

École Willow Point Newsletter October 2024

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Dear École Willow Point Families,

Thank you to everyone who attended our Meet the Teacher event. It was a wonderful opportunity for us to get to know our families. We especially enjoyed seeing parents at our Terry Fox Run afterwards.

As a school, we have been working hard assessing our students to see how we can best meet their needs this year. We have also been taking advantage of the last of our warm weather by going on field trips to places like the Quinsam Hatchery, Paradise Meadows, Coastal Black Pumpkin Farm and Holly Hills Farm.

This fall, we are fortunate to have many teachers who are volunteered their time to run extra-curricular activities. Presently, we have volleyball (for grade 4 & 5 students) and the cross-country running club (for gr 3-5 students).

The Leading Ladies Band shared their love of music with us this month. It was an excellent introduction to different instruments. Ask your child about the performance and which instrument they enjoyed the most.

We look forward to the upcoming Halloween Carnival put on by the PAC on Friday, October 18th. We hope to see you there. Have a restful Thanksgiving weekend.

Warm regards,
Carrie La Pierre & Nancy Hwang

PARKING LOT ETIQUETTE

Please do not use the area in front of the school (red & yellow curbs) as a parking area. This area is quick drop off only. If you will be leaving your vehicle, please park in the parking lot. Cars parked in the drop off area cause congestion and danger to our students. **And please do not block neighbor's driveways.**

We are also noticing that families and students are still walking through the staff parking lot. This is very dangerous as when staff are pulling in or out of the lot it is a blind corner. Please do not go through the staff parking lot. Use the sidewalk and stairs.

Thank you for your cooperation

SUPERVISION TIMES

Morning supervision begins at **8:10 am**, students are not to be dropped off before this time. This is a safety issue if students are left outside unsupervised.

After school supervision ends at **2:30 pm**, please have your child picked up by this time. Call and notify the school if you will be late.

Attendance Notifications

We appreciate very much the phone calls and emails advising us of your child's absence. Please remember to include the **reason** for the absence: (illness, appointment, etc.) as we track illness for reporting to VIHA. If your child will be absent for a block of time, please let us know and we can put the absence in for that period of time and not bother you with phone calls home.

Leaving a message on the attendance line is the best way to notify us of an absence. 250-923-4311

Thank you again!





What Halloween Day will look like at École Willow Point
Thursday, October 31, 2024

We are inviting students to come to school in their Halloween costumes on Thursday, October 31. After announcements, classes will be doing a costume parade through the rest of the school. We will also be parading outside in front of the school for parents who would like to stay and see all the students' costumes. We ask that you be sensitive to the younger students. Please leave weapon accessories and scary masks for your evening outing.

A reminder to send an extra set of clothing with your child that day as many classes will be changing at recess time.

Have a safe and happy Halloween

N.B. The staff would greatly appreciate if Halloween candy was left at home. Please do not send it to school with your kids after Halloween.

Thank you for your support

***A REMINDER THAT FRIDAY NOVEMBER 1st IS STUDENT-LED CONFERENCE DAY. (Please only come at your scheduled time) ***

TERRY FOX RUN

We had an amazing turn out for our annual Terry Fox Run, (fueled by Muffins and coffee!) Thank you to everyone who participated and donated to a great cause and keeping Terry's legacy alive. Ecole Willow Point collected \$731.00! Way to go EWP!







Dear EWP Families,

The Scholastic Bookfair will be in the EWP Library Learning Commons from October 28th to November 1st, 2024. Items purchased at the bookfair earn our school rewards that we can use to purchase new books for our Library.

This year, the bookfair will be open to families every day that week except on Halloween (Thursday) from 8:25am to 3:00pm. On Friday, November 1st during Student Led conferences it will be open from 8:00am to 3:30pm.

On Tuesday, October 29th and on Wednesday October 30th each class will have time to browse the bookfair items and make a wish list. The wish list will be sent home with the students and then families can decide what they would like to do. If families wish for their child to purchase the book in-person, please send money or a cheque with the student. Students can then come to the library again during the week to make their purchase.

The library is currently looking for a couple of parent volunteers who would be available to help during the day on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday or on the morning of Monday November 4th. Please contact Mme. Alex if you would like to help!

If you have any further questions, please contact the Teacher Librarian, Mme. Alex Simonut by email: alessandra.simonut@sd72.bc.ca

Thank-you in advance for your support!

Alessandra Simonut
Teacher Librarian



C'est qui?

Have you had a chance to match the pictures to our staff members? See if your family can guess who each one is. The answers will be in the next newsletter.

C'est qui?

The bulletin board features a matching game with the following staff members and their corresponding photo numbers:

- Mme Melissa (2)
- Mme Ross (4)
- Mme Alice (3)
- Mme Kala (8)
- Mme La Pierre (7)
- Mme Flora (6)
- Mme Mireille (5)
- Mme Nathalie (10)
- Mme Hwang (12)
- Mme Jeannie (11)
- Mme Carly (9)
- Mme Dallaire (16)
- Mme Joyce (14)
- Mme Megan (13)
- Mme Custodian (15)
- Mme Jayme (17)
- Mme Maria (18)
- Mme Harrison (1)

There are 6 question marks scattered on the board, indicating missing matches.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAY WISHES!



Silas 01 Rosie O 01 Clarity 03 Eva 04 Chloe 05
Greta 05 Kyleigh 05 William 06 Emiliano 10
River 11 Colin 11 Rowan 12 Benjamin 15
Juliana 20 Makayla 29

Ecole Willow Point School turned “70” on October 6th!!



October 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 Boston Pizza	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 Subway	11	12
13	14	15	16	17 Bar Burrito	18 Halloween Carnival !	19
Happy Thanksgiving				Get Ready to Shake Out. Oct. 19, 2017	🎃🎃🎃🎃	
20	21 D.E.A.R	22	23 Pizza lunch Take me outside day!	24 Katies rice box	25 Pro-D Day	26
27	28	29	30 Photo Retakes	31 Dave's Bakery	Nov 1 Student Led Conferences	
Scholastic Book Fair Oct 28-Nov1st						
				Happy Halloween		

WHO SHOULD GET THE SEASONAL INFLUENZA (FLU) VACCINE

The influenza vaccine protects against viruses that cause seasonal influenza, often called the flu. The vaccine does not protect against other viruses or bacteria that cause colds or stomach illness such as “stomach flu.”

Influenza, often called seasonal flu, is an infection of the nose, throat and lungs caused by the influenza virus. A person with influenza is at risk of other infections, including viral or bacterial pneumonia (infections of the lungs). Influenza spreads easily from person to person through coughing, sneezing, or having close face-to-face contact. The virus can also be spread when a person touches an object contaminated with the influenza virus and then touches his or her mouth or nose.

For more information, or to find out who is eligible for **the free annual vaccination**, please contact: Your Public Health Office

KEEPING YOUR CHILD SAFE ON HALLOWEEN

Trick or Treating can be a risky time for children. Up to about 10 years of age, children do not have the skills to be safe in traffic.

Here are some tips to help keep your child safe:

- Make sure your child has a light and/or reflective clothing
- Have an adult go with your children, especially if they are under 10
- If your child is not with an adult, make sure she is in a group of at least 3 people
- If you are not with your child, make sure you know where he is and who he is with
- Teach your child road safety rules and to look, listen and think about traffic
- Teach your child about personal safety and to never go with anyone they don't know
- Teach your child not to eat treats until a parent has checked them
- Consider alternatives to trick-or-treating, such as a home party or local community centres or malls



LIFE-THREATENING FOOD ALLERGIES AND SPECIAL DAYS

Special days like birthdays, Easter and end-of-year parties are often times of celebration with friends, family and food. However, for students at our school who have life-threatening allergies, these can be very risky times. You can help to keep allergic students safe by:

- Celebrating with stickers, games or prizes instead of food.
- Not sending or bringing peanut, nut, or other allergen-containing products to school.
- Checking in with the teacher/school ahead of time to find out if any special celebrations are planned.
- Remind students to tell an adult right away when they might be having a reaction.
- Make sure the teacher and school staff know what to do if a student has a reaction.



TRICK OR TEETH!

When it comes to Halloween candy and tooth health, the "all or nothing" approach is best. Giving children their Halloween candy over days or weeks is not the best choice. The risk of tooth decay increases with the amount of sugar and the number of times teeth are exposed to it.

Tooth safe suggestions for enjoying Halloween treats are:

- Serve a healthy dinner (or snack) before trick-or-treating. You will know your child has eaten **something** nutritious on this exciting night.
- Limit the number of times teeth are exposed to sugar by encouraging children to eat treats at one sitting. Offer water and be sure to brush their teeth afterwards.
- Cut down on the number of sugary treats children receive by handing out "tooth-friendly" options like stickers, temporary tattoos, fancy pens and pencils, or toothbrushes!

And of course, remember to floss and brush with fluoride toothpaste before going to bed, or there could be some very *scary* results!

For more information:

- Island Health, Public Health - Dental:

Saanich Health Unit	250-519-5100
Esquimalt Health Unit	250-519-5311
Peninsula Health Unit	250-544-2400
West Shore Health Unit	250-519-3490
Duncan Health Unit	250-709-3050
Nanaimo Public Health	250-755-3342
Port Alberni Public Health Services	250-731-1315
Comox Valley Health Unit	250-331-8520
Campbell River Health Unit	250-850-2110
Port Hardy Health Unit	250-902-6071



WHAT IS PHYSICAL LITERACY?

Physical literacy is when kids have developed the skills, confidence, and love of movement to be physically active for life. It allows kids to learn the skills and enjoy moving their body – to walk, run, ride a bike, play sports and be physically active. It is as important as learning to read and write.

Physical literacy:

- Begins when parents encourage movement in infancy
- Develops throughout life
- Can be a gift that is shared between generations

Kids develop physical literacy gradually through a variety of structured and unstructured activities. The nature of these activities changes as kids grow in age and ability.

0-3 years	3-5 years	5-8 years	8-12 years
Encourage early movement.	Expand on play, and keep it fun.	Increase the focus on fundamental movement and skills.	Introduce more complex skills as kids are ready.
Example: Catching bubbles	Example: Head and Shoulders, Knees and Toes game	Example: Red Light Green Light game	Example: Hopscotch game

"Physical literacy is the motivation, confidence, physical competence, knowledge and understanding to value and take responsibility for engagement in physical activities for life."

~ The International Physical Literacy Association, May 2014
[Canada's Physical Literacy Consensus Statement June 2015](#)