

Sayward School News

November 2024



Can you believe it's already November? It feels like just yesterday we were welcoming everyone back for the new school year, and now we're gearing up for the holiday season!

As the days get shorter and the weather gets cooler, we have a few important updates and reminders for you:



Remembrance Day

Please note that Remembrance Day, observed on **November 11th**, will be a **no school day**. This day is dedicated to honoring the brave men and women who have served and continue to serve our country. We encourage families to take a moment to reflect on the significance of this day.

Upcoming Events

- Student-led Conferences: Scheduled for November 1st. Please check your email for sign-up information. If you require additional support please call Miss Catherine in the office 250-282-3314
- Remembrance Day Assembly: We will have an assembly in the school gym on November 8th.

Classroom Highlights

Our students have been busy with various projects and activities:

- Miss Aidan's class: November Themes: Remembrance Day, remembering the past and moving forward with kindness. And seasonal changes: animal and environmental changes
- Miss Douglas's Class: we are exploring number place value, and creative writing! We are working on building a classroom community where everyone feels welcome and safe
- Mrs. Cada's Class: is finishing up a spooky Podcast called The Hollow and descriptive paragraphs about monsters. Grade 4s are currently working through the FSA. Our math focus is currently Number Sense (place value, decimals, fractions, adding and subtracting). In Science, the grade 4s are working on concepts related to space and the grade 5s are working on concepts related to the different types of rock and the rock cycle.



Reminders

- Dress Warmly: As temperatures drop, please ensure your child comes to school with appropriate outerwear.
- Healthy Snacks: We encourage sending nutritious snacks to keep our students energized throughout the day.
- Spare clothing: It is helpful for students to have a spare change of clothing in their bags messy accidents happen all the time while they are learning. We do not have spare clothing at school like previous years.





Fall Schedule



Whether you are a first time volleyball player or an experienced athlete, join **Team Canada Alumni**, Coach Julie Young, at the Robron Centre gym and learn a new skill!

Smashball is a dynamic and innovative program designed for athletes in grades 3-5, which teaches the **FUNDamentals** of volleyball.

Play & Train is designed to get athletes ready for the upcoming club volleyball season. Led by elite coaches, our sessions will focus on building a strong technical foundation, enhancing volleyball IQ, and creating a supportive, yet competitive environment for maximum growth.



<p>SMASHBALL Where: Robron Gym When: Thursdays Oct 24th-Nov 28th Ages: Grades 3-5 Co-ed Cost: \$150 Register at: https://crushvb.ca/smashball-registration/</p>	<p>PLAY & TRAIN Where: Robron Gym When: Thursdays 5:45-7:15 Oct 24th-Nov 28th Ages: Grades 6-7 Co-ed Cost: \$150 Register at: https://crushvb.ca/play-train-registration/</p>	<p>PLAY & TRAIN Where: Robron Gym When: Tuesdays 7:15-8:45 Oct 24th-Nov 28th Ages: Grades 8-10 Co-ed Cost: \$150 Register at: https://crushvb.ca/play-train-registration/</p>
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(Registration must be completed on a computer)

Strong Start is OPEN!

If you have a child aged 0-5 we welcome you to come and visit for a fun filled morning.

Strong Start is in session on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 8:45am-11:45am



NORTH ISLAND RENT BANK

OPERATED BY: THE COMOX VALLEY AFFORDABLE HOUSING SOCIETY

#21 - 1547 DINGWALL RD
COURTENAY, BC, V9N3S8
WWW.CVAHS.COM
RENTBANK@CVAHS.COM
1-250-703-1876

The North Island Rent Bank is a service that provides financial assistance to qualifying community members who are struggling to pay their rent and are at risk of losing their housing. **Individuals and families who are experiencing housing instability due to a temporary financial setback, can apply for an interest-free loan to pay rent, essential utilities, or a deposit to help secure new housing.** Rent banks can also help facilitate access to supports such as financial literacy, debt/credit counselling, landlord-tenant mediation, vocational supports, legal advocacy, and other services that contribute to financial and housing stability.

If you or someone you know is facing temporary housing instability please do not hesitate to reach out!

The North Island Rent Bank would not be possible without the help of the amazing local businesses and organizations supporting this program!

This is a loan program. Applicants will need to demonstrate they have the financial ability to pay regular monthly expenses and the monthly loan repayment. If eligible, applicants will be required to submit bank statements, proof of tenancy, and ID as part of the application process (incl. but not limited to). While loans are interest-free, a small administration fee will apply each month, this is not meant to be a barrier in accessing services. If you have questions or concerns, please contact us at 1 (250) 703-1876 or by email at rentbank@cvaahs.com

Please keep in mind that rent bank services are available province-wide. For residents outside of our service area - information can be found at www.bcrentbank.ca

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Community Call for Volunteers: Help Support Our School!

As we move into the cooler months, our school is excited to announce two important initiatives aimed at supporting our students and enhancing our community spirit. We are reaching out to parents, guardians, and community members to lend a helping hand in these efforts.



Hot Lunch Program

We run a healthy and hearty Hot Lunch Program to provide our students with free warm, nutritious meals on Thursdays every week. To make this program a success, we need volunteers to help with cooking and serving lunches. Whether you can commit to a regular schedule or just a few days, your assistance will be greatly appreciated.



Volunteer Roles:



- **Cooks:** Prepare and cook meals in our school kitchen. Food Safe certification is required for at least one of the two cooks.(options to cover cost upon discussion)
- **Servers:** Help distribute lunches to students.
- **Prep Cooks:** Prepare meals that take more time to put together so they are ready to take from freezer to oven (lasagna, baked pastas, casseroles, etc)

Bottle Drive Fundraiser

In addition to the Hot Lunch Program, we organize a Bottle Drive Fundraiser. This initiative will help raise funds for school activities and resources. We need volunteers to help sort and organize refundable bottles and cans.



Volunteer Roles:

- **Sorters:** Assist in sorting and counting refundable bottles and cans.
- **Transporters:** Help transport collected and counted items to the recycling center.



How to Get Involved

If you are interested in volunteering for either of these programs, please contact our school office at 250-282-3314 or email us at Sayward @sd72.bc.ca. Your time and effort will make a significant difference in the lives of our students and the success of our school programs.

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to our school community. Together, we can make a positive impact!



Download our parent portal app or check it out on your desktop for electronic notifications from the school and district!

parentportal.sd72.bc.ca



PAC meeting schedule 2024-2025

November 14th 245pm Thursday
December 2nd 245pm Monday
January 13th 245pm Monday
February 13th 245pm Thursday
March 10th 245pm Monday
April 7th 245pm Monday
May 8th 4pm Thursday
June 9th AGM 5pm

Food Allergies at School:

Sayward School is a NO KIWI zone!

Please DO NOT send kiwi in your child's lunch as our admin is VERY allergic. This is an airborne allergy that affects her airway even from down the hallway.
Thank you for understanding.

A few October highlight pictures:



Principal's Corner

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

As we transition into November, I want to take a moment to express my appreciation for your continued support and involvement in our school community. With the fall season in full swing, we have much to celebrate and look forward to this month.



Upcoming Events:

- **Student-Led Conferences:** Mark your calendars for November 1. This is a wonderful opportunity to discuss your child's progress and collaborate on their educational journey. Please watch for scheduling details from your child's teacher.
- **October Field Trips:** Thank you to all the families who participated in our Fall Field Trips! We have some students excited to join band in middle school after our visit to Ripple Rock. We are getting excited to raise salmon eggs again and the science lab is getting prepared after our trip to the Hatchery. Holly Hill Farm was wonderful as usual and the weather even cooperated this year!

Important Reminders:

- **Attendance Matters:** As we approach the winter months, please remember that regular attendance is crucial for your child's learning. If your child is feeling unwell, please keep them at home to rest, but do let us know.



- **Winter Clothing:** As temperatures drop, please ensure your child is dressed appropriately for outdoor activities. Warm jackets, hats, and gloves are essential for keeping everyone comfortable during recess and outdoor adventures. If your family requires assistance with proper winter clothing, please contact the school as we are happy to help.

Focus on the Circle of Courage:

As most of you know, we are emphasizing the Circle of Courage at our school, which highlights four essential areas for nurturing our students: Belonging, Mastery, Independence, and Generosity. Through various activities and discussions, students will learn how to foster connections with their peers, develop skills, take initiative, and give back to our community. We encourage you to engage in conversations at home about these themes and how they can be practiced in daily life.

As always, please reach out if you have comments, questions, or ideas.

Warm Regards,
Christine Middleton

