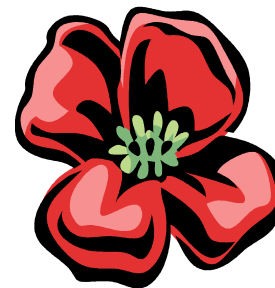




École Pauline Haarer

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November - novembre, 2017



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE – MESSAGE DE LA DIRECTRICE

We have been fortunate to have such a beautiful month of October. So a little snow in November is a good reminder that west coast winter is here. Our students' council and grade 4-7 helpers have been active coordinating recess games and equipment outside. We only had two inside days due to blustery weather and are thankful for the grade 7 leaders helping monitor in classrooms when we need to stay inside. October was a busy month for observing student progress, initiating reading groups, updating support plans and conversing with colleagues and parents about learning. Thanks to students' council, Mme Suzanne, M. Fawdry and the student council leaders for organizing the costume parade and the colouring contest. It was great to see students, parents, staff and little siblings all dressed up!

In the sports arena, our cross-country runners represented our school well at the Small Schools South Zone Meet and November 2, 46 of those runners competing at the District Meet with 7 of our runners placing in the top 10! Kudos to our runners and many thanks to our parents who helped us host the zone meet and also volunteered to help with the District Meet! With such great team effort, the Tom Krall Small Schools Trophy was well deserved. Our bantam football team has shown great team spirit all season. They easily won their first playoff game with École North Oyster but were defeated by Chase River in the second game. A great effort!

In the arts, students had the special privilege of participating in a Métis dance workshop and performance with V'ni Dansi last Friday. We turn our sights now to our Remembrance Day Ceremony November 10th at 12:40 with M. Fawdry, the choir and war veteran Don Lapointe and other special guests.

Grade 5, 6 and 7 students enjoyed their opportunity to meet and play floor hockey with the Nanaimo Clippers. The Clippers will be returning to our school twice more to meet and play with students in other grades. Our school participated in the Clippers Cheer-Off challenge September 30. Thanks to Mme Nadia and her enthusiastic class, we have been offered another opportunity to participate in the Cheer-Off at the Teddy Bear Drop game Friday, December 8. If you missed the last Cheer-Off, come join in the fun this time. Your ongoing involvement is the heart and spirit of our school. Thank you for your support, time, and energy! Mme Karina

PAC NEWS – NOUVELLES DU COMITÉ DE PARENTS

November 9 is our PAC Annual General Meeting where the budget is approved and the executive elected. Thank you to the dedicated parents who agreed to represent students and families on PAC this past year! Those willing to continue are highlighted: Chair, **Kara Brunt**; Past-Chair, Jenni Burdes; Vice-Chair, Vacant; Treasurer, **Debbie Greene**; Secretary, **Max Nodwell**; Bingo Rep, **Michelle Gagnon**; Fundraising Chair, Heather Vogels; Members-at-Large, Sara Reeves and **Catherine Morrison**. If you are unable to attend the PAC AGM but are interested in helping, Heather Vogels is looking for a parent from every class willing to coordinate class volunteers. Hot lunches, popcorn days, spirit days, year-end picnics cannot happen without parent helpers. This year we are attempting to make visible the direct community support connection between parents helping with PAC activities and opportunities for student field trips, artists in the schools, school productions, sports participation, playground activities, and resources for our library. Attending monthly PAC meetings is a quick way to catch up on all of the happenings at school and across the district. Child-minding is provided by grade 6-7 volunteer leaders in the gym.

THINKING OF OTHERS

The rainy season is nearly here. You may find your child's boots and coats from last year no longer fit. To support families in our school and in our broader community with winter clothing needs, student leaders will be setting up two clothing exchange tables in the hall by the library during the week of **November 13 to 17**. If you have gently used coats, sweaters, pants, boots or shoes that look new but don't fit anyone you know, please place your items on the table. If there is something on the table that fits your child, you are welcome to take it. Items on the table after November 17 will be donated to other district schools and organizations.

LIBRARY – NOUVELLES DE LA BIBLIOTHÈQUE

M. Fawdry, Mme Barbara, Mme Elena have been busy putting out new books for our library. Parent volunteers are always appreciated for shelving books and keeping the library in top condition. Thank you Helen and Janet for your weekly support along with Grade 6 helpers Iona and Ava who are carefully returning books to the bookshelves during short recess. Mme Rainboth has a **jeux du jeudi** games club in the library when the weather turns and Mme Deb will be offering the library as a gathering place on Fridays.

WELCOME – BIENVENUE

Mme Janelle Ten Have is a student teacher doing her practicum with M. Fortin. Mme Foster is teaching M. Fortin's class until November 16. Mme Lisa Barron was working with us until October 19 as an educational assistant with Mme Dominique and Mme Noelle. We are hoping she will be able to work with us again soon! We are also waiting for confirmation on our librarian. In implementing the class size and composition language, we have been fortunate that we were able to organize our classes as planned, but EA and library positions are still part of the district-wide discussions.

GOOD NEIGHBOURS – BONS VOISINS

It is great to see so many parents out chatting in the gathering area at the front of the school and to see the bikes and 'walking school buses' coming and going each day. Businesses around our school are also grateful for everyone's consideration in ensuring their entrances remain clear. We work closely with the city to keep our shared play areas in excellent condition. We can do our part by ensuring outside snacks are paperless and that our litter goes in the garbage cans. Please report any concerns to the office so we can address them quickly. Thank you to the parents who have been helping us check our school grounds for debris left behind by weekend visitors. Together, we make a great team!

WEST COAST WINTER – HIVER DE LA CÔTE OUEST

Rain, wind, wet snow, maybe black ice! Please ensure your child comes to school dressed *appropriately* for the day's weather. Schools promote fresh air and physical activity and our 45-minute lunch recess break is almost always spent outdoors (barring torrential downpours and high winds). Hats, coats, mitts, warm and dry footwear will keep your child comfortable and healthy while playing outside on the school grounds. Please send a change of old clothing to keep in class in case of an unexpected tumble in mud or puddles.

SCHOOL CLOSURE INFO – FERMETURE DES ÉCOLES

If schools are closed due to snow, or other weather-related problems, announcements are made on local radio stations (**WOLF 106.9 FM** and **WAVE 102.3 FM**) by 7 am on the day of the closure. The district will post the information on the district's website, Twitter and Facebook, unless there is a technical problem or power outage. We remind all parents it is your right and responsibility to determine whether it is safe for your children to travel to school on any given day. While the school district strives to make the best decision for students across the district, there may be particular weather conditions in your neighbourhood that lead you to decide to keep your children home, even if schools are officially open.

ILLNESSES - MALADIES

If your child is presenting with flu or cold symptoms in the morning, please give your child a day to rest to be in shape for school the following day. We do our best to keep everyone healthy at school and appreciate your care for your child at home!

STUDENT PROGRESS – PROGRÈS DES ÉLÈVES

As the formal report cards do not go home until early February, your parent-teacher interviews in October were an important opportunity to discuss your child's learning progress and goals moving forward. Teachers send home samples of your child's work to inform you of student progress. This may be in the form of weekly 'Ask me about...' messages or larger assignments done over several weeks and reflecting competencies in more than one subject area. As we continue to explore the Ministry Reporting Guidelines, please remember we are exploring reporting using four criteria:

- *Authentic Evidence of Learning* (samples of students' work that illustrate what they are learning)
- *Learning Standards* (the core and curricular competencies outlined in the curriculum)
- *Descriptive Feedback* is where teachers focus on examples of strengths, of ways to improve, and possible next steps. This feedback may be a sticky note, a journal entry, a rubric or checklist outlining expectations, a reflection sheet like *3 stars and a wish*, an email, a photo or video-clip with comments or any format that allows teachers to share their reflective feedback with students and parents.
- *Student Voice* is an opportunity for students to reflect on their core competencies in relation to their personal and social growth, their critical and creative thinking and their ability to communicate their learning. When students are able to reflect on their learning and describe it, especially to someone like a parent who was not in the classroom with them, the students begin to recognize their efforts make a difference and that they have choices in their learning paths. Learning happens in all environments and the reporting language is reflecting this.

To understand the new reporting terms, it is helpful to think of how we learn a new skill like riding a bike. Just as we don't describe our biking progress with a letter grade or a percentage, in our learning journeys, we may be just beginning, we may be developing our understanding (with support and help from others) or we may be applying what we have learned and are feeling confident in what we do. Just as with riding a bike, as we gain more confidence, we begin to look for ways to extend and challenge our competencies (knowledge, skills, understanding and abilities) in new or different directions, in new environments and with a deeper sense of pride and confidence to branch out. This is where your discussions with your child about their learning becomes so important... helping them to recognize the many possible learning paths they can begin to explore as they grow.

CALENDAR – CALENDRIER www.paulinehaarer.ca

November – novembre

10 (12:40)	Remembrance Day Ceremony
6, 20, 27	Robotics Club (Fall session)
13	Remembrance Day Statutory Holiday
14-17	Clothing Exchange (outside the library)
17	Musica Canada – Birth of the CPR, 10:30