

# DENMAN ISLAND COMMUNITY SCHOOL WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

Week of May 26-30, 2025

## Important Upcoming Dates

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
May 26	May 27	May 28	May 29	May 30
	SALAD BAR		HOT LUNCH	
	Gr 2's transition to Div. 2 @ 10:30 am			

## OUR extended team...

Kerry Harrison (Speech & Language) in the afternoon		Carly Matkin (music)	Vanessa Jones (Learning Support)	Tonya (Teacher Librarian)
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## ← LOOKING ahead →

**June 2-5 – Bike to School Week**

**Wednesday, June 4 –** Celebration of Learning (Student-led conferences)

**Monday, June 9 – Tuesday, June 10th** - Grade 5/6/7 class goes to Victoria

**Thursday, June 12 - Photos** – Grad, Classroom, Whole School & Staff

**Wednesday, June 18** - Volunteer Appreciation Tea (in the afternoon)

**Thursday, June 19** – for Indigenous People's Day (June 21st) – field trip to Fillongley  
Provincial Park

**Friday, June 20<sup>th</sup>** – Hot lunch (instead of June 19<sup>th</sup>) – tacos & quesadillas

**Tuesday, June 24** - Grade 7 grad

**Thursday, June 26** - Fun/Sports Day (half-day)

## Dear Parents and Caregivers,

I'm excited about all the wonderful opportunities to build community in the coming weeks, starting with our Celebration of Learning on Wednesday, June 4th. After that, Mr. Farrow's class will set off on a fantastic adventure to Victoria!

I'm also looking forward to celebrating our incredible team of volunteers — we tip our hats to you for your generosity and kindness (on June 18<sup>th</sup> @ 1:30 pm).

Our upcoming field trip to Fillongley is coming together nicely, and I'll share more details in future newsletters. (Permission forms will be sent home soon!) Please note the date change for that week's hot lunch. Instead of Thursday (June 19<sup>th</sup>), hot lunch will be on Friday, June 20<sup>th</sup>.

June is a time of transition, anticipation, and growth, and I'm so glad we get to experience it together!

### LET'S GET TO KNOW... SUNNY!

Each week, we're going to learn a little bit about the students in our 13-person grade 7 graduating class! (We're going to miss these creative, imaginative, active youths next year!)

Introducing... Sunny!



Favourite Movie or TV show: *Pantheon*

Favourite Book: *The Girl from the Sea* by Molly Ostertag

Favourite Season: Fall

Favourite Food: Butter chicken

Favourite Memory: When I was 8 and had tea parties with my grandma in the summer

Favourite Colour: Periwinkle

Favourite Animal: Platypus

Favourite thing to do outside of School: Go hangout at the beach

### LET'S GET TO KNOW... BREAHI!

Introducing... Breah!



Favourite Movie or TV show: *The Summer I turned Pretty*

Favourite Book: *The Summer I turned Pretty*

Favourite Season: Spring

Favourite Food: Butter Chicken

Favourite Memory: Going to the African lion safari the zoo in Ontario with my cousins, aunt and mom

Favourite Colour: Rose pink

Favourite Animal: Turtle

Favourite thing to do outside of School: Swimming at the lake

## FUNRAISER

### REQUEST FOR BAKED GOODIES! (SATURDAY, MAY 31<sup>ST</sup>)

Cookies, cupcakes, bars, pastries, pies, tarts, brownies, donuts, cake... oh my! If any of those delectable treats are in your wheelhouse, the PAC kindly asks for donations for the Variety Show extravaganza!



Preferably, please put the goodies in a container that does not need to be returned (or in a labelled container).

Baked goods can be dropped off:

- during the day at the school (with students) on Friday, or
- with parents to the show by 5:30 pm on Saturday evening.

May 10 9:30 am	May 15, 16 6:00 pm	May 31 5:30 pm
Plant Sale at the Farmers Market	The Enchanted Bookshop Grades 5, 6, 7 Class Play at the Community Hall by Donation	Variety Show Intergenerational extravaganza! kids dancing elders sharing silent auction raffle wearable art fashion show at the Community Hall by Donation

### CELEBRATION OF LEARNING (STUDENT-LED CONFERENCES)

Parents, guardians, grandparents, close adults... we can't wait to see you at the Celebration of Learning next Wednesday afternoon (June 4<sup>th</sup> @ 1:30 pm)

**What is a student-led conference?** Students lead parents through a discussion of their work. The teacher's role is that of a facilitator. (They won't be participating in any parent-teacher conferences at this time.) Students primarily direct the conversation, which is focused on their work and classroom behavior. While there is no "one right way" to do a student-led conference; students will have practiced with their teacher's guidance.

**What is the purpose of a student-led conference?** The main purpose is to celebrate your child's learning and growth over time. They also provide caregivers with a better understanding of their child's learning process.

**Length?** Student-led conferences usually last about 15-20 minutes (but can also go longer, if needed). If you have more than one child, the process will be quite "organic." Just attend the conference of one child, then the other.

*We'll be serving light snacks at this event. We hope to see you all there!*



### PRINCIPAL'S PLANS...

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Denman Island Community School Staff,

Throughout my 30 years in public education, I've always tried to be reflective. Lately, I've spent a lot of time reflecting on both my professional journey and personal needs, and this has led me to a decision that I feel is best for me and my family.

It is with mixed emotions that I announce I will be stepping down as principal of Denman Island Community School at the end of this school year. I believe this change

will allow me to be more present for my loved ones and give me the opportunity to focus on my own personal well-being.

While I will no longer be in this role, I plan to remain involved in the field of education in some capacity—whether through teaching, writing, or coaching. My career began in 1995, when I graduated from UBC and I got my first teaching position at a kindergarten in Shanghai, China. After years of TOC’ing and teaching primary grades (when my own kids were little), I eventually found my groove in middle school, teaching Humanities and French for 10 years before becoming a vice principal in 2017 and a principal in 2021. Every step – full of “ah-ha” moments, laughter, togetherness, and even challenges – has been an honour and I will always carry the experiences and relationships I’ve gained in my heart.

Thank you for the incredible support I’ve received here on Denman Island. You have all inspired me to be a passionate, active member of the community I have been a part of since 1991 on Salt Spring Island, where I will be moving in July. I look forward to what comes next, both personally and professionally. I hope our paths cross again—your children have shown me just how much joy learning brings!

With sincere gratitude,  
Amei

#### UPDATED DENMAN ISLAND COMMUNITY SCHOOL MENU

Date	Menu
	<i>* As always, gluten-free and vegan options will be available to accommodate everyone.</i>
Tuesday, May 27	Lasagna soup with garlic bread
<b>Thursday, May 29</b>	Sushi rolls, variety of meat & veggie rice rolls
Tuesday, June 3	Chicken long rice soup with green onions
<b>Thursday, June 5</b>	Meat & bean empanadas served with salad
Tuesday, June 10	Baked potato soup with bacon bits
<b>Thursday, June 12</b>	Tonkatsu, breaded pork cutlets and rice
Tuesday, June 17	Butter chicken soup with naan bread
<b>Friday, June 20</b>	Tacos & quesadillas, chicken or veggie options
Tuesday, June 24	Sausage orzo soup
<b>Thursday, June 26</b>	Ramen with Chashu pork & ajitama eggs

