

# ÉCOLE NORTH OYSTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

13470 Cedar Road, Ladysmith, BC V9G 1H6  
Tel: 250-245-3330  
Fax: 250-245-2386  
northoyster.ca



**The Habits of the Heart are: Empathy, Integrity, Curiosity, Self-Confidence and Reflection**

## School-Wide Dates to Remember:

- Mar 1 Orca Assembly- 9:15 a.m.
- Mar 10 Spirit Day—Favourite Celebrity Day
- Mar 16 Jump Rope for Heart Event
- Mar 17 Hot Lunch—Pancakes
- Mar 17 Last day of classes before Spring Break
- Mar 17-April 3 SPRING BREAK
- April 3 First day of classes after spring break
- April 3 Orca Assembly - 9:15 a.m.
- April 11 ArtStarts—Milton Randall Residency
- April 13 Camp Quality
- April 14 Good Friday—No School
- April 17 Easter Monday—No School
- April 21 Earth Day Activities
- April 26 Hot Lunch—Pasta
- April 28 Spirit Day—Twin Day

MARCH/APRIL  
NEWSLETTER



## VISITORS TO THE SCHOOL

All visitors, including parent volunteers, need to check into the office when in the school building. This helps us with maintaining the safety and security of the students in the building.



## Library News

Madame Patrice and staff would like to express our big thanks to all students and families who participated so enthusiastically in Family Literacy Week this year. Reading is a Family Affair was a huge success, with 166 students participating in our Read-A-Thon. **École North Oyster Elementary students read for a total of 46,480 minutes or 774.6 hours or 32.2 days during the Read-A-Thon!** It was wonderful to see so many of our students sharing the joy of reading with their families. Every photo sent in was part of our Celebration Assembly slide show. Congratulations to all!

We would also like to thank the generous parents who visited our school and read favourite books in their child's classrooms. What a fun and rich experience for all!

Of course, Family Literacy Week would not be complete without book prizes, and there were many given away this year. Congratulations to all 33 students who won book prizes! Books are on their way and should arrive next week.

Congratulations to our 4 lucky Grand Prize Winners who each won a \$75.00 shopping spree at Chapters Books. **École North Oyster Elementary would like to thank the Ladysmith and District Credit Union for its generous support.**

Thank you again for sharing the love of books and reading with your children!



**Triple P - Positive Parenting Program** is one of the most effective evidence-based parenting programs in the world, currently running in 25 countries. Triple P works across many cultures, socio-economic groups, and family dynamics. This program gives parents/caregivers simple and practical strategies promoting building strong and healthy relationships; confidently managing children's behavior; and identifying and problem-solving areas of concern. For more information: <http://triplepvp.ca/>

**Triple P Group:** for Parents/Caregivers of children aged 2-12.

**When:** 8 Weeks; Thursdays 6-8 pm; April 13-June 1, 2017

(Certificate presented on final evening)

**Where:** North Oyster School on Cedar Rd.

\*\*Please note: this program is open to parent/caregivers outside of the North Oyster catchment as well.

**Facilitators:** Kendra-Ann Van Shaik & Louise McCarter (Child, Youth & Family Support Workers, Nanaimo-Ladysmith Public Schools, SD68)

**Information on this and other Triple P Programs in Nanaimo & Ladysmith Area:** <http://triplepvp.ca/NanaimoGroupCalendar.htm>

**Or contact:** Kendra-Ann at [kendra.vanshaik@sd68.bc.ca](mailto:kendra.vanshaik@sd68.bc.ca)

## IMPORTANT REMINDERS FOR STUDENTS WHO TRAVEL BY BUS



### PLEASE NOTE:

1. All students who travel by school bus to and from Ecole North Oyster **MUST** get off at their normal bus stop.
2. In order for your child to get off at a different bus stop, they must have a handwritten note from the parents otherwise they get off at their regular stop or they will be returned to school.
3. If your child is going on the bus with a friend for the day, they also need a handwritten note from the parents in order to get on the bus.



### PURDYS SCHOOL FUNDRAISER

REMEMBER TO GET YOUR ORDERS IN FOR OUR PURDYS FUNDRAISER. DEADLINE FOR ORDERING IS FRIDAY, MARCH 17, 2017 WITH DELIVERY JUST IN TIME FOR EASTER, ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12, 2017. NEED ANY ORDER FORMS OR INFORMATION PLEASE SEE CHRISTINE DE VRIES AT THE OFFICE.

**All Kids Go To School**

An Information Evening for Parents of 2017-18 Kindergarten Students with Special Needs

Members of the Nanaimo Ladysmith Public Schools Department of Learning Services team will review the *All Kids Go to School* parent information booklet.

**Who Should Come:** Parents of the next year's Kindergarten students with special needs

**Where:** Child Development Centre, 1135 Nelson Street  
\*\*Please use downstairs entrance on Nelson Street\*\*

**When:** Wednesday, March 8th, 2017 | 6:00pm to 7:00pm

**Childcare is available. Call 250-753-0251 to reserve a space.**

Families who wish to meet privately to discuss their child's specific needs can reserve a spot after the presentation. For appointments call 250-471-5237

**NANAIMO LADYSMITH PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**JUST KIDDING for Kids**

**Peter PAN**

Saturday, March 18 at 1pm  
VIU's Molapino Theatre  
Tickets \$12 each or 2 for \$20  
250-754-7587 | theatreone.org

The office has two free tickets to the TheatreOne performance of Peter Pan on Saturday, March 18, 2017 at 1 p.m. to give away. Get your name into the office by Thursday, March 15, 2017 to be entered into the draw to win these tickets.



**Camp de cirque Nanaimo**  
du 27 au 31 mars 2017  
à l'école Quaterway  
1632 Bowen Road, Nanaimo

**Échasses  
Acrobaties  
Jonglerie  
Trapeze  
Fil de fer  
Rolla Bolla**

Free stunts / Acrobaties  
Juggling / Trapeze  
Tightrope / Rolla Bolla  
\*In French & English

Instructeur: Benoit Ranger (Transporteurs de Rêves)

**Horaires / Schedule**  
5-7 ans 9:30 - 12:00 pm (Mon-Friday); 12.5 hrs  
8 - 18 ans 10:00 - 3:00 pm (Mon-Friday); 20 hrs  
Coûts: 5-7 ans: \$183.25 / 8-18 ans: \$262.50  
Inscriptions: [rendez-vousvancouver.com](http://rendez-vousvancouver.com) / 604-876-2284

Québec **Furce**

[www.rendez-vousvancouver.com](http://www.rendez-vousvancouver.com)

### Earthquake Comfort Kits

Please remember to bring in your child's kit if you haven't already done so.



Have a Wonderful Month

### Tips for reporting an incident

If you feel your child is being bullied, report the situation to the school. In Nanaimo Ladysmith Public Schools, schools are working with RCMP and youth-serving agencies to address bullying.

- Talk to the teacher about the problem if it occurs in a specific class (i.e. gym class).
- Talk to the teacher or principal if the problem is happening in the hallways, on the playground, at the bus stop, or if the problem persists in the classroom.
- Please remember you always have the right to take a support person with you into any meetings, for taking notes, helping you speak or just to listen and offer moral support. This can be your spouse, friend or, upon availability, the DPAC President if you need that support [dpcsd68@gmail.com](mailto:dpcsd68@gmail.com).
- If a resolution is not found, contact the assistant superintendent for your school. If a resolution is still not found, then contact the superintendent.

If you're not satisfied with the district's response, you can make an appeal to the Board of Education. The step-by-step appeal process can be found at [www.sd68.bc.ca](http://www.sd68.bc.ca) under Resources for Parents / Problem solving; you can call 250 356-1404 or email [EDUC.studentappeals@gov.bc.ca](mailto:EDUC.studentappeals@gov.bc.ca).

### Community partners

CUPE Local 606 - RCMP - BCCPAC - VIHA - Nanaimo Crisis Society

### Be informed

DPAC-SD68 is a resource and guidance support system for parents advocating for their children throughout the district. They can be reached at [dpcsd68@gmail.com](mailto:dpcsd68@gmail.com) or on Facebook.

Know the policies, procedures and processes in your child's school and find out what is best for your child's circumstance. Ask for the Code of Conduct from your child's school.

Procedure No. 3027P - Student Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying can be found under BOARD / Policies on the district's website [www.sd68.bc.ca](http://www.sd68.bc.ca).

### Guiding questions for a meeting

How can we work together to find a solution?  
What steps need to be taken to investigate the incident?

What type of disciplinary action would be considered appropriate?

What can I expect in terms of follow-up and resolution?

Parents should inform the teacher and/or principal if the situation has changed. As a parent, you can expect action and support from your school.

Ask to be kept advised on progress and action, and stay involved in conversations about support for your child.



Brought to you by the District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC-SD68)

# ERASE Bullying

## Bullying

A Resource for Parents



DPAC-SD68 President  
[dpcsd68@gmail.com](mailto:dpcsd68@gmail.com)

[erasebullying.ca](http://erasebullying.ca) [saferschoolstogether.com](mailto:saferschoolstogether.com)

Expect Respect and a Safe Education

### Working together

Nanaimo Ladysmith Public Schools has come together with DPAC-SD68 to bring parents this vital information as a resource.

School staff are well positioned to play a significant leadership role in enhancing the physical, emotional, and psychological safety of children. However, schools cannot do it alone.

The combined effort of students, parents and community members working together with educators to create a school-wide plan is required to develop a school community where students and staff feel respected and parents and community members are welcomed.

### Listening to your child

If you need to report any issue regarding the safety of your child, please take the following steps:

- Let your child do the talking. Listen and take notes. They may only try to tell you once!
- Use open-ended questions. For example - "What did you like the most/least about your day?"
- Paraphrase what you heard them say. It will help them feel understood and connected to you.
- Model empathy so your child knows it is alright to feel the way they do.
- Encourage your child to report what happened to the appropriate person.

### What is bullying

For a situation to be considered a bullying incident, three indicators are usually present:

**Power** – children who bully acquire their power through physical size and strength, by status within the peer group, and by recruiting support of the group.

**Frequency** – bullying is not a random act. It is this factor that brings about the anticipatory terror in the mind of the child being bullied that can be so detrimental and have the most debilitating long-term effects.

**Intent to harm** – children who bully generally do so with the intent to either physically or emotionally harm the other child.

### Bullying, Conflict or Mean Behaviour

Not all incidents of conflict are the result of bullying. Conflict between peers is a natural part of growing up.

**Peer-to-peer conflict** – peers have equal power, are equally upset, both are interested in the outcome

**Mean behaviour** – it is not planned, happens spontaneously, could be aimed at any child nearby, the child may feel badly afterwards

**Bullying** – power imbalance, intention to harm the other person, repeated pattern

### Impact of bullying

While the majority of elementary school children are not involved in bullying, children who bully cause a great deal of suffering to the children they bully, and the effects of this harassment can last well into adulthood.

This behaviour also affects the physical, social and psychological safety of children at school and can create a climate of fear that becomes an obstacle to learning.

Incidents of bullying are frequent occurrences for many children at school and in the community. Children struggle with name-calling, with being picked on, and with exclusion from their peer group.

Frequently, children who are bullied do not know how to respond to this aggressive behaviour.

Bullied children may fear coming to school, and they may believe school to be an unsafe and distressing place.

Bullying in schools is a serious problem for a critical minority of children. It has a detrimental impact on the overall school climate and, particularly, on the right of students to learn in a safe environment.

**Bullying is not just "kids being kids." Bullying behaviour is intentional and repeated.**

Use the ERASE Bullying online reporting tool  
<http://bit.ly/1vLittb>

Reference: Ministry of Education  
[www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sco/resourcedocs/bullying.pdf](http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sco/resourcedocs/bullying.pdf)

Brought to you by the District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC-SD68)