



THE COAL TIPPLE

Coal Tyee Elementary School Newsletter
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PRINCIPAL: Mr. Doug English

SECRETARY: Mrs. Jill Williamson & Mrs. Karen Dendes

<http://schoolsweb.sd68.bc.ca/coaltyee>

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Students and teachers have been working very hard since the beginning of the New Year. Many initiatives in literacy, numeracy and social responsibility have been presented in the classrooms. Second term reports are just around the corner, they will be handed out to students on Wednesday, March 9th. Parent teacher conferences will not be scheduled for second reports, however, if you wish to meet with the teacher, be sure to request an appointment. There is a check box on the front of the report card envelope.



HEAD LICE

This is the time of year when head lice may show up in your child's hair. To prevent the spread of head lice among children at our school, we ask that you check your child's head weekly for the presence of head lice.

The wet combing technique is now recognized as the best method for detecting lice and their nits.
(brochures on wet combing are available at the office).

If you detect head lice on your child, we ask that you notify the school, and treat immediately. Avoid using head lice shampoos. They may no longer be effective in killing all lice and their nits, and may cause skin irritation. Inexpensive conditioner and special lice combs, used as directed, will eliminate lice from your child's head. Hair conditioner and lice combs are available at most drug stores.

Remember that head lice are a nuisance. They do not carry disease, are not a health risk, and do not mean that your child is dirty. Early detection and appropriate treatment will significantly limit the spread of head lice in our school.

More information is available from the Public Health Nurse (250-755-3388).

Thank you for helping to prevent head lice from becoming a problem. Your cooperation is very much appreciated.

PLAYGROUND FUNDRAISING

We have been looking at a couple of designs for our new playground and it's time to start thinking about how we are going to pay for it. The committee will be looking at several fundraising ideas as well as applying for grants to make our project a reality. More information will be coming home to parents soon.

COAL TYEE ATHLETICS



Basketball season is underway and we have four teams competing in the NETPEA league this year. Over fifty kids have signed up to represent Coal Tyee.

Our Pee Wee girls' team (Grade 5-6) is coached by Mr. Ingalls. Our Pee Wee boys' team is coached by Mr. English. Our Bantam girls team (Grades 6-7) is coached by Tim Franklin (sponsored by Mrs. James) Our bantam boys' team is coached by Kevin Theobald (sponsored by Ms. Dickie). Good luck to all teams.

STUDENTS PHONING/TEXTING HOME DURING THE SCHOOL DAY



We have noticed an increased number of communication devices being brought to school, especially by our older students. As a result, students are using these items during classroom instructional time to text, send messages or view or take photos. Needless to say, these activities are interfering with lessons, other student's personal space and students' ability to learn.

A reminder to students and parents that cell phones, should not be used during the school day to text, send messages, view or take photos or videos. Occasionally teachers may give permission to students to use their devices utilities, such as calculators and music players etc.

Children are able to use the telephone in the office or just outside the office if they need to contact a parent or caregiver during the day, after asking for and receiving teacher permission.

If your child calls or texts you from his/her cell phone during the school day you can assume it is without staff permission. These sorts of phone calls or texts can often disrupt the learning environment of an entire class.

Also, the school cannot be responsible for these items should they be lost or stolen.

In emergency situations, parents are reminded to call through to the office and someone will ensure the message is passed along to your child.

LEAP PROGRAM

The Leisure Economic Access Policy (LEAP) program provides access to the City of Nanaimo recreation facilities for families in Financial Need that are living in the City of Nanaimo, City of Lantzville and the surrounding areas, including Electoral Areas A, B, and C. Eligible LEAP cardholders will be issued a Swim/Skate/Gym Pass for 50 free admissions throughout the year. In addition, cardholders are entitled to a 50 percent course fee discount (to a maximum of \$40) for 4 courses per year. Application can be picked up at the office or downloaded on line at:

<http://www.nanaimo.ca/assets/Departments/Parks~Rec~Culture/Publications~and~Forms/leapform.pdf>

ABSENCES OR LATES

If your child is absent or late for school please phone the school as early as possible to notify the office (and preferably before 8 AM). The school office does have a 24 hour voice mail and you can leave a message stating your name, your child's name, grade and teacher. This will avoid the phone call from the office to you in the morning, as well as help us to ensure all students are accounted for as quickly as possible. On the topic of lates please ensure your child arrives to school by 8:38 am. Being late to class can impact your child's day as critical information (ie: shape of the day) is covered early on, as are the morning announcements. Being late can also cause distractions for students and staff.

2016 SATISFACTION SURVEY

The Ministry of Education will be once again have students (grade 4, 7, 10 and 12), staff and parents complete the "Satisfaction Survey". The survey takes about 5 to 10 minutes to complete. The annual *Provincial Satisfaction Survey* provides information to support discussions about improving student achievement at each school. The survey gathers perceptions from students, parents, and staff on areas including achievement, human and social development, and safety. This year, the surveys will be scheduled between January and mid-April, 2016. We encourage parents to participate in this survey, as the results are important in identifying and celebrating current strengths, as well as determining where the school needs to focus improvement. The surveys contain standard questions for the Province - in addition, questions from the school and/or district that focus on local conditions or issues may be included.

This year, the survey can be completed electronically and can be accessed on the Internet at:

www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat_survey/access.htm

LEAP INTO SAVINGS

LEAP into SAVINGS - RESP Sign up Event
Monday, February 29, 2016
1:30pm-5:30pm
Main Hallway, Coal Tyee Elementary

It is easy; it only takes about 7 minutes.

It is free; you don't need to contribute any of your own money.

If your child was born in 2004 or later there are free government grants that can help your family save for your child's education after high school.

All you need to bring is a social insurance number for yourself and for the child. (apply for child SIN card ahead - please refer to www.servicecanada.gc.ca)

For every family that signs up at the event (or through StartmyRESP.ca/viu) the Coal Tyee PAC will received \$15 that goes towards supporting important projects at your school.



ANTI BULLYING DAY (PINK SHIRT) WED FEB 24TH

On Wednesday, February 24th we would like to encourage students and parents to wear pink to school for anti-bullying day. The Ministry of Education has a guide developed to assist parents regarding bullying behaviour and other safety issues with the E.R.A.S.E. program. The guide can be found at: www.erasebullying.ca/

OPEN HOUSE - AFFORDABLE MUSIC LESSONS

The Pacific Gael Youth Pipe Band is a cutting edge performance pipe band for 8-25 year olds in Nanaimo and District. The Youth Pipe Band provides unique development opportunities for its young members and an exceptional musical experience for its audiences. The PGYPB is a dynamic, exciting, and modern spin on the traditional pipe band experience, and performs both at home and abroad.

We are a non-profit organization that is committed to providing piping, drumming, and dancing instruction on Thursday evenings for our members. No experience necessary. Come to our Open House at Branch 256 Legion on E. Wellington Rd. on February 25th at 7:00pm. For more information, please send an email to info@pacificgael.com or visit our website at pacificgael.com



DATES TO REMEMBER

Feb 22	District Pro D
Feb 23	School Based Pro D
Feb 24	Anti-Bully Day - Pink Shirt Day
Feb 29	Leap Year
Mar 9	PAC Meeting
Mar 9	Report Cards Home
Mar 11	Spring Break Begins
Mar 25	Good Friday - School not in Session
Mar 28	Easter Monday - School not in Session
Mar 29	Classes Back in Session