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School Year: 2020-2021
Issue #4 – December 2020

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

Principal's Message



It seems that the year is flying by! There are only 3 more school days until Winter Break! During these last few days, we have many themed dress days coming up for students to celebrate the season. The school calendar on our website has a full list of the activities each day. They will also be listed below in the section entitled "Upcoming School Events".

We will be having some staffing changes this month. It is with saddened hearts that we are saying goodbye to Mme. Jill at the end of December. Mme. Katie will assume the class, as she is returning from Maternity Leave. We thank Mme. Jill for helping us these past few months. We wish her the best in all her future endeavors. We are pleased to announce that Mr. Bamford will remain in his current assignment with us for the remainder of the school year, teaching Music/Band opposite Mme. De Verteuil. Similarly, we are pleased to announce that Mrs. Corrigan will continue to be our Secretary 1 on Tuesdays and Fridays until the end of the June.

The Hammond Bay expansion project is still on schedule! Tenders for the contract visited our school site last week, with final submissions due by December 12. As more information becomes available, I will be sharing it with families.

Registration season is almost upon us! If you have a child coming into Kindergarten in September 2021, please email the school secretary once you complete the online registration form. We are compiling a sibling list to ensure that you have a spot in September. For Grade 7 students moving on to Grade 8, which is NOT at Nanaimo District Secondary School, an online registration form must be completed to register them at their catchment secondary school. For academies, the process is a bit different. Depending on the academy of choice, an audition/try-out or lottery will be a component of the registration. Please see the school district's website for all the information, or the Registration sections further on in this newsletter.

FSA (Foundation Skills Assessments) for Grades 4 and 7 will be starting in January 2021. If you have any questions about the FSA please do not

hesitate to contact Mme. Payne or myself. We encourage everyone to participate, as the results of the FSA are used by the school to determine supportive programming and resource allocations.

The Student Learning Survey for Grades 4 & 7 will be starting in January also. Students, families and staff will have an opportunity to complete the Ministry of Education's survey until the end of April. More information will be sent home to families in the New Year.

Starting in January, we will be having a new system to call home to verify student absences in the mornings. Should your child be marked absent and the school was not notified beforehand, you will receive an email and phone call through the School Messenger notification system. The school district uses this same platform for important information such as school closures or messages from the Superintendent.

The phone number you will see on your call display will be: (833) 250-2286
The Email address will be from: École Hammond Bay Attendance

Please call or email our School Secretary, Brooke Washburn, if you have any further questions. Her email is Brooke.Washburn@sd68.bc.ca.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our families a happy, healthy and safe holiday season.

Joyeux Noël et Bonne Année!

Christine Bohm



Vice Principal's Message

The month of November has been very busy and productive here at Ecole Hammond Bay. We have so many fantastic opportunities and initiatives happening at our school and I would like to extend a big thank you to our Themes team for organizing our first Pajama day.

I am very excited to join some of our keen intermediate runners out in Neck Point on Tuesdays. We will continue running as weather permits.

I also would like to acknowledge some amazing grade 3 students who have been working hard in our dance team on Tuesdays and Wednesdays preparing a great presentation adding to our holiday celebrations here in December.

In support of our ever-growing climate concerns, Hammond Bay School is participating in the NLPS 6th annual Energy Cup Challenge. Throughout the months of December, January and February, our school will be taking some school-wide and classroom initiatives to conserve energy. There will be \$2500, \$1000 and \$500 rewards given to the top energy conserving elementary and secondary schools.

With the colder weather upon us, I would like to remind our students to dress appropriately and to be mindful of the slippery surfaces around the school. With a few weeks to go, I also encourage our students to stay focused on their schoolwork and to continue being kind and safe with everyone. I wish everyone a happy December as we approach the winter holidays.

Thanks everyone and have a fantastic December.

Merci,

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.

Information about Kindergarten Registration for 2021-2022

The application period for French Immersion for the 2021-22 school year for Kindergarten and Grade 1 French Immersion will begin through online registration from **January 6, 2021 to January 31, 2021**. Student selection will once again be determined by lottery, with parents being notified in early February.

Detailed information is available at www.sd68.bc.ca.

Sibling List

If you have a child currently attending Ecole Hammond Bay and have another entering into

Kindergarten in September 2021, please email the school secretary, Brooke Washburn, at brooke.washburn@sd68.bc.ca your child’s name before **December 18, 2020**. You must also complete the online registration for your incoming child to guarantee their spot. For more information, please contact Mme. Bohm directly. Thank you.

Grade 7

If your child is attending NDSS for Grade 8, you do not need to register at NDSS. EHB will automatically do this for you.

If your child is not attending NDSS for Grade 8, please complete an online registration form for the school of your choice. Out-of-Catchment applications are due by March 31, 2021.

If your child is registering for an Academy, please complete the online registration form. Some academies are determined by lottery and some by try-out/audition. Parents will be notified in May 2021.



School Closure

If schools are closed due to snow, or any other weather-related problems, announcements will be on local radio stations (WOLF 106.9 FM and WAVE 102.3 FM) by 7 a.m. on the day of the closure. Please do not call the radio station – tune in and listen for the announcements, which will be made on a regular basis. In addition, the district will post the information on the district’s website (www.sd68.bc.ca), Twitter and Facebook, unless there are technical problems or a power outage.

Download the Nanaimo Ladysmith Public Schools mobile app on your Apple or Android device. Make sure to allow notifications to receive the most up-to-date information from your child’s school or from the district.

**Upcoming School Events
 Dec 2020/Jan 2021**

- Dec 16 Red and Green Day
- Dec 17 Reindeer Day
- Dec 18 Santa Hat Day
- Last Day of Classes
- Jan 4 Schools reopen/Student Learning Survey begins for Grades 4 & 7
- Jan 18 FSA begins for Grades 4 & 7
- Jan 27 Family Literacy Day/Dress as your favourite book character day

