




DENMAN ISLAND COMMUNITY SCHOOL WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

Week of Oct. 30th, 2024 😊

Important Upcoming Dates

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	Oct. 29 Walk to pumpkin patch @ 9:00 am ☑ SALAD BAR	Oct. 30 Carve jack-o-lanterns @ 1:00 pm ☑	October 31 Halloween – parade @ 9:00 am & class parties ☑ HOT LUNCH	Nov. 1 School in session (regular hours) 😊 *Please do not put candy in snacks & lunches
	Nov. 5 Health Education with Shift Education educator, Jenn Williams SALAD BAR PAC meeting @ 5:30 pm in the library & Zoom		Nov. 7 HOT LUNCH 	Nov. 8 Remembrance Day Assembly @ 10:40 am Everyone welcome. (No school Monday, Nov. 11 th)
Looking ahead → 				Nov. 29 Skating field trip to the Comox Regional Sports Centre.
				Dec. 13 Summary of Learning goes home
			Dec. 19 Winter concert @ 6-7 pm @ the Community Hall	Dec. 20 Last day of classes Winter Break: Dec. 23-Jan. 3, 2025

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Wow, it's been an exciting week! Students have been gearing up for "the big day" all week and have been enthusiastically talking about costumes, pumpkins and jack-o-lanterns, and even haunted houses! We are truly grateful to Gary at West Isle farms for letting us pick 60 pumpkins on Tuesday!

Pumpkin Prep

If our pumpkin holds up (!), we are all going to receive a magical day of preparing the pumpkin (for future soups and pies) on Monday, November 4th with Bee. Students will be put into mixed-aged groups. We are looking for a few electric knives to borrow (for adults to use) to assist with cutting this big, thick pumpkin. If you have such a knife, please let me know.

Health Education – Nov. 5th

Next Tuesday, we are excited to partner with Jenn Williams from Shift Education to provide our students with age-appropriate sexual health education as part of the Physical and Health Education curriculum. In each class, Jenn will engage students in these key topics: safety, healthy relationships, and well-being, helping students develop critical thinking and decision-making skills.



For more information about Shift Education, please visit www.shift-education.com or contact owner and sexual health educator, Jessica Wollen, at jessica@shift-education.com. Jessica says: “Shift Education is committed to delivering this important content in a supportive and engaging manner” and welcomes dialogue.

Whole School Skating Field Trip

We are thrilled to announce that we have booked the skating rink at the Comox Valley Regional District on **Friday, Nov. 29th** from 11:30-12:30 pm. (We realize that time is not ideal, but it’s a popular booking.) **Students are asked to bring these if they have them: a pair of skates and a bike or skate helmet.** For new skaters, the rink will supply some “skate gates” or “skate trainers.”



Nov. 29th Itinerary: *Subject to minor changes (and we will keep you posted)

9:00 am	Attendance at school, then walk to Denman Island Ferry Terminal
9:40	Take ferry to Buckley Bay
9:50 -10:30	Take school bus to Comox Valley Sports Centre (3001 Vanier Drive)
10:40	Have a snack, get skate rentals
11:30-12:30 pm	Skate!
12:45	Take school bus back to Buckley Bay
2:00	Take BC Ferries back to Denman Island
2:10	Walk back to Denman Island Community School
2:30	Regular dismissal



- * We do not currently need chaperones (as space on the bus is limited).
- * 6-7 staff will accompany our students.
- * Permission slips will be sent home in November.

Reporting Student Learning

Each time teachers report – see below – we strive for inclusive, clear, and accessible communication with students and their families. We want to ensure students and families understand where the child is at in their learning, and areas for further growth. We acknowledge that learners benefit from individualized descriptive feedback and personal involvement in the assessment process.

Date	Type of Report
Nov. 21, 2024	Parent/teacher conferences
Dec. 13, 2024	Summary of Learning #1 goes home
March 14, 2025	Summary of Learning #2 goes home
June 6, 2025	“Sharing our Learning” student-led conferences
June 26, 2025	Summary of Learning #3 goes home

Teachers will communicate your child(ren)’s progress in the core learning areas (language arts, math, social studies, science, art, physical education, and other subjects). When making comments and observations, teachers take a strengths-based approach; they consider many factors when giving feedback. They also provide “next steps” as a way to describe what the next learning priorities are for each student.

Our goal is to work together proactively to enhance learning. We look forward to the continued dialogue about your child’s learning and the best ways to support and further learning and growth.

Pick-up/Drop-off Information

We appreciate it very much that parents and caregivers keep us up to date with afterschool and bus drop-off plans. That is very helpful and helps keep our students safe.

A friendly reminder: For the safety of all students, parents/caregivers may phone in any bus-riding changes up until 1:30 pm Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Fridays, & 12:30 on Thursdays. After that, we update our teachers about transportation arrangements.

Winter Concert – Thursday, December 19th

With November around the corner, December comes close on its heels! Our Winter concert will start at 6:00-7:00 pm at the Community Hall. We’ll hang decorations in the morning on Thursday, Dec. 19th.



Note: Farm to Family will be serving dinner in the hall before the concert (from 4:30-5:30 pm).

Outside Recess

Please dress for the weather! I'm happy to report that I see many students wearing (or bringing to school... just in case): raincoats, rain pants, boots, hats, gloves, etc. We are planning to go outside to play in most weather.

Hot lunch Thursdays

Note from Bee: Gluten free/vegan/vegetarian will be available for all meals in November & December.

November Menu

Nov 7-Pasta and Meatballs (or tofu balls)

Nov 14-Sushi Bowls with Edamame

Nov 21-Shepherd's Pie

Nov 28-Enchiladas



December Menu

Dec 5-BLT Wraps and Chickpea Salad

Dec 12-Vegetable Fried Rice

Dec 19-Pizza and Caesar Salad



Pumpkin carving... keep scrolling!





*Note: All students have written permission to be published in the newsletter.



HAPPY HALLOWEEN

Wishing you all a fun and safe
Halloween!

Amei Mai
Principal, Denman Island Community School

