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## June Newsletter

### Principal's Message

June is here already! What a wonderful year we have had. Thank you to everyone for your continued support throughout this year and our various learning initiatives.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish the Grade 7 class a wonderful and exciting secondary school experience. Thank you for all of your enthusiasm and leadership throughout these many years at Ecole Pauline Haarer! Good luck in high school!

Our staffing is changing. We are currently in the end year process of post and fill. This means while we have a general idea who will be here with us next year, changes may still occur over the summer. Thank you for your patience in this. We would like to welcome to Ecole Pauline Haarer, Mme. Silickas as our new school counselor, Mme. K Mitchell as our new Speech and Language Pathologist, and Mme. Boyd. We would also like to welcome back M. Bamford. M. Bamford will be continuing in his position as the Music/Band teacher. It is with sad hearts that we are also saying goodbye to some staff. Leaving us this year will be Mme. Nadia, Mme. Suzanne, Mme. Danielle, Mme. Wallace, Mme. Pridy-Jensen, M. Johnny, Mme. Patti and M. Bild.

We wish everyone success in their new positions or retirement.

Currently, our school organization is the following class arrangements. Please be aware that this organization is tentative until we receive approval from the District, which usually occurs during the second week of the new school year (September). Changes may occur until then.

Div 1 - Kindergarten

Div 2 - Kindergarten/Grade 1

Div 3 - Grade 1

Div 4 - Grade 2

Div 5 - Grade 2/3

Div 6 – Grade 3/4

Div 7 – Grade 3/4

Div 8 – Grade 5/6

Div 9 – Grade 5/6

Div 10 – Grade 7

There has been a change to the report cards this term. School District 68 is now following the Ministry of Education's reporting guidelines which requires educators to only use a 4 point proficiency scale. In the past, teachers have been able to measure learning progress in .5 increments. This is no longer available. The four categories for proficiency are: Emerging, Developing, Proficient, and Extending. If you would like more information about this change, please do not hesitate to connect with either the classroom teacher or myself. Report cards

and subsequent reports will be emailed to families on June 29<sup>th</sup>.

As this year draws to a close, I would like to thank everyone for a wonderful year and wish you all a safe, healthy, and restful summer break. We will see you in September!

Sincerely  
Mme. Bohm

### **Are you moving?**

Please let the office know if you are planning to move over the summer so we can update any information such as a new address, email address or phone number. Thank you.

### **School Summer Hours**

The office will be open from July 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 am to 2:30 pm. Please call ahead or email [info.PH@sd68.bc.ca](mailto:info.PH@sd68.bc.ca) before coming to the school. Personnel may be off site attending meetings.

The school office will reopen on August 29<sup>th</sup>.

### **Music in the Park**

We had a wonderful Music in the Park event on June 22<sup>nd</sup>. Thank you to all the supportive parents who came to enjoy the music. Thank you to the students for their excellent performances and M. Bamford for organizing this fantastic event.

### **Water Activities**

On Tuesday, June 7<sup>th</sup> students and staff had an afternoon of fun activities involving water, as a token of appreciation for the abundance of fundraising from Jump Rope for Heart. The dunk tank was a big hit! Thank you to the teachers and Grade 7 students who volunteered to be dunked.

### **Grade 7 Year End**

Grade 7s and families were invited to the school on June 23<sup>rd</sup> to celebrate the end of their elementary schooling. The evening began with the presentation of Leaving Certificates to the students; and ended with fun activities for the Grade 7s. Thank you to Mme. Evelyne, Mme. Alex, Mme. Mitchell, M. Bamford and Mme. Bohm for organizing this event.

### **Fun Day**

On Monday, June 27<sup>th</sup> we will be having fun day in the morning. Students should dress comfortably with running shoes and be prepared to be outside for the morning. Thank you to PAC for sponsoring a pizza lunch for all the students!

### **Final Assembly**

We will be having the year end final assembly on June 29<sup>th</sup> at 9 am in the gym. While we understand that parents would love to be a part of this activity, we are still required to limit capacity as per the Covid Guidelines. At this time, we are permitted to have full school assemblies with students and staff, and only a few guests.

## Important Dates

National Indigenous Peoples' Day	June 21
Grade 7 Celebration	June 23
Blue & White Dress Day	June 24
Fun Day - AM	June 27
EQ Comfort Kits go home	June 27
Last day for Students	June 29
Administration Day	June 30
Canada Day Stat Holiday	July 1
Schools Close	July 8



## **Combined-Grade Classes**

Success for All

**GUIDING PRINCIPLE:** The classroom composition for each grade has to reflect the acceptance of all individuals within an inclusive school environment to offer effective educational programming.

**Nanaimo Ladysmith Public Schools** is committed to creating balanced classes that focus on a student's individual learning strengths and the needs of the whole child. Additional factors that influence the formation of classes include shifting enrollment, class size/composition, and school staffing. Often, particularly at the elementary level, schools will form combined-grade classes.

In a combined-grade class, students from different grades are grouped together in a classroom with one teacher (eg. Grade 2 and Grade 3). Combined-grade classes are common in Canada. In fact, a Canadian study on classroom organization found that one out of every five Canadian students is enrolled in a combined-grade classroom. This means, it is very likely that your child will be in a combined-grade class during their elementary years.

### **Do children "learn" differently in combined-grade classrooms?**

Children learn and mature at different rates. Intellectual, social, physical and personal development is not grade level dependent. In every classroom, combined-grade or single-grade, there is a wide range of children with varying skills and abilities. Teachers are aware of these individual differences and structure learning activities within the curriculum, according to the needs of each learner.

The learning of students in combined classes is not limited to the level of younger students nor are they expected to handle work beyond their ability. Whether a child is an advanced learner, or requires additional learning support, each is guided to succeed within the grade appropriate learning outcomes.



**September 3, 2022 from 10 AM – 3 PM**  
**Nanaimo Harbourfront Library**  
**90 Commercial Street**

Students from kindergarten to grade 12 are welcome to read a story or draw a picture in exchange for a free haircut from a barber or hairstylist and a backpack full of books, clothes, and school supplies!

This year, kids can do some crafting at the art station or learn how to spin some tunes with DJ All Good.

For more information, contact Dave at [thatbarberdave@gmail.com](mailto:thatbarberdave@gmail.com) or visit the **Fresh Start: Back to School** or **That 50's Barbershop** Facebook pages.

There are also social benefits to combined-grade classes. Research shows that combined-grade classes:

- allow students to learn from one another
- encourage students to work together
- provide models for younger students
  
- help older students see what they have already learned
- promote social responsibility
- help students to become independent
- foster a positive attitude towards school

#### **How are students chosen for Combined Classes?**

All classrooms, whether single-grade or combined, include students performing at a range of achievement levels. In every case, schools strive to create a classroom environment that will support the needs of all students

Principals and staff consider a variety of factors when grouping children into classes such as learning styles, social and emotional needs, academic needs and many other factors.

#### **How are students chosen for Combined Classes?**

The combined-grade structure does not make a difference in how a teacher teaches students. Teachers of combined-grade classrooms are familiar and knowledgeable about the curricular competencies for the grades and subjects they are teaching.

Learning has shifted away from memorizing facts to a more holistic approach that focuses on engaging the learner through a lens of inquiry-based learning, critical and creative thinking. This approach lends itself well to combined-grade classes where the emphasis is on teaching students how to evaluate ideas, make judgments, transfer and apply knowledge, understand processes and access information.