

CALENDAR

April

- 11.....PAC Meeting; 6:30 pm
- 14.....**Good Friday-STAT**
- 17.....**Easter Monday-STAT**
- 19.....Cross Country Meet; 3:30
- 21.....Hot Lunch Day
- 21.....ArtsReach
- 25.....Class & Whole School
-Photos
- 26.....Staff Appreciation Luncheon
- 26.....Cross Country Meet; 3:30
- 28.....**Non Instructional Day**

May

- 2.....PAC Meeting; 6:30 pm
- 3.....Grade 5 visit to NSMS & NSMS band visits Sidney 2:00 pm
- 3.....Cross Country Meet; 3:30
- 8.....**Non Instructional Day**
- 19.....Hot Lunch Day
- 19.....NSMS team visits Gr. 5
- 22.....**Victoria Day-STAT**
- 26.....Spring Fling
- 31-1. Intermediate Camp

June

- 6.....Track Meet
- 12.....PAC Meeting; 6:30 pm
- 14-15.Spring Performance
- 28.....Year End Assembly
- 29.....Last Day of School
- 30.....Admin Day-No School in Session

SAFE ARRIVAL PROGRAM

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

April 2017

NEWSLETTER

FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Once the projected school organization for the next school year has been drafted based on known enrolment information, classes are developed through meetings involving your child's present teacher(s), the learning assistance/integration support teacher, the vice-principal and the principal. Each child's placement is thoughtfully determined by taking into consideration numerous factors.

Every effort will be made to place children in the best situation academically, socially and emotionally in the larger context of the needs of all of the children. Information provided by parents is shared and considered at these meetings, however, final placement decisions are the school's responsibility.

If you would like to provide us with additional information to consider in planning the placement of your child, please pick up a Student Placement Information sheet at the office.

With appreciation,

Tom Vickers
Principal

Phase 2 Renovation



Sidney Phase 2 of renovations will be ongoing for the remainder of the school year. It is anticipated by mid-April the framing and structural work will be completed. Starting in May all of the mechanical work will be completed and mill work, flooring, paint and finish carpentry is planned for late May-early June. Phase 2 renovations are scheduled to be completed by the end of June so we will be able to move into our new Learning Commons for the beginning of the new school year. We would like to give a big appreciation to all of our staff and students for their patience and flexibility during our renovation.

Canada is Turning 150 and we are celebrating!



We are having a concert in June and you're invited! We are celebrating Canada's birthday with a bit of rock and roll in our gym on June 14 and 15. Classes are currently learning Canadian songs to sing along with special guests playing live music. Who doesn't love to hear a little Bryan Adams, Paul Brandt, Nickelback, Celine Dion (I'm not kidding), Barenaked Ladies, Justin Beiber (again, not kidding!) and Great Big Sea to name a few?!

Details to come but mark your calendars. I have indicated which classes will perform on which date.

June 14: Alberring, Rice, Jagt, Werk/Black, Collins, Briggs

June 15: Ellison, Loeb, Fredeen, Richards, Kratofil, Curtis/Koopmans, Kjernisted/Kaercher

Jesse Roper is our Artist in Residence!



During the week of May 1-5 we have Jesse Roper coming to our school to work with every class. For two sessions students will have the opportunity to learn from and write an original song with Jesse. He will kick off the week with a special performance at our Monday Assembly. We are looking forward to having him in our school and are excited about writing music with him. A big thank you to Lisa Kjernisted who was integral in making this all happen.

Planning to Move?



Please let the school office know as soon as possible (250-656-3958) if your child will not be attending Sidney Elementary School next year.

Enhancement Agreement Community Meeting



YOU ARE INVITED...

Saanich School District welcomes community members and parents of students with **W̱SÁNEĆ, Other First Nations, Métis and Inuit ancestry** to attend one of our Community Meetings.

Join us for a light dinner and a conversation about our School District #63 (Saanich) and W̱SÁNEĆ, Other First Nations, Métis & Inuit **Education Enhancement Agreement**.



An Opportunity to provide input & feedback!

Community Meeting Dates...

Join us for one of the following meetings:

6:00 to 7:00 pm

Thursday, April 27 (Changed from April 12)

Tsawout First Nation
(Band Office Downstairs Auditorium)
7728 Tetayut Rd., Saanichton

Tuesday, May 16

Tseycum First Nation
(Band Office Boardroom)
1210 Totem Lane, North Saanich

Tuesday, April 25

Tsartlip First Nation
(Health Building)
#3 Boat Ramp Road, Brentwood

Tuesday, May 30

Pauquachin First Nation
(In the Hall - White/Blue Building)
9010 West Saanich Road, North Saanich

Light Dinner Served
Door Prizes

Hope to see you
there!

RSVP: To plan for dinner, please confirm the meeting you will attend and the number of individuals to:
Chesa Abma, District Itinerant Indigenous Education Assistant
cabma@sd63.bc.ca
Telephone: 250.652.7387

Active and Safe Routes to School Update



Thank you to everyone who participated in the data collection phase of the school travel planning process. We heard lots of great feedback from parents and teachers about areas of concern in our neighbourhood. Sidney Elementary, SD63, Town of Sidney and the CRD are all working together to address these concerns and create a safer and more comfortable place for students and families to walk, bike and roll to school.

Sidney Elementary School is moving into the implementation phase of the Active and Safe Routes to School program where we have many exciting events, activities and initiatives to promote walking, biking and rolling to school!

Walk and Wheel Wednesdays Are Back!

Starting Wednesday, April 12, Walk and Wheel Wednesdays are back! We will be celebrating active modes of transportation and will have some great prizes and swag items at the launch! Even if you can't walk all the way to school, consider parking at the Sidney/North Saanich library and walk part-way to participate in this fun event.

Celebrating the Lochside Trail

We will be celebrating the Lochside Regional Trail as a safe route for students to travel to and from Sidney Elementary. Look out for information on celebration stations during our Walk and Wheel Wednesdays and stay tuned for information about a Community Art Project coming to the trail! We will also have a StoryWalk along the trail this spring, where pages of a children's book will be displayed along the trail to encourage physical activity and child literacy. Stay tuned!

Fire Drill Protocol



We have had a number of drills this year that have taken place. We would like all parents, guardians and students to know Sidney's fire drill protocol outside of school hours is to meet with the classroom teacher behind the school on the field.

Childhood Anxiety: Empowering Strategies, Effective Support Presentation

Please find below additional information on the presentation for K - Grade 5 Parents and Educators on Thursday, May 4th at 6:00 - 7:30pm (Q & A from 7:30 - 8:00pm) at Parkland Secondary theatre. Registration is free but limited, please register at the following link:
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/understanding-managing-childhood-anxiety-with-julie-anne-richards-tickets-33514109604>

<h1>CHILDHOOD ANXIETY</h1>	
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Tailored for Parents and Educators supporting children who are experiencing anxiety. Location: Parkland Theatre 10640 McDonald Pk Rd.	EMPOWERING STRATEGIES EFFECTIVE SUPPORT
Presentation and Discussion By: Julie-Ann Richards, M.A., R.G.C., C.G.C Registered Clinical Counsellor, Psychoeducational Consultant Visit www.JulieAnneRichards.com for more information. Funded by Eric Palmer Foundation www.ericfoundation.com	

What's New @ Your Library



April is Poetry Month! If you're wandering past the library, check out our blossoming PoeTree and read some of our student's creative poems!

- Ask your intermediate student if they are in our Chocolate Lily Book Novels Awards program. I wonder which book they will vote for?
- Ask your grade three child if they are participating in the Chocolate Lily Picture Book Awards program and which book they are going to vote for.
- Keep looking for any lost, overdue books!
- A huge thank you to the Times Colonist, who generously awarded us with \$2000 to be spent on new books! Hooray!

Grade 5 Transition



Grade 5 students are getting ready for attending North Saanich Middle School (NSMS) next year. On May 3, 2017, at 9:15 am Sidney Grade 5 students will attend orientation at NSMS and at 2:00pm the NSMS Grade 8 band will come to Sidney to perform. On the evening of May 3th at 7:00pm there is a grade 5 parent orientation evening at NSMS. The NSMS administration staff and leadership group will be at Sidney School at 12:45 pm on May 19, 2017.

PCEC "1000 X 5" Children's Book Recycling Project



Thanks to staff, students, and families in Saanich schools!

In the past nine years, it has been possible to collect more than 120 000 children's picture books for redistribution to babies, toddlers, and other young children whose families live on the Peninsula. That's about ten times the number of books in most elementary school libraries! The vast majority of these books were donated through schools in Saanich District. Thank you so much...

Once the books are counted, cleaned, sorted, and packaged, they are delivered to the Strong Start Centres, Kindergarten classes, Sidney Lions' Food Bank, Peninsula Health Unit, and 11 social agencies for distribution to children whose families cannot afford to buy books for them.

Research indicates that home libraries have a significant positive effect on the literacy development of young children and their early success in school. Success begets success. For these reasons, the PCEC "1000 X 5" Project work will continue through to the end of June and on into the next school year. Please continue to donate books your children have outgrown and encourage them to share the gift of literacy with others. Books may be left in the bin at the front entrance of Sidney Elementary.

If you would like to learn more about this project, please email the PCEC "1000 X 5" Project leader, Daphne Macnaughton, at dlmvictoria@shaw.ca

Cross Country



Sidney School Cross Country Team started on April 6th, practises will run on Tuesday and Thursdays at 11:14-11:54 for Grade 3, 4 & 5's . The team is lead by Mrs. Laton, Ms. Meausette, Mrs. Curtis, Ms. Jagt, Ms. Fredeen, Mrs. Matilla, Mrs. Kaercher and Mr. Vickers. The goal is to have fun while being part of a team of friends and to learn about running skills, fitness, and racing cross country. Students that join will gain knowledge of running, healthy life skills, how to improve their running fitness and prepare them for their track meets. Track meets are scheduled for April 19, 26, May 3 at 3:30 pm, Centennial Park.

Track and Field



Track & Field for Grade 3, 4 & 5 students will begin at the end of April. The district track meet will be on Tuesday, June 6th at the University of Victoria stadium.

PAC NEWS



The next PAC Meeting is Tuesday, May 2nd 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!

Spring Fling

Planning has started for this years Spring Fling! Lots of new ideas promise to make it a really great time for everyone! This year the **Spring Fling will be held on Friday, May 26th**. We hope that many of you will be inspired to volunteer and help make this an awesome night!! Please contact Kristina Littlejohns if you have any questions at Sidneypacfundraising@gmail.com.

Staff Appreciation Luncheon



Sidney School PAC is hosting our annual Staff Appreciation Luncheon on **Wednesday, April 26, 2017** for all of our teachers, support staff and administration as a way to say **Thank You** for all of their hard work and dedication to our kids!

We need your help. If you would like to contribute a hot or cold dish it would be appreciated!

Here are some suggestions needed:

- Sandwiches
- Wraps
- Soup (Served in a crock pot to keep warm)
- Veggies Tray and Dip
- Fruit Tray
- Muffins
- Salads with dressing option
- Meat/Cheese Tray
- or anything else you would like to bring!

Please deliver dishes (labelled and with a serving spoon) on Tuesday afternoon or Wednesday morning to the PAC kitchen. Hot dishes can be delivered on Wednesday between 10:30-11:00. Dishes can be collected from the PAC kitchen at the end of the day.

Please contact Christina Smith if you are able to contribute or if you have any questions by phone/text at 250-818-6165 or email the_smithfamily@telus.net.

FROM THE PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE

Head Lice Awareness



Outbreaks of head lice are common throughout the school year. Although head lice 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.

STUDIO 63
OPEN FOR BUSINESS
come join us for cake to celebrate our grand reopening
MONDAY
APRIL 10 2017
12:30 PM
1649 MT NEWTON X RD.
SAANICHTON LEARNING CENTRE
SALON HOURS & PROGRAM INFO
CHECK OUT: ILC.SD63.BC.CA

You can help by:

- Checking your child's head with the wet-combing method of detection once a week throughout the school year.
- Encouraging your child to wear their hair tied back, and avoid touching heads with other students.
- Using the wet-combing method of treatment if you notice lice on your child's head.
- Telling the classroom teacher if your child has head lice, so other parents can be notified.

Screen Time and Your Child



Kids are spending more time on screens than ever before. Screens are everywhere and are often used by teachers and students for school-related work. As with most things in life, there should always be a balance!

Too much screen time in children has been linked with:

- Sleep problems
- Reduced attention span and learning challenges
- Increased anxiety and depression
- Increased consumption of unhealthy foods
- Increased risk of overweight and obesity

The Canadian Sedentary Behaviour and Physical Activity Guidelines for children age 5-17 years recommend:

- Recreational screen time - Limit to less than 2 hours per day
- Physical Activity - At least 60 minutes per day of moderate to vigorous physical activity

Tips to help limit screen time and promote physical activity:

- Look at your own behaviours around screen time and physical activity - be a positive role model [®]
- Find an activity or sport your child likes!
- Be active as a family - schedule regular activities (walks, hikes, bocci ball, pickle ball)
- Sign up for an activity at your recreation center