

ÉCOLE NORTH OYSTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

13470 Cedar Road, Ladysmith, BC V9G 1H6

Tel: 250-245-3330

Fax: 250-245-2386

northoyster.ca

Principal: Mr. John Cunnian

Vice Principal: Mr. Edward Young

FEBRUARY/MARCH

NEWSLETTER 2019



Principal's Message

Welcome to the second half of our school year! I am so delighted to be the new principal of Ecole North Oyster, and would like to express my sincere appreciation to Ed Young for his great leadership during this transition. I would also like to thank our staff and parent community for their help during our most recent power outage. If your child takes the bus, please review your emergency plan for if busses are cancelled.

Our school staff has been working diligently over the last few weeks to prepare the report cards that were sent home on Friday, February 8th. Please take the time to review your child's progress and discuss some of the great things that are going on in the classroom. If there are any comments or concerns, please talk to your child's teacher directly.

I am very pleased and grateful for the hard work that our PAC is doing in support of the new playground. Volunteer forms were recently sent home, and I appreciate any help that you might be able to provide.

I wish you all the best and look forward to meeting you at some point in the near future.

Kind regards,

John Cunnian



NEW ATTENDANCE AND COMMUNICATION PROCEDURE

Over the next few weeks we will be implementing "School Messenger" which is a new way to send out communication to our local school community.

One of the changes you will see will be with attendance. Attendance will soon be via School Messenger in the form of an automated voice message and/or an email sent out each morning instead of a phone call from the office.

Eventually, most communications including newsletters or any school information will be sent out this way.

Please be patient and bear with us as we start using this new process.



School-Wide Dates to Remember:

- February 25 District Pro-D—No School
- February 26 School Based Pro-D—No School
- February 27 Pink Shirt Day, Assembly at 10:30 a.m.
- March 4 Cedar Assembly—9:15 a.m.
- March 15 Wacky Hair or Hat Day
Last day of school before Spring Break
- March 18-29 Spring Break
- April 1 School reopens after Spring Break
Cedar Assembly—9:15 a.m.



A note from Mme Patrice and Miss Fall in the library:

Family Literacy Week (January 21-25) has come and gone for another year and we have many successes to celebrate! Well done to all students who participated so enthusiastically in our *Reading is my Superpower* Read-A-Thon. **As a whole school, we read a total of 124,097 minutes. That is more than 85 days of reading!** Congratulations to the following students who were our top Reading Superheroes. They will be receiving Indigo shopping sprees compliments of the Ladysmith and District Credit Union:



Primary winners:

Hazel Edgett

Leela Lemon

Intermediate winners:

Josiah Benedict

Rori Wiebe

Special kudos also go out to Divisions 9 (Mme Ferdinandi) and 16 (Mr. Young) for reading the highest number of minutes as a class. They will be celebrating this month with an ice cream cake party and new books for their classrooms.

All kinds of exciting activities took place during Family Literacy Week, including book sharing with parents, superhero projects, buddy reading, book swaps, book character guessing games and more. During our Celebration Assembly, Mme Patrice and Miss Fall took great pleasure in giving away 56 book prizes to student winners. Despite snow day closures, these books have been ordered, and should arrive within the next few weeks. Your patience is greatly appreciated.

Thank you once again for your vital support of Family Literacy Week 2019. At École North Oyster Elementary, we are all Reading Superheroes!

CEDAR FAMILIES

There's a buzz in the air around École North Oyster and it isn't from the bees! Our students have been sorted into six multi-grade families based on the *Pacific Northwest Coast animals* and the book, "The Six Cedars" by Coast Salish artist/author Celestine Aleck. Some of the images in this book are even from our very own school property! The six families and their respective colours are:



Wolf/Loup/stq̓e:ye'
- purple



Raven/Corbeau/spa:l
- red



Salmon/Saumon/sce:lhtun
- orange



Bear/Ours/Spe'eth
- yellow



Beaver/Castor/sq̓uléw
- Green



Orca/Orque/Q'ullhánumucun
- blue

Each of these animals have been linked to the core competencies that make up an essential piece of our new curriculum in BC. Through these families, we hope to help students understand the importance of these competencies and engage more completely in their practice.

For a brief explanation of the Core Competencies that these animals represent, please refer to the following:

Wolf is a good communicator.

Raven is a creative thinker.

Salmon is a careful and curious thinker.

Bear shows respect for self and others.

Beaver cares for the community and the environment.

Orcas know about themselves.

We are currently getting to know our family members and find our rhythm in these groups. We have a family assembly at the beginning of each month followed by a family activity. We hope to have family activities more often next year. During the month, students are awarded with Cedar Tickets when they model the abilities of any of the above animals. Their family collects these tickets and the family with the most tickets after two months gets a special event (last month, the Bear family had a movie and popcorn in the gym with Mr. Young).

Certificates are also awarded during these monthly Cedar assemblies to any student who shows exceptional growth in one of the competencies. These students are also invited to attend the special event.

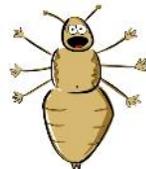
Ask your child to which Cedar family they belong and if they can tell you some of the competencies their family animal represents. Also ask if they have received any Cedar tickets and if they remember why. Teachers and staff are always on the lookout for students modelling any of our Core Competencies!

Information for the School

We appreciate every phone call to let us know your child will be late or absent. If you arrive late and drop off your child in their classroom, please come by the office to let us know that your child is here. Thank you.

HEAD LICE AND THE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT

Over the last few weeks we have had a prevalence of head lice in our school environment.



We would like to take this time to remind parents/guardians to continue to be diligent about checking your child's hair and using preventative measures.

For example:

- ◆ Hairspray
- ◆ Tying back longer hair
- ◆ Reminding students to not share clothing items
- ◆ Reminding students to respect their own and others' personal space
- ◆ Some essential oil sprays with Tea Tree, Rosemary, Lemongrass, Citronella, Eucalyptus may help deter lice.



Guidelines When Your Child is Ill



Cold and flu season is upon us!
In order to prevent the spread

of germs, please remind your children to wash their hands regularly. Vancouver Island Health Authority also recommends keeping your child at home for 48 hours after symptoms subside if they have been vomiting. If your child is ill and going to be away from school, just phone the office and we'll be sure to excuse them for the day.

Cold/Wet Weather



As the cold weather is now upon us, please ensure your children come to school with weather appropriate clothing. Students go outside during recesses each day, with very few exceptions. Hats, mittens, proper footwear and warm coats are essential in cold weather. At École North Oyster we are appreciative of the wonderful outdoor spaces available for play and learning and we believe in providing fresh air activities for all our students.



PAC NEWS

The PAC would like to welcome our new Principal, Mr. John Cunnian to École North Oyster. This school has wonderful students and exciting things happening and we are so happy to share them with you.

A huge THANK YOU from the PAC goes out to Mr. Ed Young!! It has been an honor to work with you for these few short months, but it has been nothing short of amazing. There will always be a seat at our table for you Ed..... even if you don't want it:)

PLAYSPACE

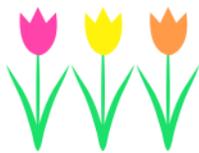
You heard it folks..... the playground is happening this spring break!!!

There were notices and info sent home last week with your child. If you have questions, want to volunteer, or can put us in touch with someone who can help please contact Chrissie Stephens at enoplayground@gmail.com

It is crunch time and we need all hands on deck..... this has been 4 years in the making but it is actually happening!

Important dates

End of Feb	-	Incredible Plant order forms will go out. Please look for them
March 4	-	PAC meeting @ 6:30 p.m.
March 7	-	Hot Lunch
March 18-29	-	Excavation, mound construction, and site prep for playground
April 5/6/7	-	Playground Build Weekend!!
TBA -	-	April PAC meeting "celebration"



BASKETBALL

We are gearing up for a great season of eye-popping, heart-stopping basket balling.

We have three teams full of enthusiastic players ready to lay some rubber down on the court. Our season begins this week (as long as the snow finds it's way back to the East Coast where it belongs!).

Bantam Girls will practice Monday & Wednesday at big recess – Games are Thursdays after school.

Bantam Boys will practice Tuesday mornings at 8am and Friday at big recess – Games are Wednesdays after school.

Peewee Girls will practice Wednesday mornings at 8am and Thursday at big recess – Games are Tuesdays after school.

Good luck, École North Oyster Teams!



VOLLEYBALL

It was great to see so many new players come forward this year. Each of our teams (Bantam boys, Bantam girls and Peewee girls) had many first-time players. We are looking forward to seeing them come out again next year. Some quotes from your coaches:

They were indubitably dedicated and had endless energy. (Bantam Girls)

"A" for effort team – They made primo progress over the season. (Bantam Boys)

They worked tirelessly together as a team with unsurpassable spectacular spirit. (Peewee Girls Tripleballers).



July in January

We had a fabulous July in January Spirit Event at school on January 30th. It was freezing cold outside but the gym was a hot spot to be with students, staff and parents dancing the afternoon away to the Limbo, Macarena, Chicken Dance, YMCA, Bunny Hope and many more favourites. Thanks to everyone for dressing up in their summer gear and show amazing school spirit. ENO Rocks!!



PURDYS EASTER SCHOOL FUNDRAISER



GET YOUR ORDERS IN FOR OUR EASTER PURDYS FUNDRAISER. CHOCOLATES MAKE A WONDERFUL EASTER GIFT FOR ALL AGES! DEADLINE FOR ORDERING IS **FRIDAY, MARCH 15, 2019** WITH DELIVERY ON **THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2019** IN PLENTY OF TIME FOR EASTER. FOR ORDER FORMS OR INFORMATION PLEASE SEE CHRISTINE DE VRIES AT THE OFFICE.



Have a Wonderful Month



School Registration 2019-2020

To register your child in Nanaimo-Ladysmith Public Schools, the online, centralized registration will begin on **January 9, 2019 at 8 a.m.** Pacific Standard Time. The following information will help determine if this process will apply to you.

Take a moment and ask yourself the following questions:

1. Is my child new to Nanaimo-Ladysmith Public Schools?
2. Do I have a child that will be turning five years old on or before December 31, 2019 that will be entering Kindergarten? **Applications must be received by June 15, 2019 to ensure a placement in your child's catchment-area school.**
3. Do I want to register my child in Late French Immersion?
4. Do I want to register my child in Early French Immersion? **Applications will be received until January 31, 2019, at which time student selection will be determined by lottery. Parents will be notified in early February 2019. Late French Immersion Students are placed as space permits.**
5. Do I want to register my child in secondary academies?

Lottery	Try-outs/ Audition
Hockey	Lacrosse
Soccer	Performing Arts
Beach Volleyball	Jazz
Baseball	
6. Do I want to apply for a school transfer request (out-of-catchment)? **Applications are due March 31, 2019.**

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT THE DISTRICT WEBSITE SD68.BC.CA OR BY EMAILING EREG@SD68.BC.CA



NEW REGISTRATION FOR NLPS ACADEMIES

Registrations are due by **March 1, 2019**

Secondary specialized academies provide students with an opportunity to pursue their areas of interest while completing their academic studies.

Try-outs / Audition

- Performing Arts
- Jazz Academy
- Lacrosse Academy

Lottery

- Hockey Canada Skills Academy
- NLPS Soccer Academy
- Vancouver Island Beach Volleyball
- Baseball Academy

All students are welcome to apply. Acceptance into an Academy will be determined either by Lottery or Try-out/Audition.

For more information:
www.sd68.bc.ca/programs/secondary-academies

