

# ÉCOLE NORTH OYSTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

13470 Cedar Road, Ladysmith, BC V9G 1H6

Tel: 250-245-3330

Fax: 250-245-2386

no.schools.sd68.bc.ca

Principal: Mr. John Cunnian

Vice Principal: Mr. Edward Young

Secretary: Mrs. Christine De Vries

Support Secretary: Ms. Brooke Washburn (M/W)

NOVEMBER  
NEWSLETTER 2019



## Principal's Message

Hello École North Oyster Elementary Families! We have another busy month ahead of us, and only a handful of weeks before the winter holidays begin. Congratulations to our newly-elected PAC executive, and we look forward to working together on supporting our school community. I would like to sincerely thank our outgoing executive members for their invaluable service to our school. You have accomplished so much through a monumental effort, and our whole school joins me in saying a sincere 'thank you'.



Our Active Transportation Review is nearing completion, and our last stakeholder meeting was on Tuesday, October 29. As soon as the final report has been approved through the district, I will ensure that it is sent throughout our school community. I really appreciate all of the leadership that Beth from Urban Systems has shown through this process!

Thank you to Patrice and all of our wonderful volunteers for the amazing Book Fair in October. It was a great success!

Congratulations to all of our athletes participating in October's cross country meet! Many thanks to Mme. Heather for coaching and organizing all of the logistics for this great event.

Now that we are fully into the fall season, please ensure that your child is prepared for the weather. We try to have outdoor recess as much as possible, even on rainy days, so having a decent rain jacket is important. As well, please review with your child what to do if the bus does not pick them up in the morning and please ensure that we have an up-to-date phone number for your residence in case we need to contact you due to a power outage.

Our school bus safety lessons will be coming up from November 12 to 15. More information and permission slips will be sent home shortly for this event.

Don't forget that Ladysmith Light Up is coming up on November 28, and it will be followed the next day by our annual pancake lunch. This is a great family event that I am sure you and your child will enjoy!

Have a great month,

John Cunnian



## School-Wide Dates to Remember:



November 4	Photo Retakes
November 4	Cedar Assembly, 9:00 a.m.
November 5	District Cross Country Meet, All Day
November 8	Remembrance Day Assembly, 10:30 a.m.
November 28	Ladysmith Light-Up Evening
November 29	PJs & Pancake Lunch Whole School, 11:15 to 12:30
December 2	Cedar Assembly, 9:00 a.m.
December 4	<b>Christmas Concerts—9:30 &amp; 12:30</b>
December 12	Hot Lunch
December 17,18,19	Ms. Fall's Christmas Store
December 16-20	Caroling in the Gym—Time to be confirmed
December 20	Last day of school before Christmas
January 6	First day back to school after Christmas Holidays

## Parking and Awareness of School Buses

A reminder to parents to avoid parking/ stopping/ idling between the no parking signs on Cedar Road, directly across from the school's bus loop. This area needs to be clear of vehicles so that our buses can make safe and wide turns into the bus loop. Any vehicle stopped in this area, even for a moment, jeopardizes the safety of pedestrians and other drivers as often the bus driver has to back up to navigate the turn. Thank you for your cooperation.



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

On behalf of all École North Oyster staff and students, we would like send out huge thanks to the many families who supported our **Scholastic Book Fair**. This event, which took place from October 21 to 24, was our most successful fair ever! As a result, many new books will make their way onto the shelves of our classrooms and library. It was also wonderful to see students so excited about books! This event would not have been possible without the support of our amazing parent (and grandparent!) volunteers. Thank you for taking time out of your busy schedules to provide such critical assistance. Huge kudos to both Julia Fall and Sharron Onciul, who spent countless hours ensuring the success of our Fair.



Miss Fall and I would also like to remind families that the **“Discover a Whole New World of Books/Découvrir un nouveau monde de livres”** challenge is still ongoing. Many students have been bringing in their reading passports each week, and are making great progress. All those who submit passports on or before December 12 will be eligible to win a book prize and will be invited to attend our celebration party. Miss Fall and I are very inspired by the enthusiastic participation of our student community! Thank you for supporting your child by continuing to supervise their reading and signing their reading passports.



**PURDYS SCHOOL FUNDRAISER**

GET YOUR ORDERS IN FOR OUR PURDYS FUDRAISER. CHOCOLATES MAKE A WONDERFUL CHRISTMAS GIFT



FOR ALL AGES! DEADLINE FOR ORDERING IS WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2019 WITH DELIVERY JUST IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS, ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2019. NEED ANY ORDER FORMS OR INFORMATION ?? PLEASE SEE CHRISTINE AT THE OFFICE.



**Athletics**

Congratulations to the 27 Cross Country Runners who represented our school and ran on October 29 in our Zone Meet. Everyone trained hard and ran their best. Four of our athletes placed in the top ten! In all, thirteen of our students have qualified for the District Meet on November 5. Way to go Orcas!

Tripleball and Volleyball season has started and many of our grade 5-7 students have joined our school teams. Thanks to all the coaches for volunteering their time practices and after school games. Have fun and enjoy your season!

**Save the date**

Our school Track Meet will be on April 23, 2020. It seems far off but we will need at least 25 adult volunteers from our school community in order to make it happen. Please consider joining us for a fun and active day!



**School Wrestling season has just started but there is still room for new athletes!** School District 68's wrestling team/club is open to

all students in grades 4 to 12 from all of our schools. The season just started on October 7. Practices are held on Mondays and Thursdays; grade 4-7s practice from 5 -6:15 PM, and grades 8-12 practice from 6-7:30 PM. Practices are held at Island ConnectEd K-12 (4355 Jingle Pot Road). For more information, please visit the club's website: <https://sites.google.com/view/nanaimowrestlingclub/>. If you have ever been curious about wrestling, you are encouraged to drop by a practice to check it out!





**Miss Fall's Class presents:**  
**The 6th Annual Christmas Store**  
**December 17, 18, 19, 2019**  
**Location: Miss Fall's Room**



Calling all Parents! December is just around the corner! It's time to start thinking about Miss Fall's SIXTH ANNUAL Christmas Store! We are looking for donations of gently used items that would make great presents for family members & friends. Please no large items, clothing or furniture.

Please drop off any donations to Miss Fall's classroom #103. Thank you!! This fundraiser supports the Grade 7 year end activities. The success of this event depends on the donations of items we receive!

Thank you in advance!

**PAC NEWS**

Hello everyone!

We would like you to join us in welcoming our new PAC committee, and we are very grateful for all those who have stepped up to take positions to ensure that our PAC continues to support École North Oyster this year. The positions have been filled as follows:

Co-Chairs: Stephanie Spracklin & Laura Beaudoin Reimer

Co-Secretary: Angela Davies & Andrea Hainrich

Fundraising coordinators: Tonya DeJong & Jessica Raymond

Hot Lunch Coordinators: Liz Nicholson & Camille Hillis

Earthquake Preparedness Coordinator: Megan Pettit Norfolk

Members at large: Debra McClements & Corrina Vincent-Sanchez

Vice Chair: Stephanie Steele

Treasurer: Nicole Differ

DPAC Rep: Holly Scruton

Playspace Coordinator: Chrissie Stephen



Please mark your calendars for our next PAC meeting on Nov. 13, 2019 at 6:00p.m.. Child care is available and pizza will be served.

As a PAC we are introducing a new committee: Food Program and Hampers which will address some of the need within our school for supporting and supplementing our existing food program.

If being a part of this committee interests you, please email Stephanie or Laura at [northoysterpac@gmail.com](mailto:northoysterpac@gmail.com), and join us at our meeting on Nov. 13.

To keep up with us, please contact us to be on our email list, and check out our Facebook page - École North Oyster PAC - for regular updates and reminders about upcoming events.

We have many fabulous events coming up before winter break, and we gladly welcome and encourage all volunteers! We would love to help you find a role within our PAC family.



**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 Ecole 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.



In order to ensure accessible parking is available to individuals who require it, we have several designated parking spots on our school property. Please ensure you do not use these spots without an accessible permit. Unfortunately, we have seen these spots being used by vehicles not displaying a permit and this means the spots are not available to those who need them. Thank you for your cooperation in helping ensure equitable parking access for all members of our school community.

**Reminder: the parking lot on the school grounds is for Staff Only.**



## INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS WHO RIDE SCHOOL BUSES

### Special Notes to Parents

- ◆ Be certain that your child(ren) is at the bus stop on time and that pets are left at home.
- ◆ Provide the necessary protection for your child(ren) when going to the bus.
- ◆ Be sure your child(ren) is properly dressed and prepared for inclement weather.
- ◆ Remember that the proper conduct of your child(ren) is your responsibility.
- ◆ Parents and guardians are responsible for any damage to a bus caused by their child(ren).
- ◆ Encourage your child(ren) to obey all traffic rules and school bus regulations.
- ◆ Students are to use only their assigned bus and regular bus stops unless alternate arrangements have been made in writing.
- ◆ Parents/guardians are reminded that they are responsible for their children's safety until they board the bus in the morning and after they leave the bus in the afternoon.
- ◆ Parents and students should be aware that buses are equipped with video cameras to monitor student behavior.

### Disciplinary Guidelines

#### Offences      Warning

First	Student and parent(s) must sign a bus behavior report form
Second	Suspension of privileges—2 school days
Third	Suspension of privileges—5 school days
Fourth	Suspension of privileges for balance of school year

#### Vandalism

Suspension involving vandalism will not normally be lifted until restitution has been made.

### Student Transportation Policy

School District 68 (Nanaimo-Ladysmith) will provide transportation, or pay transportation assistance allowance, for students living beyond the established walk limits defined by the Ministry of Education.

#### Eligibility

Kindergarten to Grade 12 students who are enrolled at their home school, or the francophone program who live beyond the walk limits.

#### Walk Limits

Grades 1-3 pupils living beyond 4 kilometres (2 ½ miles) from school will be eligible for transportation.

Grades 4-12 pupils living beyond 4.8 kilometres (3 miles) from school will be eligible for transportation.

All Grades 1-12 pupils may be required to walk up to 3.2 kilometres (2 miles) to the nearest bus stop.

**Note:** Kindergarten mid-day service will be provided only where enrolments warrant busing. **Kindergarten students must be accompanied both to and from the bus stop by a responsible adult.**

### Rules for Students Who Ride School Buses

- ◆ The bus driver is in charge.
- ◆ Smoking, eating or drinking are not permitted on the bus.
- ◆ Students should take their seats quickly and remain seated while the bus is in motion.
- ◆ The aisle of the bus must be kept clear at all times.
- ◆ Leaving waste or other rubbish on the floor or throwing it from the windows of the bus is not permitted.
- ◆ Extending arms, legs or head out of the bus windows is extremely dangerous and is not permitted.
- ◆ Students should be at the bus stop five (5) minutes before the scheduled pick up time; the bus will not wait for those who are late.
- ◆ Students must stay in bus loading zones while waiting and will load and unload the bus in an orderly manner.
- ◆ Remain on the shoulder of the road after getting off the bus until the bus leaves and disperse when safe to do so.
- ◆ If the bus does not arrive within 20 minutes of the scheduled time students should return home.
- ◆ Damage to the bus or equipment should be reported to the driver as soon as possible.
- ◆ Students are not to cross in front of a bus.
- ◆ Students may not have anything in their possession that may cause injury to anyone else on the bus.
- ◆ Students are not permitted to use cellular phones or headphones/electronic devices during the loading or unloading process.
- ◆ If riding a bus equipped with seatbelts, seatbelts **must** be used at all times.





## Dear Parents/Caregivers of Students in Grade 5,

Bonjour! Have you ever wished your child were fluent in both official languages? Over half a million Canadians have achieved functional bilingualism through French Immersion. In our school district, one student in 10 is enrolled in French Immersion and will graduate ready to pursue a bilingual career or post-secondary studies in French. Over the past 40 years, thousands of students in our district have had great success in Early French Immersion (EFI), which starts in Kindergarten or Grade 1.

If your child is entering Grade 6 in September 2020, they are eligible to enroll in LFI and join those graduating from secondary school with bilingual Dogwood certificates. LFI is a fully funded, 3-year public education program with no additional costs.

Please discuss the LFI option with your child and with other parents. Pending sufficient enrolment, LFI will continue this September at École Quarterway Elementary School. [www.quarterway.ca](http://www.quarterway.ca) Ideally there will be a class of 29 new Grade 6 students.



Please contact École Quarterway Principal, Arlette Begoum-Kake for more information about Late Immersion entry - 250 754-6845



**FRENCH IMMERSION OPEN HOUSE**

Is French Immersion right for my child? Bonjour!

**Early & Late French Immersion Thursday, November 14**  
6:30 - 7:30pm in the Library  
École Quarterway  
1632 Bowen Road

**Why Should I Attend?**  
Students enter the Early French Immersion program in Kindergarten or Grade One, or Late French Immersion in Grade 6.

Parents often wonder...  
Do I have to speak French for my child to attend  
What about the registration?  
How do I learn other subjects if they are taught in French?  
Come by our open house to find the answers to these or other questions and find out if this program could be right for your child...

Parlez-vous français

[www.sd68.bc.ca/programs/french-immersion/](http://www.sd68.bc.ca/programs/french-immersion/)



Have a Wonderful Month