of September and October we reviewed with the students several safety procedures. We have had fire drills, earthquake drills, and a lock down drill. Students participated well and have taken our drills seriously.

## **Lost & Found**

We have noticed a large number of jackets and sweaters being left on the playground. Unfortunately, we will not be collecting these items in our Lost and Found box this year. Items left on the playground will be hung on the fence along our parking lot. If you recognize an item or items belonging to your child(ren), please take it. Prior to the Winter Break, we will donate all remaining items to a local charity.

## **Theme Days**

We will be having Theme Days this year! Each month students and staff will be invited to dress in accordance to a specific theme. We are excited to announce that November's Theme Day, on Friday November 20<sup>th</sup>, will be Pajama Day. The full list of theme days this year will be posted on our school website.

## **Fruit and Vegetable Program**



The fruit and vegetable program has begun. Students have enjoyed pears, cucumbers and carrots 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.



## **Upcoming Events – November & December**

November 20	PJ Day
November 26	Lockdown Drill
December 3	Winter Hat/Scarf Day
December 4	Ugly Holiday Sweater Day
December 7	Red & White Day/Door Decorating begins
December 8	Crazy Winter Sock Day
December 9	Jingle Bells Day/Fire Drill
December 10	Holiday Hat Day
December 11	Winter PJ Day/Door Judging
December 14	Elf Hat Day
December 15	Snowflake Day

December 16	Red & Green Day
December 17	Reindeer Day
December 18	Santa Hat Day/Last day before Winter Break