



THE COAL TIPPLE

Coal Tye Elementary School Newsletter
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<https://ct.schools.sd68.bc.ca/>

MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICE

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. It is absolutely amazing how fast the year has gone so far.

PEER CONFLICT ? MEAN BEHAVIOUR ? BULLYING ? What's the difference?

When children have problems with their peers, it can be hard to know what is really happening - is it bullying, or something else? Each situation must be handled differently to keep children safe and help them learn how to get along with others. Peer CONFLICT is a natural part of growing up. Children sometimes disagree and resort to saying mean things or acting out physically. If the children involved are close in age and equally upset, adults can usually help them talk it out and see each other's perspective. Sometimes children try and assert themselves by saying or doing MEAN things (poking fun, name calling, excluding a play-mate, or butting in line ("budging"). Such acts are usually spontaneous, not planned, and may be aimed at any child nearby. When adults see mean behavior, they should respond respectfully to stop it and redirect the children towards positive behaviour. A quick response prevents MEAN behaviours from escalating into BULLYING, which is a serious behaviour that generally has three key features: Power Imbalance; Intent to harm and usually repeated over time. The child being bullied is always fearful and distressed, unable to stop the bullying on their own. Adults must address bullying behaviours and also reassure the children witnessing it that the situation is being dealt with. School staff also helps the child who has been doing the bullying to own their actions and change their behaviour. Staff monitors to ensure the bullying stops, and supports the victim in re-gaining confidence and a sense of safety.

PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT



The playground installation crew began work on our first piece of new equipment. The Omni Spinner should be in place by Spring Break. The Omni spinner will be located in the existing playground near the three large tires. We hope to have the second piece of equipment in place by the end of this school year.



Oodle Swing – Phase 2

PORT THEATRE PERFORMANCE

We received some excellent news last week. Mrs. L our awesome music teacher put Coal Tye in a draw to be able to perform at the Port Theatre free of charge and wouldn't you know it Coal Tye was drawn. We are going to have our intermediate spring performance at the Port Theatre on Monday May 27, 2019.

GARDEN GRANT

A huge thank you to our local Garden Guru Kris Holman. This is the second year that Kris has been successful securing a financial grant to support the garden program at Coal Tye. The Whole Kids Foundation Garden Grant for \$2000 has been given to Coal Tye. We were one of 600 successful applicants from a pool of 900. Way to go Kris!



DROP OFF/PICK UP ZONES

We noticed more and more people dropping and picking up students along the driveway in front of the school. This area is not a drop off or pick up zone. This area is reserved for district school busses, the two after school care busses and vehicles with disability privileges. Please use the area on Sun Valley in front of the school as a pick up and drop zone. If you need to park your vehicle, please consider using the abundance of extra spots in the staff parking lot near the swings, or parking on Mountain Vista. On a parking note, please ensure the driveways of our neighbours are not blocked, as this can be troublesome getting in and out of driveways in the morning or afternoon.

COAL TYEE ATHLETICS



Basketball season is underway and we have Four teams competing in the NETPEA league this year. Over thirty students have signed up to represent Coal

Tye. Pee Wee girls' team (Grade 5-6) is coached by Mr. Ingalls. Bantam girl's team is coached by Ms. Dickie. Pee Wee and Bantam boy's team are both coached by Mr. English.

CHOCOLATE FUNDRAISER FOR PLAYGROUND

Again, this year we will be giving students the opportunity to sell World's Finest Chocolates to help raise money for our playground. Chocolates arrived last week and have been distributed to students that have brought back permission forms. Students will have until the end of Spring Break to sell the chocolates.

STUDENTS PHONING/TEXTING HOME DURING THE SCHOOL DAY



There has been 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 device's utilities, such as calculators and music players etc. If a student needs to contact a parent or caregiver during the day, they are able to use the telephone in the office of just outside the office, 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.

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.

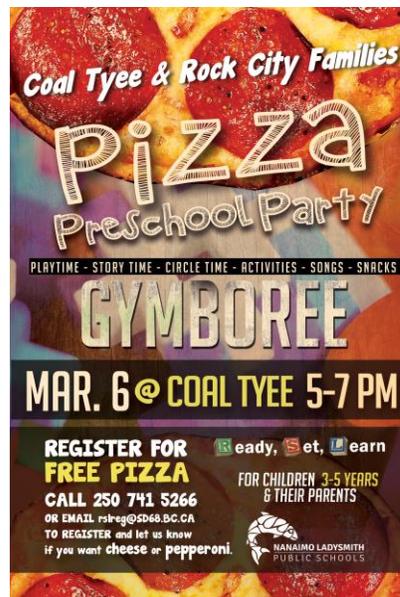
Remember that head lice are a nuisance. They do not carry disease, are not a health risk, and do not mean that your child is dirty. Early detection and appropriate treatment will significantly limit the spread of head lice in our school.

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.



Ready, Set, Learn



Coal Tyee will be hosting a Pre-school Pizza Party Gymboree on Wednesday March 6th from 5-7 pm. This free event is for 3-5 year olds. To register for the event and pizza choice (cheese or Pepperoni) please call 250-741-5266 or email RSLREG@sd68.bc.ca

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 area, including Electoral Areas A (Cranberry, Cedar, South Wellington), B (Gabriola Island), and C (Extension, East Wellington).

Eligible LEAP cardholders are entitled to a 50 percent course fee discount (to a maximum of \$40) for four courses per year. In addition, participants will be issued to receive a Swim/Skate/Gym Pass for 50 free admissions throughout the year. Some programs may not qualify for the discount. Applications can be picked up at the office or downloaded online 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 8:00 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.

FUN LUNCH UPDATE

Our awesome "Lunch Ladies" continue to organize fun lunches for the students and staff of Coal Tyee. Jen and Abby want to make payment a little easier for parents and have created an account that will accept e-transfers. If you are interested in using this method of payment the email to send payment is: ctfunlunch@gmail.com Password: FunLunch

2018 SATISFACTION SURVEY

The Ministry of Education will be once again have students (grades 4, 7, 10 and 12), staff and parents complete the "Satisfaction Survey". The survey takes about 10 to 15 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 March and May. 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 on 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



DATES TO REMEMBER

Mar 13 PAC Meeting
Mar 15 Spirit Day
Mar 15 Last day of classes before spring break
Apr 1 Classes back in session

INCLEMENT WEATHER



It appears that the cool wet weather will be with us for a while. Without a doubt, there will be many days students will ask the question "Is it an inside day?" The answer on most days will be "no". Students will be going

outside to play at lunch recess unless it is raining heavily. We thank you for ensuring your child comes to school with appropriate rain gear and cool weather clothing including rain or snow boots depending on the conditions. At Coal Tye we believe in the importance of fresh air and outside play for all students and appreciate your assistance in this regard. It is also advisable for students have a change of clothes in their school bags.

SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

Appropriate communication between the school and home is a key component towards developing relationships in the school learning community. Research suggests that open lines of communication result in a more positive learning environment for both students and teachers. With such a variety of communication methods available to us these days (i.e. facebook, twitter, email, etc.) it is very easy to use a communication tool that will not effectively help solve problems or issues that have occurred at school. At Coal Tye, we would like to encourage open lines of communication through the following methods:

1. If you have a classroom concern, please contact the teacher directly by calling the office to set up a time to meet and discuss the issue.
2. If your concerns are more school-wide, please contact the Principal at the office.