


# DENMAN ISLAND COMMUNITY SCHOOL WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

Week of January 27, 2025

## Important Upcoming Dates

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Jan. 27</b>  <b>Happy Family Literacy Week!</b>  	<b>Jan. 28</b>  <b>SALAD BAR</b>	<b>Jan. 29</b>	<b>Jan. 30</b>  <b>HOT LUNCH</b>  "Bedtime Stories" 6:00-7:00 pm.  Listen to stories read by DIS staff & community members... in your PJs!	<b>Jan 31</b>  Come dressed as your favourite book character... or just a character if you don't have a fav!  School-wide D.E.A.R. (Drop Everything and Read!)
<b>OUR extended team...</b>				
		Carly Matkin (music)	Vanessa Jones (Learning Support)	Tonya Lowe (Teacher-librarian)
<b>← Looking ahead →</b>				
	<b>Feb. 11</b>  <b>PAC Meeting</b> 5 pm in the DIS library			
<b>Feb. 17</b> <b>FAMILY DAY</b> No school	<b>Feb. 18</b>  <b>Professional Development Day</b>  No school			

### Dear parents and caregivers,

This term has been a season of both hellos and goodbyes for our school community. Last week, we were delighted to welcome Ms. Emily as our new primary teacher. Her energy and enthusiasm have already begun to enrich our school.

At the same time, we are bidding farewell—though not goodbye forever—to a few of our cherished staff members. Along with Karla Neuffer, our K/1/2 teacher, our long-time counselor, Margot Janz, and our even longer-time speech-language pathologist, Sandra Moir, are taking leaves of absence. These educators have been integral to the fabric of Team Denman for many years, and their contributions have made a lasting impact on our school.

Each of them has personal reasons for their leave, and we wholeheartedly support their decisions while wishing them the very best during this time. They will always remain part of our closeknit community, and we look forward to welcoming them back when the time is right.

We are also welcoming a **new Indigenous Support Worker. Kaila Storrington**. Kaila will be on Denman (and Hornby) one day a week until mid-May. Kaila brings with her a strong background in supporting Indigenous children and youth. We welcome Kaila to the Indigenous Education team and can't wait to meet her (after she finishes her district orientation).

Thank you for your continued support as we navigate these transitions together.

### FAMILY LITERACY WEEK - JANUARY 27-31

A big thanks to teacher-librarian, Tonya Lowe, and library clerk, Jessica Joyce, for their wonderful ideas around Family Literacy Week. We hope that everyone – students, families, and staff alike – share in the enthusiasm for all things “literacy!” Also, a big thank you to PAC for helping to support Family Literacy Week.

### BOOK BINGO

#### My Library Bingo Card

Name:		Grade:		
A book with a red cover	A graphic novel	A book about a holiday	A book with a rainbow on the cover	A book that was turned into a movie
A book that your teacher likes	A newly-released book	A fairytale or folktale	A book about an artist	A book with more than 100 pages
A book about space	A book of poetry or songs	A book that is being displayed	A book with a one-word title	A book with a person on the cover
A book that your library teacher likes	A book with a blue cover	A book with an animal on the cover	A book that your friend likes	A book that was published in 2023 or 2024

Our library staff has already launched the book bingo – a reading challenge, not a scavenger hunt. This will require some dedicated reading on the students’ parts, and I wholeheartedly encourage participants to get started on reading 5+ age-appropriate books! Bingo sheets in the library. (Just ask Jessica or Ms. Lowe for one). The “deadline” is June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Happy reading!

### BOOK FUNDRAISER

We are teaming up with Abraxas books for this school community fundraiser. Our teacher-librarian, Tonya Lowe, is creating a library book wish list link and posters of the book covers and prices that will hang in Abraxas. Here is Ms. Lowe’s 2025 wish list link:

<https://abraxasbooks.ca/gift-registry/wgeOn0lGnWs>

The books are then added to our school library!



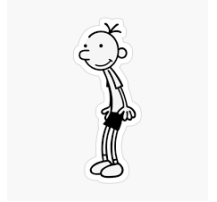


### **BEDTIME STORIES – January 30th @ 6:00-7:00 pm**

Come in your PJs & enjoy a host of stories told by DIS staff and community members! So far, we have many enthusiastic readers (& don't need any more). Thank you to everyone who reached out.

### **DRESS UP AS YOUR (FAVOURITE) BOOK CHARACTER – Friday, Jan. 27th**

Greg Heffley, the Little Prince, Roz the Robot, Captain Underpants, Clifford the Big Red Dog, Max (in "Where the Wild Things Are"), Ivan the Gorilla, Winn Dixie the dog, Stellaluna, the Paper bag Princess, Matilda, Ron Weasley, etc. etc.!



Who will you come dressed as on Friday, January 27th?

### **Drop Everything and Read – Friday, Jan. 27th**

We'll read... just read... on Friday. Anywhere and everywhere! Bring or borrow a great book & we'll celebrate the printed word together in peaceful concentration!

#### **NOON-HOUR SUPERVISOR POSITION**

School District 71 (Comox Valley) invites applications for the position of **Supervision Assistant**.

- 5 hours a week, Monday through Friday.
- Hours will be worked during the school lunch hour.
- The current rate of pay is \$20.22 per hour plus 16.3% in lieu of benefits.

Please click on this link for more information (and to apply):

[S2425-287 - Temporary Supervision Assistant | School District #71 \(Comox Valley\)](#)

#### **STUDENT LEARNING SURVEY 2025**

The **Student Learning Survey** (formerly called the "Satisfaction Survey") is for students in grade 4, 7, 10, 11, and 12, as well as their parents, staff and administrators.

Student participants access the survey by using their unique Logon # by going to the following website:

[www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat\\_survey/access.htm](http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat_survey/access.htm)

Amei will conduct the survey with grade 4 and 7 students (sometime before May).

While student participants use their unique 9 (nine) digit Personal Education Number (PEN) to log on, parents, staff, and administrators do not need a password.

#### **KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION – JANUARY 21, 2025**

School District No. 71 (Comox Valley) will be enrolling Kindergarten students in District schools for attendance in September 2025. To be eligible for enrolment in September 2025, a student must turn five (5) years of age by December 31, 2025. Each child's birth

certificate and proof of address must be uploaded for registration. BC Services Cards will not be accepted as proof of birth however your child's BC Personal Health Number (PHN) is required on the registration form. A Passport or Landed Immigrant authorization are suitable forms of documentation in lieu of birth certificates.

For more information, please see: [Kindergarten Registration - Comox Valley Schools](#)

### FARM TO FAMILY SIT-IN DINNER - THURSDAY, JAN. 30<sup>TH</sup>

Farm to Family Sit-In dinner at the Back Hall from 5:00 - 6:00 pm is happening on the same night as Bedtime Stories!

RSVP by Monday morning to [bee.farmtofamily@gmail.com](mailto:bee.farmtofamily@gmail.com))

#### **The menu is:**

Wild Fish Chowder & Local Corn Chowder (we'll make the corn chowder kid-friendly!)

Focaccia with local herbs

Local Salad with Tahini Orange Dressing

and likely a nice Apple Dessert

There'll be vegan & gluten free options for everything!

### HOT LUNCH THURSDAYS

#### **January, February & March Menus**

Jan. 30 – Sloppy joes with vegetables

Feb. 6 – Borsisupp (borscht)

Feb. 13 – Green goddess soup & flatbread

Feb. 20 – Shepard's pie & biscuits

Feb. 27 Cheesy veggie quesadillas

March 6 – Swedish meatballs with lingonberry jam and cucumber salad

March 13 – Hot dogs, chips, and fruit skewers.

**Note from Bee:** Gluten free/vegan/vegetarian will be available for all meals.

As with every week – but this week especially – I hope you find a moment to curl up with a great book!

Gilakas'la!

Amei Mai

Principal, Denman Island Community School

