

École Willow Point Elementary

June 2022

250 Larwood Road, Campbell River, BC V9W 1S4
Tel: (250) 923-4311 Fax: (250) 923-4157
Website: <http://www.sd72.bc.ca/willowpoint/>

THANK YOU! MERCI!

On Tuesday morning, Rachel and I received a big surprise from our PAC Executive representatives. They presented us with an enlarged copy of a cheque for \$4197.00!. The proceeds from the online auction. This money has been targeted for our Nature Scaping Project.

Thank you, Heather Challoner and PAC for organizing this successful event. We are grateful for your creativity and the work you put into this event.

Thank you Ecole Willow Point Families for your generosity in donating or purchasing items. This is greatly appreciated.



We also need to thank many other people who are directly involved in the project.

Thank you, Erin Nowak, a parent and Luisa Richardson, (from HCTF) for coordinating this project and spending endless hours to help us make this project a reality.

Thank you, Corinne Matheson for designing our outdoor classroom space, free of charge. This provided us with the foundation of the project.

Thank you, Mitch Kearns for shifting and preparing the berm for planting. You have been very generous with your time.

Thank you Sticks & Stones for donating large quantities of bonemeal & fertilizer for planting, our plants will thrive!

Thank you Katherine Lavoie from Greenways Land Trust for coming with volunteers to help with the planting and loaning us tools required to do a great job. Also donating mulch to keep our trees and plants hydrated. Your help and support with the planting process has been invaluable.

We are so grateful and impressed by the generosity and involvement of this community. We have been fortunate to receive this incredible amount of support.

Thank you! Merci!

Staffing Update

Goodbyes

Mme Lila Armstrong, our Teacher Librarian has accepted a position in Courtenay and will be leaving our school at the end of June. We thank her for the transformative work she did in our library and wish her the best in her new assignment!

Mme Alice Cabille, Is transferring to École des Deux Mondes. We enjoyed having you at our school for two years and thank you for your work with our primary students. We wish you the best at EDM!

Mme Joy Couttenier is also transferring to École des Deux Mondes. Thank you for your work with our Kindergarteners and good luck in your new school!

Welcome

Mme Alessandra Simonut will replace Mme Armstrong as Teacher Librarian. Mme Simonut is currently Teacher Librarian at École des Deux Mondes and is transferring to our school in September.

Welcome Back

Mme Andrea Baikie and **Mme Melissa Johnstone** are both coming back from their maternity leave. We are happy to see you back!

Report Cards We are in the process of completing assessments and preparing the last report. Reports will go home on June 29th. If your child is not attending on that day, you can send a stamped envelope to the office, and we will mail you the report or you can come and pick it up the first week of July or the week prior to the start of school.

End of the Year Celebration You are welcome to attend the music celebration we are preparing to show our appreciation to families. Please see the schedule below.

June 23rd: 9:30-10:00: Mme Flora/Valerie, Mme Alice/Bruinsma, Mme Louise
11:00-11:30: Mme Kala, Mme Joy, Mme Halliday,
1:30-2:00: M Remy, Mme Mona, Mme Strebel, Mme Mireille
There will be a "school year" picture slideshow after each presentation.

Grade 5 Farewell Families are invited to attend our special assembly for grade 5s on Tuesday, June 28th, at 1:00 pm.

Last day of School The last day for students is June 29. **Dismissal will be at 11:30 am** that day.

Wishing everyone a wonderful summer break!

Louise Guevremont & Rachel Black

Birthday Wishes / Bonne Fête!

June , July & August

GUNNAR	June 1	GRIFFIN	July 7	LOUELLA	August 1
MATHIAS	June 5	KEIRA	July 7	SILVER	August 1
MAELLE	June 6	EVRYN O	July 7	LUISA	August 4
GABRIELA	June 9	OLIVIA P	July 10	AJ	August 5
ELI	June 13	PHOEBE	July 10	AURORA	August 5
PARKER	June 13	BETH	July 11	ALEX	August 5
HOLLY F	June 14	KEYAAN	July 13	GRAYSON	August 10
CALVIN	June 16	BAXTER	July 13	NIEVE	August 11
TIMMY	June 18	CHRISTOPHER V	July 13	JAC	August 11
EVAN O	June 19	SEBASTIEN V	July 13	BEN C	August 15
STELLA L	June 22	ELLA M	July 15	IZZY	August 16
LOUIS	June 23	JASMINE B	July 16	NORA	August 18
HUDSON	June 23	EVERLY	July 16	BENJAMIN	August 18
ALFIE	June 24	AUBREY	July 20	LEO	August 23
THOMAS	June 24	LILIA	July 22	GRACE S	August 24
GABE	June 27	BENTLEY	July 23	SEQUOIA	August 24
KAILA W	June 28	ZOE M	July 24	MADELYN	August 26
GRACE	June 30	BRAXTON	July 27	NATHAN S	August 26
		HALLELAH	July 27	TYLER S	August 26
		ARIAH	July 29	SAMIR	August 27
		QUINN P	July 29	CHARLOTTE D	August 27
		AUTUMN R	July 31	EMMA M	August 28



JUNE / JULY / AUGUST BIRTHDAY BOARD



Thank you !

A huge thank you to Shelley Jepps who creates the beautiful Birthday Board every month. She has done an amazing job of helping us celebrate everyone's birthdays throughout the year!



Ecole Willow Point Library

IT'S TIME TO BRING BACK YOUR BOOKS!

As we start to get close to the end of the year, we need to gather up all of the books! Please check at home for any books that have been forgotten :)

Summer lending options to be shared in the next few weeks.

A FEW LIBRARY NUGGETS FROM THE YEAR

5 virtual author
visits

Over 600 new books
added to the
collection
this year!

Our library heart
grew 3 sizes

2 District Battle
Team winners
76 participants
in Battle



SEPTEMBER START UP

Grade 1 – 5 School starts on Tuesday September 6th. Children will come to school for a partial day, times will be updated later this month. In August, we will let you know the program for the first week.

Kindergarten: We will be in touch with parents regarding the Kindergarten schedule for the first week.

Watch for the local newspapers for news about school opening and bussing

LOST & FOUND

Please come to the front door to take a look at the lost and found to see if any of the items belong to your child. All items left after June 29th will be taken to the Thrift Store.



CLASS PLACEMENT

If there is some information about your child that you would like us to consider when organizing the classes, please complete the class placement form.

Please note: this is not at all mandatory.

Link to form has been sent via email

BUS PASSES

Applications for the 2022-23 school year are now being accepted through the school district web site <https://www.sd72.bc.ca/departments/Transportation/Pages/default.aspx#/=>

Students who require bus transportation for the 2022-2023 school year and are eligible based on the walk limits, as well as students who require special needs transportation, must apply online for a bus pass. In order to have your bus pass application processed by the first week of school in September, parents/guardians are asked to apply by **June 25, 2022**.





Mme Joy's Class visiting the Fire Hall!



Mme Louisel's class

**Learning about the
"R's"**

Reuse

Repair

Rot

Rethink

Refuse

Recycle



Fundraiser Update

With the help of your generous bids and support during our online auction in raising funds for the outdoor nature scaping project, we have raised...

\$4197.00

Thank you





When school is out,
summer begins at the
**Willow Point
Children's Centre!**

Full and part time spaces available.

Monday - Friday, full days

School aged children - kindergarten to 12 yrs

For more information

willowpt@telus.net

or

250 923 0484

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!
FIRST DAY BACK IN SEPTEMBER IS
SEPTEMBER 6th



BE SUN SMART

Too much sun exposure and especially sunburns in young children can cause eye damage and can increase the risk of skin cancer in later years. Sun damage is cumulative, which means that the damage builds up with each exposure.

Those at highest risk of skin cancer are those with:

- ♦ Fair skin and blond or red hair
- ♦ Skin that burns and freckles easily and doesn't tan easily
- ♦ Lots of moles or large and unusual moles
- ♦ History of severe sunburns

The good news is that skin cancer is almost totally preventable.

From late spring to early fall, avoid unprotected sun exposure between 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. If your children are outdoors between these times, teach them to:

- ♦ **SEEK** out the shade
- ♦ **SLIP** on clothing that covers arms and legs
- ♦ **SLAP** on a wide brimmed hat and sunglasses
- ♦ **SLOP** on sunscreen with SPF #30 or higher
- ♦ **SLURP** lots of water

For more information contact:

- ♦ HealthLinkBC at 8-1-1 (a free call) or www.healthlinkbc.ca
- ♦ Health Canada www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hl-vs/sun-sol/index-eng.php
- ♦ www.dermatology.ca/skin-hair-nails/skin/sun-safety/



MAKE PHYSICAL ACTIVITY **PART OF THE DAY, EVERY DAY**



Games, climbing, walking, biking, dancing... What do your kids like to do every day? Do they get outside and play? Children may just need the space and time to be active.

"Access to active play in nature and outdoors - with its risks - is essential for healthy child development. We recommend increasing children's opportunities for self-directed play outdoors in all settings - at home, at school, in child care, the community and nature." (Position Statement on Active Outdoor Play, 2015)

What are the benefits?

Better sleep
Better able to handle emotional challenges
Better able to concentrate
Stronger body, both inside and out

The benefits are clear, active kids are healthier and happier, both mind and body!

For more information contact:

Your local [Public Health Unit](#)

[Physical Activity and Sedentary Behaviour Guidelines](#)

[Bring Back Play](#)

[HealthLinkBC and Dietitian Services](#) or dial 8-1-1 and ask to speak to a Registered Dietitian (a free call)

PROTECTING YOUR CHILD'S HEARING

Some hearing facts...

- ♦ **Children have more trouble hearing in noisy environments than adults!** This is because their nervous systems are not mature. Children learn best in quiet, both at home and school.
- ♦ **Noise or loud music can hurt your child's ears!** Firecrackers are really dangerous – they can cause sudden permanent damage. Power tools, lawnmowers and even loud music can damage the delicate inner ear. When your child is around loud noises, protect them with earplugs or earmuffs or better still, avoid the noise.
- ♦ **Do you have concerns about your child's hearing?** Contact a [Public Health Unit](#) Hearing Clinic to arrange a hearing test for your child.

For more information:

- ♦ Your local [Public Health Unit](#) Hearing Clinic

Hearing Clinics:

Victoria	250-388-2250
West Shore	250-519-3490
Nanaimo	250-755-6200
Courtenay	250-331-8526

BEWARE OF BATS!

About 10% of bats in British Columbia are infected with Rabies. Rabies is a virus that is spread to humans from sick bats through bites, scratches, saliva or touching. Rabies is a serious disease and **will** cause death if not treated quickly.

To prevent rabies:

- ♦ Vaccinate your pet dogs or cats.
- ♦ Do not touch bats... **ever**.
- ♦ If you are bitten or scratched by a bat, wash the wound well with soap and water.
- ♦ If you find a bat in your house, leave the room right away. Call the Communicable Disease Program or [HealthLinkBC](#) at 8-1-1 (a free call).
- ♦ If you have **any** contact with a bat, including situations when a bat is in the room and you cannot exclude any possible bite, scratch or mucous membrane exposure (e.g. in a room with a bat, sleeping in a room/tent with a bat), **immediately** call the Island Health Communicable Disease Program, or go to the nearest hospital for a Rabies vaccination.

For more information:

- ♦ Island Health Communicable Disease Program:
 - South Island: 1-866-665-6626
 - Central Island: 1-866-770-7798
 - North Island: 1-877-887-8835
- ♦ [HealthLinkBC](#) at 8-1-1 (a free call)

KEEPING ACTIVE CHILDREN HYDRATED

When children are playing and [active](#) they may need to be encouraged to drink fluids to quench thirst and stay hydrated.

Water is the best choice.

Other choices: refrigerated milk, fortified soy, almond or rice beverages, and 100% vegetable and/or fruit [juices](#).*

***Limit 100% pure vegetable or fruit juice to ½ cup (125 mL) per day.**

To meet daily calcium and vitamin D requirements to help build strong bones and teeth, low fat milk (skim, 1%, 2%) or fortified soy beverages are recommended in the following amounts:

- ♦ **2 to 8 years = 2 cups (500 mL) daily**
- ♦ **9 to 18 years = at least 2 cups (500 mL) daily**

Avoid beverages like pop, iced tea, sports drinks, diet beverages, fruit punches, "drinks" and "ades" (e.g. [lemonade](#)).

Avoid caffeinated beverages, such as tea, coffee, [pop](#) and energy drinks.

More on sports drinks:

Sports drinks have added flavour, carbohydrate – mostly as sugar – and electrolytes, like sodium and potassium. None of these "extras" are required unless activity is vigorous and lasting longer than 1 hour. A meal or snack + water to drink will provide carbohydrate and electrolytes [similar to a sports drink](#), without the extra sugar.

Try providing "watery" foods like watermelon, oranges, [cucumber](#) or smoothies after activity, especially if your child finds it difficult to drink plain water.

For more information:

- ♦ Your local [Public Health Unit](#)
 - ♦ [HealthLinkBC and Dietitian Services](#) or dial 8-1-1 and ask to speak to a Registered Dietitian (a free call)
 - ♦ [Energy drinks and sports drinks](#) (Caring for Kids)
 - ♦ [Sip Smart! BC](#)
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