

Week at a Glance Sunday, April 10, 2022

Well time is going to fly by with two 4-day weeks in a row. We have so many great things coming up in the schedule, I am going to write the upcoming events all the way until the end of the year. I hope you will be able to make some time to join the students and staff for a few of the family and community events we have planned. As usual, please don't hesitate to email me if you would like to help out, have suggestions or need clarification on details.

I have two super special announcements to tell you about. Every year, schools need to create a school growth plan with goals to work on throughout the coming months related to areas such as educational excellence, community engagement and environmental stewardship. The goals need to align with the district strategic plan (comoxvalleyschools.ca) and the provincial curricular competencies (curriculum.gov.bc.ca). This year, our school goal in educational excellence is: *Increase student engagement in literacy through development of critical thinking skills and communication*. We have been working very hard at a variety of tasks related to this goal including upgrading our library, assessing our resources, and using an inquiry mindset in our classes. This week, we were awarded an additional \$700 grant from the Times-Colonist in Victoria, for books in the library! That will bring our total of new materials this year to over \$3000! This is very exciting news for our students and families. Thank you to our Teacher Librarian, Sarah Coull for this most recent grant success.

The good news continues! Our second school growth plan goal is related to environmental stewardship: *A) Implement strategies to encourage sustainable, healthy living through environmental stewardship and connection with community partners B) Increase student awareness of food infrastructure and security through connection with local farms and food producers*. As a small, remote community school, we realize that developing food sustainability is very important and we need to develop good connections with our community partners to be successful.

This year has been an amazing year of transformation for our school facility in adding the professional dishwasher (washes in 2.5 minutes!), a washer and drier and the salad bar program. Since we have made such an effort towards creating sustainable, healthy food choices, the district has chosen our school to be a *Lead School* in the *Garden-Based School Learning Initiative!* I was jumping for joy when I heard this news! We don't know the full scope of the program yet as it is still being developed. However, I do know that the first thing they asked for was a wish list, and that is a good start for us! I will do my best to keep you updated as to how things are progressing. Emily from DICES will send out an email inviting you to be a part of the garden collaborative if you are interested in playing in the garden with us.

Check out some of the dates below and make sure to add them to your calendar.

I wish you a beautiful long weekend.

Yolanda Lehton, Vice-Principal

Upcoming Events

Salad Bar – We need a parent help this week from 11-1pm or we will have to cancel the salad bar. Unfortunately, I don't have enough help this week and I don't have any parents signed up for the month of April or May. Please email me ASAP if you are able to help this week.

What does help at the salad bar lunch look like? It can be a variety of tasks at whatever comfort level you have in the kitchen. If you like cooking, and have a certain soup or dish in mind, let's make a plan and feature your dish. If you like cooking but don't want to think about planning, I will do it for you, and you can just show up and help out. Even if you hate cooking but you have some time, we can always use a hand washing dishes and cleaning up. We are very flexible on what kind of help we need, but we need help to do it well. Also, the food is amazing, and you get a yummy lunch too!

PAC – Do you have extra plant starts or are you thinning some of your perennials? Why not pot them up and bring them down to the school for the annual PAC/DICES plant sale at the Saturday Market on April 23rd. We are accepting donations during school hours 8:30-3pm Monday to Friday (Except Easter) until the sale. Please drop off plants by the garden gate in the labeled fence area.

We are also seeking donations to the office this week of items for the Mother's Day Basket Raffle – tickets will go on sale soon! Thanks to those who have already donated, we appreciate your generosity.

Next PAC meeting has been postponed and will be rescheduled for late this month.

DICES – Some programs needed to be cancelled this week, you should have been contacted if this affects your student.

April 15 Good Friday – no school

April 18 Easter Monday – no school

April 20 Wednesday - 22 Friday – Earth Day – Nature Mandala Project – students will start this project in the forest behind the daycare on Wednesday, April 20th. Families and the community are invited to participate and add to the mandala afterschool (2:30pm) on both Wednesday and Thursday evenings. On Earth Day, Friday, April 22nd from 1-2pm families and community members, are invited to work together with the students to work on the mandala. If you have something natural you would like to add to the mandala, please bring it along. I will have some

hand tools available if needed. Mike Van Santvoord will be there to document the event with photos, and we hope to share the nature inspired artwork in The Grapevine the following week. Please, mark your calendar and come be creative with us.

April 23 Saturday – Plant Sale – Saturday Market – plant donations accepted at the school in the fenced area by the garden

April 27 Wednesday – School Field Trip K-3 Discovery Passage Aquarium, Gr 4-7 Campbell River Museum – permission slips will come home this week

May 3 Tuesday – Grade 4/5 school cycling program – Hornby – bikes and helmets need to be at the school early Tuesday morning or the Monday before – permission slips will come home after Easter

May 5 Thursday – Track Jambouree – All grade 4-7 students participate

May 11 Wednesday – Div 3 Horne Lk Caves

May 26 Thursday – Grade 7 Try A Trade at Sandwick School near Vanier

June 1 Wednesday – Whole school 5 pin bowling and aquatic center swimming field trip

June 15th Wednesday – Student –Led conferencing – parents can come to the school and have their student lead them through their eportfolios and learning journey from the year – sessions will be in the afternoon and approximately 30 minutes each – session sign-up will be around the end of May.

June 21 Tuesday – National Indigenous People’s Day – Whole school field trip to Filongley Park – AM will be Indigenous activities and picnic lunch PM will be beach activities

June 23 Thursday – Uke Jam Showcase Concert and School Picnic – All students will perform, showcasing the new Indigenous drums and our ukulele skills in the AM and then enjoy a picnic lunch together – it is planned to be outside the back of the school with plenty of room for families and community members to join in. The uke jam part of the concert is open to all family and community members to play and sing along. All music will be shared and need to be rehearsed at least once before the big event. More information will come out closer to the date. You will not want to miss this one!

June 27 Monday – Grade 7 leaving event in the evening TBConfirmed

June 28 Tuesday – afternoon sports fun

June 29 Wednesday – last 1/2 day Grade 7 leaving ceremony - probably around 9:30am

June 29th Wednesday afternoon – Summer Vacation!!!!