

CALENDAR

November

- 4.....Picture Retake Day
- 7.....Family Grouping; 2:00 pm
- 8.....PAC Meeting; 6:30 pm
- 10.....Remembrance Day
Assembly; 10:30 am
- 11.....Remembrance Day
- 14.....Non Instructional Day
- 15.....TAPA Tuesday
- 17-22.Book Fair
- 24.....Soccer Jamboree

December

- 5.....Family Grouping; 2:00 pm
- 13.....Staff Meeting; 3:00 pm
- 13.....PAC Meeting; 6:30 pm
- 14.....Anawim House

Dec 19-Jan 3...Winter Break

January

- 9.....Family Grouping; 2:00 pm
- 10.....Staff Meeting; 3:00 pm
- 10.....PAC Meeting; 6:30 pm
- 17.....TAPA Tuesday
- 30.....Non Instructional Day

February

- 6.....Family Grouping; 2:00 pm
- 13.....Family Day
- 14.....Staff Meeting; 3:00 pm
- 14.....PAC Meeting; 6:30 pm
- 21.....TAPA Tuesday
- 24.....Non Instructional Day
- 27.....Gr.4/5 Victoria Symphony

March

- 6.....Non Instructional Day
- 9.....Early Dismissal; 1:48 pm
- 10.....Basketball Jamboree
- 13.....Family Grouping; 2:00 pm
- 14.....Staff Meeting; 3:00 pm
- 14.....PAC Meeting; 6:30 pm
- 15.....Swim Meet

Mar 20 – 31...Spring Break

SAFE ARRIVAL PROGRAM

Please phone 250-656-7425 if your child will be absent or late.

November 2016

NEWSLETTER

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

November is the month that staff are working on using all of their assessment from our first two months to build a report card. The report card is intended to give parents/guardians a “big picture” of their child’s learning effectively providing a “snapshot” at this time. The report card will include comments describing:

- What the students is able to do.
- The areas in which the student requires further attention or development.
- Ways the teacher is supporting the student in his or her learning.

Report Cards will be sent home during the weeks of November 21st and December 2nd.

Respectfully,

Tom Vickers

Remembrance Day Ceremony



On November 10th at 10:30 am, Sidney staff and students will honour all those who have served Canada over its history. This student led assembly will be very moving and demonstrate a depth of understanding by our students on what Remembrance Day is all about. Thank you to the students, staff, parents and community members who are able to come and be a part of this special assembly.

Fall Weather



The weather can be wet, cold and windy these days. Students are reminded to follow our Sidney beliefs by ‘taking care of yourself’. We need fresh air throughout the day and to be physically active so it is important to layer clothing, have a warm jackets and proper footwear as outside can get wet and muddy.

Safe Schools



We are reviewing our Safe School procedures and want to make sure that all our students are safe. Below are a couple of things that you can do to ensure student safety:

- **Contact our Safe Arrival at 250-656-7425** if your child is absent or will be late.
- Be sure to **sign your children in/out if your child is arriving late or leaving early** from school at the office.
- Contact the office if you have a change in your phone number, address or emergency contacts.
- Check in at the office when visiting the school during school times.

Monday Assembly

Each Monday we have an Assembly. This is an opportunity to share our school beliefs, promote books from the library, highlight student achievements and share upcoming events. It is a great opportunity for our school community to come together. We would like to extend the invitation to any parents/guardians who would like to attend. Assemblies start at 2:10 pm and are usually completed by 2:30 pm.

Penguin Posts



Important information and reminders are sent out via email to our Sidney community through our website as penguin posts on a regular basis. Visit www.sidney.sd63.bc.ca, on the left select Forum Subscriptions. **Subscribe to stay informed!** If you have difficulty subscribing or opening the penguin posts please contact the office.

Lost & Found



We have **MANY** unclaimed clothing articles in our Lost and Found located by the gym/breakfast club area. Please come check the lost and found for hoodies, jackets and various other clothing items your child may have left at school. Articles of clothing left after November 30th will be donated to a charitable organization.

Sidney School Grade 4 & 5 Intra-Mural Soccer



We are at the mid way point of our season. We currently have over 50 Intermediate boys and girls participating in our weekly games. We have our final jamboree on the morning of November 24th, from 9:00 am to 11:30 am at Panorama Rec. Please watch for permission forms coming home.

Intra-Mural Floor Hockey



Intra-mural floor hockey league for students in grades 3, 4 and 5 will start in December. Game schedules and league information will be posted on the bulletin board outside the gym and on our website.

Bicycles, Scooters & Skateboards on the School Grounds



For the safety of everyone, we ask students (and adults) to get off their bicycles, scooters and skateboards at the edge of the school property and driveways. This will help to ensure that no one gets injured by a bike, scooter or skateboard.

A reminder that approved bicycle helmets are the law for all cyclists. To ensure the helmet is doing the job it is meant to, please check the fit of your child's helmet.

School Pick-up and Drop-off Parking



Just a friendly reminder to please not park or idle in the "No Admittance Parking" area, when picking up your children. This area is for staff, service vehicles, district maintenance vans and handicapped parking. It is important that we keep these spaces open at all times.

Pets on the School Grounds



We are asking families to remember to always keep their dogs on a leash when on the school grounds. This is essential for the safety of students on the playgrounds who are not familiar with your pet or may be allergic to animals. We also ask that you do not bring your pets into the school for the above reasons.

Supervision in the Morning and After School



Each morning we have supervision outside from 8:10 am to 8:35 am. Unfortunately this means we do not have any supervision in the school until 8:35 am when the bell rings. It is very important that if you take your child to their class in the morning prior to the bell, you speak with their teacher so that you do not leave them in the room unsupervised. When it is nice outside we are asking students to wait outside until the bell as this is a great time to make connections with their peers.

After school we have supervision until 3:00 pm. We will be asking children who have not been picked up at that time to wait in the office for their parents.

Healthy Breakfast Program



We would like to inform staff, parents and students that we will once again serve a breakfast program for the children from 8:15-8:35 am each morning. Please enter through the doors near the gym. Research has shown that students who have a healthy breakfast achieve greater academic success. We are confident that our Healthy Breakfast Program helps our students start their school day with the energy they need to focus on their schoolwork.

What's New @ Your Library



Book Fair is coming! November 17, 18, 21 and 22nd. We need a parent to take the lead on this and many volunteers to make this successful. We rely on the funds generated from this fair to purchase much needed resources. Please come to the library and let Mrs. Repsch or Mrs. Curtis know if you are available to help.

PAC NEWS



The next PAC Meeting is Tuesday, November 8th at 6:30 pm in the school Library. All parents/guardians of Sidney School students are welcome to attend. We hope you can join us!

FROM THE PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE

Head Lice Awareness



Head lice are common in BC communities. Although they are a bother, head lice are not a health risk.

Head lice spread quickly by close, head-to-head contact. Lice cannot live on furniture or carpet, and they cannot jump or fly. There may be few or no symptoms, but itching may occur.

You can help by:

- Checking your child's head with the wet-combing method of detection once a week throughout the school year.
- Review the pamphlet Wet Combing -How to Get Rid of Head Lice, available online, at your school and Public Health Unit.
- Encouraging your child to wear their hair tied back
- Treating if you notice live lice on your child's head.
- Reminding family and friends about the importance of routine head checks.

For more information:

- [HealthLink BC File #06 Head Lice](#)
- Contact your local [Public Health Unit](#)

Preventing Colds And Influenza (FLU)



Cold and influenza season is here. As the weather gets cooler and we move indoors, so do germs. Children need reminders to decrease the risk of colds and flu in your house by:

- Washing hands often
- Coughing and sneezing into their elbow
- Not sharing facecloths or towels
- Keeping hands away from nose and mouth
- Not sharing food or drink with others

To help limit the spread of germs, please keep your child at home if they are feverish, coughing a lot, has a thick yellow or green discharge from the nose, or is otherwise obviously unwell.

Remember:

- Viruses cause colds and influenza
- The most effective treatment for a cold is rest and fluids
- The influenza vaccine will protect against specific types of influenza
- Antibiotics will not make a cold or other virus go away faster
- Call your doctor if your child has an earache, fever higher than 39C (102F), rash, is very sleepy, very cranky or fussy, has trouble breathing or a cough that will not go away.
- Handwashing is the most effective way to stop the spread of germs that cause colds, influenza, diarrhea, and other illnesses
- Wash hands, before and after eating or handling food, after using the toilet, handling pets, coughing, sneezing, or wiping noses

For more information contact:

- Your local [Public Health Unit](#)
- [HealthLink BC](#) or dial 8-1-1 (a free call)
- Your doctor