


# DENMAN ISLAND COMMUNITY SCHOOL WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

Week of March 31, 2025

Important Upcoming Dates

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>March 31</b>  Axis Theatre presents "Frog Belly Rat Bone"  @ 1:00 pm 12:50 pm – start loading the gym	<b>April 1</b>  <b>SALAD BAR</b>		<b>April 3</b>  <b>HOT LUNCH</b>  Cheesy Pasta & Veggie sticks	
<b>our extended team...</b>				
Kerry Harrison (Speech & Language) in the afternoon	Kaila Storning (Indigenous Support Worker)	Carly Matkin (music)	Vanessa Jones (Learning Support)	Tonya Lowe (Teacher-librarian)
<b>← Looking ahead →</b>				
<b>Tuesday, April 8</b> - PAC Meeting @ 5 pm in the library <b>Friday, April 18:</b> Good Friday & <b>Monday, April 21:</b> Easter (no school)				

Dear parents and caregivers,



Welcome back! I hope everyone had a restful and enjoyable Spring Break! I really enjoyed the relaxed pace with my friends and family, and look forward to the many exciting activities and events coming up in the third term: theatre (X2!), outdoor education and gardening, an author visit, track and field events, warmer weather, a big grad, and more!

## AXIS THEATRE PRESENTS "FROG BELLY RAT BONE"

From their website: Incorporating beautifully handcrafted puppets and an original pop/rock musical score, Cementland comes to life as two enigmatic garbage collectors tell the story of a very special boy whose singular wish is to find a TREASURE!

Check out their website, [Frog Belly Rat Bone — Axis Theatre](#), for more information about this delightful performance.

## GREENHOUSE

Sending out a huge thank you to all the people who worked in the garden during Spring Break! Parent and gardener extraordinaire, Sam Croome, spearheaded the covering of our greenhouse and installing a door. Bee Balm, our DICES liaison, has also been instrumental in making this happen. We are grateful to her and the group of volunteers who helped with these important details! Many hands make light work – Gilakas'la!



## INDIGENOUS GARDEN



Another exciting addition to our growing space is the Indigenous Garden! Here, landscapers, Ian and Eddie, hard at work, digging out the blackberry bushes between the greenhouse and the shed. (A big thank you to our former vice-principal, Yolanda Lehton, for securing the Whole Kids grant to help fund this and other gardening initiatives!)

Gilakas'la to our Indigenous Support Worker, Kaila Storning, and Bee for their thoughtful design. You can see how ocean spray has been beautifully integrated into the layout, while a small pear tree remains in place. The circular design creates a welcoming and safe space that fosters joy, comfort, and inclusion. This more natural, flowing layout encourages positive energy and provides a meditative, peaceful environment.



A huge thank you as well to the Grade K/1/2 class for their dedication in clearing blackberry bushes and other invasive plants over the past few months to make way for the new garden. Kaila is currently sourcing a variety of Indigenous plants for this growing space—and is excited to plant them alongside the students! Lastly, we are keen to invite elder and knowledge keeper, Barb Whyte to come bless the Indigenous Garden.

## HOT LUNCH THURSDAYS

### Apr 3 Cheesy Pasta & Veggie sticks

- 10 Golden Squash soup & Herby Focaccia
- 17 Chicken Chickpea salad with croutons
- 24 Chicken Tomato Stew with Roasted Potatoes (or tofu)

### May 1 Local Sausage skillet (or tofu)

- 8 Roasted Veggies, chickpeas & Tofu with gravy
- 15 Hearty Beef Stew (or Tofu)
- 22 Buddha Bowls with local veggies & golden miso dressing
- 29 Pasta & Broccoli with Parmesan

### June 5 Charcuterie Platters & Strawberry Yogurt Parfaits

- 12 Garden Surprise
- 19 Chicken Ceaser Pita Pockets & Chips
- 26 Pizza!



## WELCOME EDUCATION ASSISTANT, HOMA SAFAEI



Spring can represent a time for new beginnings. With that in mind, I'd like to welcome our newest education assistant, Homa Safaei. She started working as an EA in SD 71 in February, and has also worked as a researcher and teacher in her home country, Iran. Homa will shadow our other EA, Kareen Beaudoin, during the first week so she can get better acquainted with the students, lay of the land, and routines.

### "DENMAN KIDS" - BEFORE- & AFTER-SCHOOL care @ BLACKBERRY Lane CHILDREN'S CENTER

**Before School Licensed Childcare** - Grades Kg to 3, \$5/day, 8am to 8:40am  
Need to get to work, or catch that 8:30am ferry? We can help! Drop-in spots available for this everyday. Email [denmanislandchildcare@gmail.com](mailto:denmanislandchildcare@gmail.com) for more information.

**After-school licensed Childcare**, for students in kindergarten to grade 3  
Monday to Fridays, 2:30 – 4:00 pm.

At "Denman Kids", children have the power to vote on what activity(ies) to do each day with a focus on caring for community, nurturing citizenship, and enjoying meaningful play in an intentionally inclusive way.

- Select how many days your child needs care in April.
- Drop-in spots may be available on a first come first serve basis.
- Healthy snacks provided!
- Affordable Child Care Subsidy available for qualifying families, email for more info.

Please [Register Here](#)

### INSPIRATION ABOUNDS!

I realize there is a LOT going on around us in the wider world. I firmly believe that education promotes hope and optimism. I'm excited to see what our students create, how they are agents for change, and how they inspire growth and kindness in their day-to-day!

Happy Spring everyone!

Amei Mai

Principal, Denman Island Community School

