

Coal Tye News Flash



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OUR SCHOOL'S NAME CHANGE – VOICES FROM OUR STUDENTS

Staff are working with students to help them understand the reason for changing the name of the school. Using both the settler story, and the story from Snuneymuxw, students are making connections to why changing the name of the school is the right thing to do. The following are two examples of student voice about the name change process and the learning associated with it. The first example is from Solace Leggett, Gr 7 from Ms. Tye's gr 6/7 class, while the second is from Olivia Wolfe, Gr 6 student from Ms. Dickie's grade 5/6 class.

Coal Tye Name

We are changing the name of Coal Tye Elementary, and I think it is great. The name Coal Tye is racist and the story they told to everyone was actually wrong. I'm so glad they are changing the name finally. Even though it might be special to some people, which makes sense because it's been Coal Tye for so long, it is really, really importance they do it. The story behind the name is that there were some settlers who needed coal, so they went to a "chief" who had great coal. They had said he was the "Coal Tye" which meant chief of coal. What really happened was an indigenous man who WASN'T chief gave coal to the settlers even though he was not supposed to. There was a story that the indigenous people told to their children that the coal belonged to the orca whales and that if you touched it it would disturb the whales. That man didn't care and was shellfish. He got lots of money and European things because he gave the coal. The settlers also made sure the man didn't do any work and was treated like a king. We have a picture in our library of a chief holding guns in a coal cart even though the indigenous peoples didn't have guns. Only now after more than a decade we are realizing that the name and the story are wrong. We should honour the indigenous peoples and change the name.

Coal Tye Elementary renaming

History and schools can be very connected. Often schools are named after historic figures from the community. This is true of my school, Coal Tye. Is that the right thing to do? What do you think? This is my opinion on how my school got its name.

Have you ever wondered where your school's name came from? Well ours come from an indigenous man name Ki'et'Sa'Kun. He was named Coal Tye after bringing the Hudson Bay men to Nanaimo where he knew there was plenty of coal. He was named "Chief of Coal". Supposedly our school is on this big coal mine, where there was a lot of coal, so the district board office decided to name this school Coal Tye after Ki'Et'Sa'Kun. At the time they thought they were doing something good and kind, which in some ways it was, but after doing research, people on the re-naming committee found that the indigenous men and women don't name places after people.

Our school is getting re-named because, right now our school name is named after a Snuneymuxw man named Ki'Et'Sa'Kun, also known as Coal Tye, and in their indigenous heritage they don't name places after other people. That is a big reason why our school is changing our name. Our name is also connected to coal and the elders thought coal was this black rock connected to orca, and if you touched this black rock an Orca would come and kill you.

It is true that most school names are named after historic figures, but I think it's time for a change. To me I think change is good, but other people could think differently than me. That was my short story on how my school got its name.

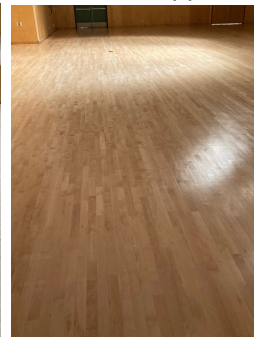
The instruction on the name change ties directly to our school goal on Truth and Reconciliation, and to the school district's Syeyutsus Reconciliation Framework. As Cohen Saretzy, grade 5 wrote in his reflection, "Because when we know better, we do better".

TRACK AND FIELD – ZONES MEET

Approximately 80 students in grades 3-7 were given permission slips this week for the upcoming Zone Track and Field Meet, scheduled for Rotary Bowl on June 2. We will be competing against 6 other schools – Bayview, Qwam Qwum, Quarterway, Georgia Avenue, Pleasant Valley and Cilaire. We plan to have students practicing for their individual events and the relays over the next 3 weeks. This will be the second last time Coal Tye jerseys will be worn – the final event will be for students who qualify for the District Track Meet on June 16.

THE GYM RE-DO – WEEK 2

Huge progress was made this week in the refurbishing of our gym floor. Once the old finish was removed (mostly by hand), the floor was sanded removing all the old lines. The first coats of varnish have now been applied. Look!



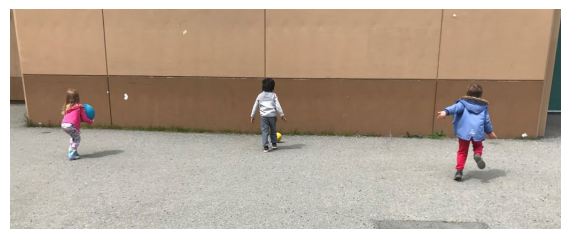
Week one – getting rid of the old finish

Week two Sanded and ready for varnish

First coats applied!

OUTSIDE PE

With some interesting pivots due to uncooperative weather, our shift to outside PE is going well. Catch some of the action from Mrs. Jahelka's and Mrs. Jones' K classes as they enjoyed using the equipment we have moved to the outdoor storage room.



CHILD GOING TO BE AWAY?

Email Info.ct@sd68.bc.ca or call us at 250-729-0450.

FIELD TRIPS GALORE!

The excitement was palpable this week as multiple classes boarded school busses for offsite field trips. Div 14 went to Victoria, Div 3 & 4 went to Bowen Park, Div 6 & 7 went to the fish hatchery to release their salmon fry, and Div 11 went to VIU for the Extreme Science Show. Here are some pics from Div 11's adventure – they were very happy that the show was indoors as their trip was on the coldest and wettest May 12 in years!



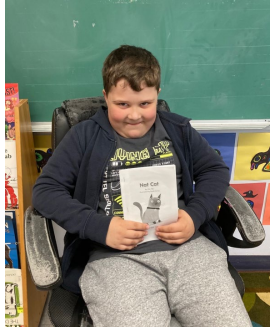
CALENDAR UPDATES

Please note that all the events are on our school website <https://ct.schools.sd68.bc.ca/> thanks to Mrs. Lundine's careful attention to detail!

Tuesday	May 17 – Ruploops Human Radio performance – 9:30 (Good thing we are good at virtual things!)
Wednesday	May 18 – Gr 7 orientation @ Wellington
Thursday	May 19 – Class and School Photos
Friday	May 20 – Freezie Friday and Popcorn Sale
Monday	May 23 – Victoria Day – Enjoy the holiday!
Tuesday	May 24 – Lockdown drill with RCMP support
Thursday	May 26 – Month End Assembly
Friday	May 27 – Freezie Friday and Popcorn Sale
Wednesday	June 1 – Div 3, 4 and 5 to Swy-a-lana
Thursday	June 2 – Zone Track and Field Meet – Permission Slips have been sent home
Friday	June 3 – Welcome to Kindergarten! 9:30-11:00
Friday	June 3 – Freezie Friday and Popcorn Sale

CELEBRATING SUCCESS!

It is a big day when you get to read a book to your class, especially when you have been working super hard at breaking the code of our not so easy to learn English language! Congratulations!



CREATIVE FUN

Dr. Charles! Come see! I made the school! On one of the rare sunny long recesses, my friend from Division 8 spent his long recess creating the school out of sand. He did admit that one of the portables “got stepped on!” The picture really doesn’t do his work justice!



GARDEN CLUB

The heavy rain on Thursday didn’t stop our enthusiastic Garden Club members from working with Ms. Lupichuk to get more of our baby plants into the ground. They were able to “wash” their hands in the large puddles close to the garden beds!



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INTRAMURALS – FLAG FOOTBALL

Mr. Paugh is once again working with students at long recess, this time with our Flag Football intramurals. We were able to include grade 4s this time, for their first chance of what it feels like to be part of a school team. Here are some action shots from the game today.



Did you know that there is a very active Facebook Group, managed by our PAC?
Please check it out! <https://www.facebook.com/groups/471883669518929/>



Join the Facebook Group!
Family and Friends of Coal Tye Elementary School
stay in touch with all that is going on.



The new way to order hot lunch!



The salmon have been released - next creatures to watch as part of learning about life cycles are these caterpillar larvae! How many will eventually emerge as butterflies in June?