

For immediate release

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**Lake Trail Community School's Winter Feast a hit with the kids**

**COMOX, VALLEY B.C.** – It was a festive seen at Lake Trail Community School as over 400 turkey lunches were served up to some happy students on the second to last day of school before the holiday break.

The gym was completely transformed into a winter wonderland and was decorated by eager students and staff. Lake Trail staff and foods classes worked hard to prepare a traditional turkey dinner (served at lunch) that included stuffing, vegetables, gravy, mashed potatoes, bread rolls and cranberry sauce. All food was generously donated by Thrifty Foods and Starbucks. Special thanks to teacher Cassidy Marinus and concession lead Trish Hart for making sure the assembly lines of food were constantly replenished. Thrifty Foods staff were also on hand to help serve up food at the buffet stations that were also staffed by some of SD 71's Leadership team, including Superintendent Tom Demeo.

"This is one of my favourite events to attend each year because it's a great example of the close relationships between our schools and communities," said Superintendent of Schools Tom Demeo. "It's heart warming to see the enthusiasm of staff and students working together to transform the gym into a winter wonderland to make this event happen."

Students and staff were encouraged to dress up for the day and many did sport some seasonal attire. Student Tatty Longland started the event off with a K'omoks First Nation territorial welcome. Everyone in attendance also gave three cheers for custodian Dana Andrews who is retiring after 41 years with Comox Valley Schools spent mostly at Cumberland and Lake Trail. We wish you all the best in retirement and thank you for your many years of service Dana!

This was the ninth year of the holiday lunch and based on the smiles and laughter that filled the gym, it is safe to say it was a great way to kick off the holidays.

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