

ÉCOLE NORTH OYSTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Principal: Mr. John Cunnian

Vice Principal: Mr. Edward Young

Secretary: Mrs. Christine De Vries

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

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER 2019



Principal's Message

Happy December! Thank you to all of our families who attended our Winter Concert, and to our PAC for the wonderful support that was provided for this event.



If you have not done so already, please take a moment to come in and peruse the large collection of lost and found items that we have on display. Unclaimed items will be donated to charity.

As we are in cold and flu season, you can help us out by keeping your child home if they are feeling unwell. We are trying to keep these colds from spreading to staff and other students, and your cooperation with this is appreciated.

Please note that Family Literacy Week begins in January, and runs from the 20th to the 24th, and we are excited for what Mme Patrice has planned for us!

This is an exciting time of the year for everyone, and all of us at Ecole North Oyster wish you a safe, healthy and happy holiday season. We are looking forward to seeing you again when school resumes on January 6th, 2020.

Sincerely,
John Cunnian



School-Wide Dates to Remember:



December 12	Hot Lunch
December 17, 18, 19	Ms. Fall's Christmas Store
December 16, 17	Caroling in the Gym—8:45-9:15
December 18	The Grinch Performance—1:00-1:30
December 19, 20	Caroling in the Gym—8:45-9:15
December 20	Last day of school before Christmas
January 6	First day back to school after Christmas Holidays
January 13	Cedar Assembly—9:00
January 29	July in January

REGISTRATION 2020-2021

Registration for the 2020-2021 school will open January 8, 2020. Families interested in French Immersion for their incoming Kindergarten student will need to apply between Jan 8 and Jan 31 to be included in the French Immersion lottery. Incoming K students who will have a sibling still attending a FI school in 2020/2021 will receive priority placement as long as they have registered in that time frame.



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

On behalf of the library team, we would like to wish everyone in our École North Oyster Elementary community a wonderful, restful holiday season. We hope families will take advantage of the cold winter weather to get cozy with a good book! Thank you so much to all of those students and their families who participated in the “*Reading Around the World/La lecture autour du monde*” reading challenge.



January will soon be upon us, as will our annual Family Literacy Week. The theme for this year’s celebration is “*Reading Around the World/La lecture autour du monde*”. During this week, we plan many school-wide events to inspire students to get excited about reading, including an annual Read-a-thon, book swap and our infamous “Dress up as your favourite book character day”. Please keep an eye out for more information early in the New Year. The holidays might also be a great time to do a cleanup of your book shelves and set aside a few well-loved titles for the swap table.

Happy reading to all and see you in 2020!



ECO-CLUB NEWS

Did you know we have an eco-club here at North Oyster? We have an incredible group of about 40 students who are passionate about the environment and eager to make some earth friendly changes around our school. We meet every Wednesday at big recess (with Mme Zoe, Mme Jailyn and Ms. Currie) and all are welcome to join.



A few of our Grade 7 students have organized climate rallies which happen once a month on a Friday at big recess around the field. It’s pretty awesome to see these students taking initiative.

Our intermediate crew has also come up with a few eco-tips to share on the announcements and in our school newsletters.

December Eco Tips

As the holidays approach, here are some ideas to think about to reduce your waste...

*Wrap your Christmas presents in eco-friendly materials like newspaper, fabric scraps or reusable bags instead of buying fancy wrapping paper that can’t be recycled.



*Try not to purchase plastic toys for Christmas presents. Did you know that every plastic toy ever created will end up in the landfill one day? Why not make your own presents instead!

*Instead of buying gifts, give the ones you love experiences like a movie, a concert, or a spa day. You could even offer your services like cleaning or babysitting!

ENERGY CUP CHALLENGE

Our school is participating in NLPS Energy Cup Challenge (organized by our Eco Club)! From Dec 2-February 14 we are working to reduce our energy output. We could win \$2500 to spend on anything related to sustainability, energy or healthy lifestyles. We get points based on how many energy saving activities we do.

We will be doing the following activities over the next two months:

- ◆ Reducing our heat by 1 degree
- ◆ Lights out lunches
- ◆ Flashlight buddy reading
- ◆ **Trash free Tuesdays!** *Please try to send litter-less lunches on Tuesdays!
- ◆ Dimming half the lights in the gym
- ◆ Audits of open doors, lights left on, and leaky faucets
- ◆ Unplugging electronics over weekends and holidays to save on phantom energy



Please contact Mme. Zoe (zoe.dusting@sd68.bc.ca) if you have any questions or any energy saving ideas or campaigns that we could try!





School Registration 2020-2021

To register your child in Nanaimo Ladysmith Public Schools, the online, centralized registration will begin on January 8, 2020 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, 2020 that will be entering Kindergarten? **Applications must be received by June 15, 2020 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, 2020, at which time student selection will be determined by lottery. Parents will be notified in early February 2020. 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

Applications will be received until March 4, 2020, at which time student selection will be determined either by lottery or tryout/audition. Parents will be notified in May 2020.

6. Do I want to apply for a school transfer request (out-of-catchment)? **Applications are due March 31, 2020.**

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



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.



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.



Social Justice



League

Thursdays at Big Recess in Room 137
(Mme Marylee's room)



Teacher Sponsors: Mme Marylee & Mme Camille & Mr. Perrier



BANTAM GIRLS VOLLEYBALL—Practices are Tuesday at lunch and Thursday mornings. **Game day is Thursday.**

PEE WEE GIRLS VOLLEYBALL—Practices Grade 5s Monday, and Friday mornings. Practices Grade 6s Wednesday morning and Friday at lunch. **Game day is TUESDAY.**

Bantam Boys Volleyball—Practices are Tuesday mornings and Wednesday at lunch. **Game day is Wednesday.**



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.



PAC NEWS

The PAC would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to those who have purchased from our fundraisers this year. Between Purdy's, Fredrich's and Epicure, hopefully the holidays are delicious in your houses!

Additionally, we would like to give a big thank you to all those who made our first annual PAC school-wide pancake lunch a huge success! The kids and staff had a blast, and it was so wonderful to gather as a school and share a fun meal together. We have amazing school spirit, and events like these solidify a sense of community amongst the students.

As always for up to date info and news about school related events, PAC meetings and fundraising, please follow École North Oyster Elementary PAC on Facebook. Also, we always need volunteers for our awesome events! If you are interested in volunteering through PAC - for any job big or small - please email northoysterpac@gmail.com

Save those receipts! Did you know that our local grocers help support our PAC fundraising efforts? Please submit all of your receipts from Country Grocer and 49th Parallel to the box outside the office (on the counter by the door). Our amazing volunteers collect them to redeem gift cards that we use for purchasing supplies for our events.

This year the PAC is proud to announce that we are collecting food items to provide Christmas Hampers for families in need within our community. We are collaborating with local resources such as Loaves and Fishes, and the Ladysmith Resources Centre Association to collect items for the Hampers. To support our food program, we are asking everyone to please bring (NON-CANNED) non-perishable food donation to the box in the lobby you are able. Suggested donation items are: staples (flour, sugar, oatmeal etc.), pasta, cereal, peanut butter, condiments, and even household supplies such as dish soap. We are going to be collecting food items for the rest of the year, and coming up we will have some fun contests with prizes for the kids.



Important dates:

Dec 9 - 6pm: PAC Meeting in the library. Pizza and childcare provided

Dec 12: Hot Lunch Day

Dec 16-20: Carolling in the Gym

Jan 12 - 10am-2pm: Winter bottle drive - volunteers needed

Happy Holidays everyone! Be safe, have fun and enjoy the winter break ❄️📺



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 Late French Immersion (LFI) and join those graduating from secondary school with bilingual Dogwood certificates. LFI is a fully funded, 2-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).

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

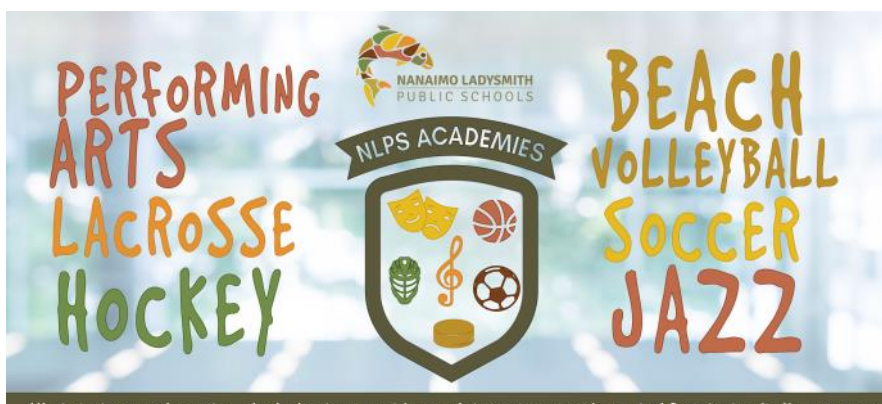


CHRISTMAS FOOD AND TOY DRIVE

As winter holidays draw near, we are mindful of the fact that there are people in need. To that end, our classes have generously offered to collect non-perishable food items and unwrapped toys. Each division will have a box in their classroom where all items will be collected and sorted.



Donated toys will be picked up on December 13 and food items will be picked up on December 18 by the Ladysmith Resource Centre. Thank you all so much for your kind generosity and willingness to help others in need. Enjoy the holidays, everyone!



All students are welcome to apply. Applications must be completed and received by central Registration by March 1, 2020

Acceptance into an Academy will be determined either by Lottery or Try-Out/Audition. www.sd68.bc.ca/programs/secondary-academies/