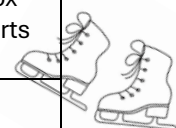


DENMAN ISLAND COMMUNITY SCHOOL WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

Week of Nov. 14th, 2024 😊

Important Upcoming Dates

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Nov. 18 Div. 2 at VIU Deep Bay Marine Field Station	Nov. 19 SALAD BAR		Nov. 21 Parent/Teacher Interviews Sign up 8:30-3 pm No School	
	Nov. 26 SALAD BAR		Nov. 28 HOT LUNCH Enchiladas	Nov. 29 Skating field trip to the Comox Regional Sports Centre.
Dec. 2 PAC meeting @ 5 pm	Dec. 3 SALAD BAR		Dec. 5 HOT LUNCH BLT Wraps and Chickpea Salad	
<h2>Looking ahead...</h2>			Dec. 12 HOT LUNCH Vegetable Fried Rice	Dec. 13 Written Learning Update #1 goes home
			Dec. 19 HOT LUNCH & 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,

As we embrace the colder weather and shorter days, it's a good time to reflect on our shared purpose as a school and community. Each morning, as I hop on my bike as the sun is going up, I think about the exciting ways education is evolving and improving. I feel inspired by our district's new strategic plan, which starts with this overarching learning goal:

Comox Valley Schools is committed to creating inclusive, holistic, and personalized learning environments to support each student's development of the core competencies over time.

There's so much to explore within this vision! I would love to engage in conversations about inclusion, place-based education, indigenizing and decolonizing education, and deeper learning competencies with our parent/guardian community. Whether at Parent/Teacher conferences, PAC meetings, or even in casual chats in the hallways, these discussions are essential to our growth as a learning community.

Joy joy joy!

Our staff regularly partakes in important discussions about the direction and meaning of education. We also love to laugh when we learn together! Can you guess last Thursday's clothing theme?!



Parent/Teacher Conferences – Nov. 21

Please sign up to meet with classroom teacher(s) to talk about your child(ren)'s progress. Our administrative assistant, Isabelle, has sent out the online link. Ms. Lowe will have a display in the library. Please plan to stop by the library next Thursday too! We are not offering childcare for Nov. 21st. (Sorry for the inconvenience.)

Most schools in the Comox Valley School District are also hosting these conferences. There is no school on Nov. 21st. Thank you!

Social Emotional Learning – Everyday Speech

Div. 2 and 3 are using a Social Emotional Learning (SEL) program that was recommended by our school counselor, Margot Janz, called "Everyday Speech." The discussions, vignettes, and activities support students in developing their communication, behavior, emotional, and academic skills. Div. 1 also engages in conversations about friendship, restitution, empathy, and kindness every day!

Whole School Skating Field Trip

Most of the skating permission forms are already in for our skating trip to the Comox Valley Regional District Sports Centre on **Friday, Nov. 29th** – thank you!

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.
- * Please return permission forms by Nov. 18th. Thank you.

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).

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	Written Update of Learning #1 goes home

March 14, 2025	Written Update 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.

Hot lunch Thursdays

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

November Menu

Nov 28-Enchiladas



December Menu

Dec 5-BLT Wraps and Chickpea Salad

Dec 12-Vegetable Fried Rice

Dec 19-Pizza and Caesar Salad

Bee is currently working on the 2025 menus. We’ll be sending out the forms soon for these meals. (Thanks, Bee!)

A big thank you to all the parents and guardians who continue to help out for the greater school community. We see you! We appreciate you! Have a wonderful weekend!

Amei Mai

Principal, Denman Island Community School



