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School Year 2020-21
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Principal: Christine Bohm
Vice-Principal: Kelly Payne
Secretaries: Brooke Washburn
Karen Corrigan (Tuesday & Friday)

Principal's Message

Welcome back everyone! We hope that you all had a wonderful and restful holiday and wish you the very best for the New Year.

Registration for Kindergarten and Academies began on January 6th. French Immersion Kindergarten registration will be open until January 31st; and Academies until March 31st.

French Immersion Kindergarten siblings have a space reserved for them if parents complete the online registration form by the closing deadline. Please contact the school office if this applies to you. If you have a Grade 7 student continuing on to NDSS French Immersion, the school automatically completes the registration for you. (Please see the section below entitled GRADE 8 NDSS REGISTRATION). If you are choosing to attend another secondary school in SD68, please complete the online registration form and contact the secondary school of your choice. Online Registration Forms are available at www.sd68.bc.ca under the Registration tab. If you have any questions about registration, please do not hesitate to contact the office at 250-758-5711.

The Student Learning Survey for Grades 4 & 7 students and parents will be coming out from the Ministry of Education shortly. It is our hope that families will complete the survey as the results help the school and district plan services and resources for the coming school year. More information will be sent home to families shortly.

The Foundation Skills Assessments (FSA) will be taking place for our Grade 4 and 7 students again this year, starting on February 15th. This mandatory assessment is not included in the Written Progress Reports, however the data the results provide the school with a wealth of information which is used in our planning of our school goals and initiatives. For more information about the FSA, please do not hesitate to contact me. I would be happy to answer your questions.

Mid-Year Progress Reports will be coming home to families on February 10th, 2020 via email. The written comments and a sliding scale are the two important components of this document. For questions or concerns about your child's learning progression, please speak to the classroom teacher directly.

As always, if you have questions or concerns about the education program of your child(ren), please do not hesitate to contact me.

Christine Bohm

Vice Principal's Message

I hope everyone enjoyed a safe and happy holiday and that students have returned well-rested and ready to do their best. Just a reminder to students to make sure to bring appropriate footwear and clothes for outside play as the weather has been very wet and cold this January.

We will be continuing to work on our carbon footprint and lower the energy consumption as a school. As parents you can also support our initiatives around environmental sustainability by limiting the amount of garbage created in the students' lunch boxes. Re-useable containers and limiting wrappers and small plastic bags is a great place to start.

January and February look to be busy and exciting months here at Ecole Hammond Bay so I would like to remind all students to stay organized and focused on your studies as this is such an important time for learning.

A big congratulations to our grade 3 dance team that did an amazing performance at our holiday assembly, in the end of December. You worked very hard and it really paid off. I am so proud of you!

I am also enjoying continuing to run once a week with our intermediate running team. Grade 4-7 students are welcome to join as we will be continuing into the coming months. I hope everyone is staying healthy and safe during this time.

Kindest Regards,
Mme. Payne

Erase Bullying Resource

The Ministry of Education in conjunction with School Districts across the province have an online student and parent resource about and to report bullying incidents. Please visit www.erasebullying.ca for more information.

Student Lates



We are noticing an increasing number of students arriving late to school. We would like to remind parents/guardians that school begins promptly at 8:35 am. Students arriving consistently late disrupt the instruction already taking place and are missing key pieces of information for the day. Please help us set your child up for success by arriving on time. All students arriving late must report to the office to check in. In case of emergency, it is important that we have an accurate attendance.



Upcoming School Events Jan/Feb

Jan 6	Registration for French Immersion Kindergarten, Late Grade 1 Entry and Secondary Academies opens
Jan 11	PAC meeting
Jan 15	Anti-Racism Day/Black Shirt Day
Jan 27	Family Literacy Day/Dress as Your Favourite Book Character Day
Jan 31	French Immersion Kindergarten and Late Grade 1 Entry Registration closes
Feb 10	Mid-Year Progress Reports go home
Early Feb	Lottery Night (closed to the public)
Feb 11-12	Professional Development Days (classes not in session)
Feb 15	BC Family Day – schools are closed

NDSS Grade 8 Registration

Grade 7 students are automatically registered and scheduled at Nanaimo District Secondary for Grade 8, as NDSS is our catchment high school. There is no need to apply to NDSS as this is automatically taken care of for your child.

Students wishing to transfer to a secondary school other than our catchment area high school, should notify their Principal and apply online at www.sd68.bc.ca.

If you are interested in applying to one of our District Secondary Academies, please visit our website for more information: District Secondary Academies.

Registration opens January 6th 2021.



Dressing for Outside

We would like to remind parents that we expect our students to go outside to play during our recess breaks. This is a healthy activity. Thank you for sending your children to school prepared for the cold, wet winter conditions.

It is also helpful for students to have spare clothing available at school in case they get wet or fall in the mud.

Snow Toys & Toboggans

It is that time of year again when snow is in the forecast. **Sleds and toboggans** are welcome at the school for recess activities on the lower hill, but we are asking you to kindly **keep snowboards and other snow toys at home**. Students will be asked to keep their sleds outside their classrooms and to follow all the rules (which will be broadcast to students in the morning and recess announcements) to keep everyone safe, while having fun.

Just a reminder that snowball throwing is not permitted at any time.

District Policy for School Closures on Snow Days

It is that time of year again, when the school district would like to remind parents about school closure procedures. The most common reasons that schools might be closed are dangerous road conditions due to a heavy snowfall or ice.

If you are wondering if schools are open on a particular day, for the most current updates listen to local radio stations (WAVE 102.3 FM and WOLF 106.9 FM) in the mornings.

We also attempt to put an announcement of any school closure on the school district website, www.sd68.bc.ca, and on Twitter and Facebook, but our ability to do so could be affected by such things as power outages and technical issues. If there is no announcement on the website or social media, please be sure to listen to local radio stations.

We would like to remind parents that it is their right to make the final decision as to whether it is safe for their children to travel to school on any given day. While the district strives to make the best decision possible for students across the district, there may be circumstances in your neighbourhood that lead you to decide to keep your children home, even though schools are open.

PAC News

The next PAC meeting is February 8th at 7 pm via Teams. All parents/guardians are welcome to participate. Please see the PAC's Facebook page for the link. The PAC can be reached directly at ecolehammondbaypac@gmail.com

Local School Calendar 2020-21

Monday, January 4	Schools re-open after Winter Vacation
Wednesday, February 10	Mid-Year Written Progress Reports go home
Thursday, February 11	Non-Instructional Day (District Pro D Day)
Friday, February 12	Non-Instructional Day (School based Pro D Day)
Monday, February 15	BC Family Day
Friday, March 12	Last Day of Classes before Spring Vacation
Monday, March 29	School re-opens after Spring Break
Friday, April 2	Good Friday – Schools are closed
Monday, April 5	Easter Monday – Schools are closed
Friday, May 7	Non-Instructional Day (School based Pro D Day)
Monday, May 24	Victoria Day
Tuesday, June 29	Last day of school for students
Wednesday, June 30	Administrative Day – Schools are Closed

