NEWSLETTER: 2021 - 2022



Ocean Grove Elementary

3773 McLelan Road, Campbell River, BC V9H 1K2

Phone: 250-923-4266 Fax: 250-923-2589

Email: oceangrove@sd72.bc.ca



Important Dates

Oct. 4th Food Drive Week Oct. 5th Student Photos Oct. 11th Thanksgiving Day NO SCHOOL Oct. 22nd Pro-D Day NO CLASSES Nov. 1st District Pro-D Day NO CLASSES



Bell Schedule

8:25 **School Starts**

10:15 Recess Begins 10:30 Recess Ends

11:55 Lunch Starts

12:25 Lunch Eating

12:40 Lunch Ends

Dismissal 2:10

Ocean Grove Families,

Throughout this school year, Ocean Grove students will continue to deepen their understanding of indigenous teachings through Wildlife Wisdom, activities with our Indigenous Youth Worker (Dani Shemko),

Truth and Reconciliation Day was well attended downtown. Many students, staff and community came out for the walk and learnings. It was a powerful experience. We hope that our intentions will contribute to reconciliation in this territory.

and perhaps some fieldtrips to experience local culture around Campbell River. Through a variety of initiatives, we will strengthen respectful and diverse perspectives that contribute to a healthy school and

community culture with the key elements of BC's curriculum.

A reminder that this week is focused on "giving". For all who are able, we are grateful for the various ways in which you help each other and contribute throughout the community.

Our grade 5 Leadership Students are already getting into the routine of helping our younger children. So lovely to see them out giving up their recess time to monitor in classrooms, and looking for ways to make a positive difference in our school.



Parents, you should be proud of the modelling your children show us and how they represent positive character traits and social behaviours.

Once again, our staff are focusing on the importance of purposeful learning time for all students. Within our district priority on enhanced student learning, you may notice changes to some of our tradi-

tional school-wide events. The first shift you will notice is in relation to our Recognition Assemblies—yes they are back! The learning component of Wildlife Wisdom will take place during small gatherings where students will be introduced to the animals and their traits. Near the end of the month, parents of students being recognized will receive an email invitation to attend a ceremony in the child's classroom. Students will be acknowledged for their understanding and be "held up" (*celebrated) for their special abilities [you will see evidence in the gym and hallways].

Please note: *The act of "holding up" a child, is a traditional way that indigenous peoples use to build confidence and positive relationships with their young people.

As a staff, we feel that these changes will make good use of teaching time and keep celebrations effective for parents, teachers and students.

This school year Raven is the first indige-

nous animal of the year. Through stories, conversations and experiences, we are all learning the meanings of generosity, compassion, creativity and knowledge. We encourage family members to notice and demonstrate the attributes of Raven and ask children about what they have learned.

Regards,

Rhona Soutar (Principal) and Deb Beres (Vice-Principal)

Recent protocols have been updated. Staff and students are expected to wear masks in most circumstances. If you have questions about the recent changes, please contact the Principal or Vice-Principal.

Student Illness & When to Stay Home

Each morning before school parents/caregivers must perform a Daily Health Check and follow the directions as to when students must stay home. This Health Check is available for reference on our school and district websites and is also attached to this newsletter.

Thank you for adhering to this procedure to stop the spread of infections in our community.

Provincial COVID-19 Communicable Disease Guidelines now require masks for kindergarten to grade 3 students. The roll-out begins on Monday, October 4th when all students in BC schools are required to wear a mask when inside a school building, including while at their desks and on buses.

Does your child take the school bus?

All students taking the school bus on a full/part-time basis are required to have a bus pass. This must be applied for on an annual basis.

If you have not done so already, please complete a Bus Pass Application ASAP: <u>click here</u> (SD72 website, Departments, Transportation).



DURING ANY EMERGENCY, our first priority is the safety of our students and staff. In order to provide an effective response to any school crisis, the District has developed an Emergency Response Plan.

Please see the following link for more information: http://hour-zero.com/

A school letter to all Ocean Grove parents/guardians, together with a Student Emergency Release Form, was sent home mid-September with each student. We ask that you return the completed Forms **ASAP**. Please note that the same form may be used for all siblings at this school.

Attendance Notifications

Thank you very much for the phone call and email messages advising when your child(ren) will be absent from school or late.

With 320 students attendance can be a busy time. We require a phone call or email each and every day your child is absent (unless you have pre-notified of a block of dates).

All unexcused absences will result in a phone call home to check if the child is coming to school late or has been excused. Please note that standard procedure is to phone the cell number of guardian one on the child's file. To save us the time of making unnecessary phone calls each day, please communicate your child's absence as follows:

- 1. **EMAIL** "oceangrove@sd72.bc.ca" (link also found on our website), OR **PHONE** 250-923-4266 and leave a message on the Attendance line.
- 2. Provide the following information:
 - student's first and last name
 - your relationship to child (ie: Mom, Dad)
 - days the child will be absent
 - reason for the absence* (illness, appointment, vacation, or otherwise excused)



*This is important as we track the number of students away sick and make reports to VIHA when required.

THANK YOU!

Please note allergy alerts in certain classrooms - our classrooms will be free of these allergens to protect these children.



Please ask the teacher about our birthday treat policy.

Please do not share your snack or lunch with your classmates.

Please wash hands.

Clean hands help you to stay healthy and keep your friends safe.

Thank You!

All visitors & volunteers please take notice below.

Mrs. Kretlow - All nuts & eggs

Mrs. Jarvis - Pistachios & cashews

Mrs. Holland/Beres - Peanuts & pecans

Ms. Watkinson - All nuts & fish

Ms. Menard - All nuts

Tuesday, October 5th

Picture day is coming! We will start in the morning with the kindergarten students and proceed through

the grade levels with grade 5's hopefully completing their photos before lunchtime. After picture day, proofs will be printed by Lifetouch and provided to us to send home with your child.

You can then review the proofs and purchase your photos. Make it simple by ordering your photos online, using your Picture Day ID and child's first name to get started. If you prefer to order on paper, Lifetouch will be sending home an order form as well.

Retake day to be announced when booked.

Fall Fundraiser

The first P.A.C. fundraiser this year will be **CHOCOLATE ALMONDS**. Plans are currently been made as to how to distribute these treats, taking into consideration classrooms with allergy alerts.



Additional information will be sent home by the PAC shortly.

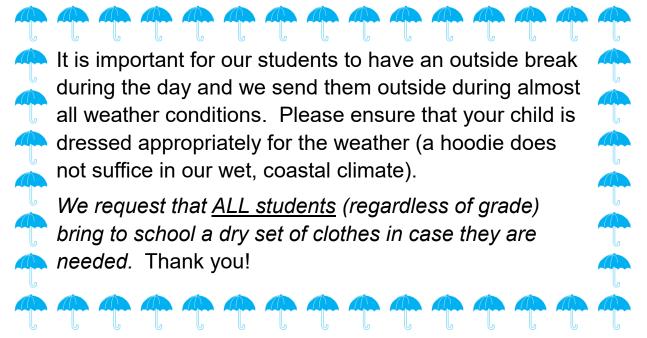
Terry Fox Run

Our school community raised a total of \$502 from the Terry Fox Run.

Our students and staff committed to running on a very rainy day.

Way to go Ocean Grove!





White Hatter Virtual Parent Education



SD72 DPAC invites you to participate in free parent education offered virtually through White Hatter. Learn what you need to know to keep your children safe online.

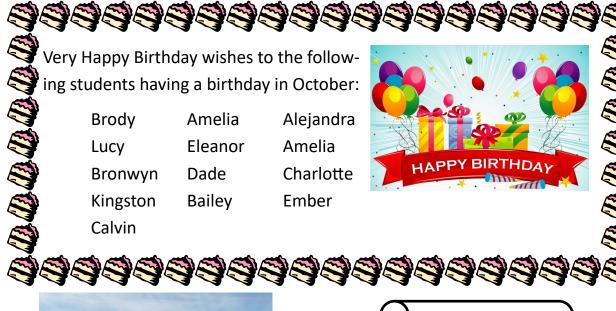
Oct 5th	7pm-9pm	Social Media Safety and Digital Literacy for Parents	
Oct 19 th	7pm-8:30pm	Online Gaming: Facts, Fears and Mental Wellness – What Parents Need to Know	
Nov 2 nd	7pm-8:30pm	Online Predation and Exploitation: What the Risks and What Can Parents Do to Reduce the Risk	
Nov 9 th	7pm-8:30pm	Sexting, Nudes, and Intimate Images: What Is Really Happening, What Does the Law Say, and What Parents Need to Know	
Nov 16 th	7pm-8:30pm	The Dark and Dangerous of The Internet: What Parents Need to	

Watch the DPAC Facebook page (SD72—District DPAC) for registration instructions for each presentation. If you can't attend the original presentation, the links will be available for 48 hrs. afterwards to watch a recording.



Our school is holding a **THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE** the week of October 4th, and donations of non-perishable food items (please check expiry dates) will gladly be accepted until 9 am on Friday, October 8th. Thanks for your community support!

Very Happy Birthday wishes to the follow-





Ahoy mateys!

Mr. Jarvis' grade 2/3 "Crystal Cave" students had a little fun with pirate

day in September.

SD72 has provided each student with a reusable mask. As they all look the same, please label your child's masks with their name.



The Great British Columbia ShakeOut

Annual Provincewide Earthquake Drill

Our school will once again participate in the Great British Columbia ShakeOut annual, provincewide earthquake drill in October. For more information and resources that your family can use, please see https:// www.shakeoutbc.ca/.



Daily Health Check for Students

Updated February 16, 2021

Parents and caregivers must perform a daily health check and follow the directions as to when students must stay home:

SYMP	TOMS	WHAT TO DO
Fever (above 38° C)ChillsCough	 Loss of sense of smell or taste Difficulty breathing 	1 or more of these symptoms: Stay home and get a health assessment.
 Sore throat Loss of appetite Headache Body aches 	 Extreme fatigue or tiredness Nausea or vomiting Diarrhea 	If you have 1 symptom: Stay home until you feel better. 2 or more of these symptoms: Stay home and wait 24 hours to see if you feel better. Get a health assessment if not better after 24 hours.

If you are a close contact* of someone who has COVID-19 and have any of the symptoms listed above: Get tested and stay home.

When a COVID-19 test is recommended by the health assessment:

- If the COVID-19 test is positive, the person must stay home until they are told by public health to end their self-isolation. In most cases this is 10 days after the onset of symptoms. Public health will contact everyone with a positive test.
- If the COVID-19 test is negative, the person can return to school once symptoms have improved and they feel well enough. Symptoms of common respiratory illnesses can persist for a week or more. Re-testing is not needed unless the person develops a new illness. BCCDC has information on receiving negative test results.
- If a COVID-19 test is recommended but not done because the person or parent chooses not to have the test or a-health assessment is not sought when recommended, and the person's symptoms are not related to a previously diagnosed health condition, they must stay home from school until 10 days after the onset of symptoms, and then may return if feeling well

If a COVID-19 test is not recommended by the health assessment, the person can return to school when symptoms have improved and they feel well enough. Testing may not be recommended if the assessment determines that the symptoms are due to another cause (i.e. not COVID-19).

Stay Home When Required to Self-Isolate

The following students, staff or other persons must stay home and self-isolate:

- A person confirmed by public health as a case of COVID-19; or
- A person confirmed by public health as a close contact of a confirmed case or outbreak of COVID-19; or
- A person who has travelled outside of Canada in the last 14 days.

Anyone required to self-isolate will be supported by public health. Additional information is available from BCCDC.







You will be notified by Island Health if you are a close contact.



October 1, 2021

RE: Updated Provincial Health Orders for Schools

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We hope this message finds you well. I wanted to ensure you have been updated on the new provincially mandated mask protocols at schools, as we share a common goal in keeping students and staff safe.

You are likely aware that British Columbia has been experiencing higher numbers of COVID-19 cases due to the Delta variant. Earlier today Dr. Bonnie Henry announced new provincial public health measures for K-12 schools. The announcement expanded the mask mandate to now include students in kindergarten to grade 3. The Ministry of Education has issued clear direction for the use of masks for ALL students in the updated Provincial COVID-19 Health and Safety Guidelines for K-12 Settings.

Effective October 4, all students from kindergarten to grade 12 will be required to wear non-medical masks in all indoor areas, including when they are at their work stations (desks/tables), and on school buses.

Exceptions to the mask policy include:

- · A person who cannot tolerate wearing a mask for health or behavioural reasons
- A person unable to put on or remove a mask without the assistance of another person
- If the mask is removed temporarily for the purposes of identifying the person wearing it
- If the mask is removed temporarily to engage in an educational activity that cannot be performed while wearing a mask. For example:
- Playing a wind instrument
- · Engaging in high-intensity physical activity
- If a person is eating or drinking
- If a person is behind a barrier
- While providing a service to a person with a disability or diverse ability (for example, a
 hearing impairment), where visual cues, facial expressions and/or lip reading/movements
 are important

In order to be in compliance with the health order we ask that you send your child to school in a clean mask that they are used to wearing. The district will also be providing each K-3 student with a reusable mask and schools will have disposable masks available at the office should a student forget their mask.

The Ministry of Education has put this order in place until further notice. We would also like to take this opportunity to remind all parents, guardians and visitors that they are required to wear masks anytime they enter one of our schools.

As always, perform <u>daily health checks</u> and stay home if you are sick, keep your distance and practice good hand hygiene.

If you have any questions, please contact your school principal. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jeremy Morrow

Superintendent of Schools