



THE COAL TIPPLE

Coal Tye Elementary School Newsletter
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<http://schoolsweb.sd68.bc.ca/coaltyee>



ANTI BULLYING DAY (PINK SHIRT) WED FEB 22ND

On Wednesday, February 22nd 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/

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.



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 the district

school bus, 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 three, maybe teams competing in the NETPEA league this year. Over thirty kids have signed up to represent Coal Tye.

Our Pee Wee girls' team (Grade 5-6) is coached by Mrs. Godfroid (sponsored by Mrs. Taylor and Mrs. James). Our Pee Wee boys' team is coached by Mr. English and Mr. Hoover. Our bantam boys' team is coached by Mr. Pinckney (sponsored by Ms. Dickie). Good luck to all teams.

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 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 from 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 8:00 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.

2017 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 February and April, 2017. 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

INCLEMENT WEATHER



It appears that the cool wet weather will be with us for a while. Without a doubt, here will be many days students will ask the question "Is it an inside day?" The answer on most days is 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 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 students have a change of clothes in their school bags.

CURRENT CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

Chess Club - (Afterschool Wed) Library
Geek Club - (Lunch Mon, Wed & Fri) Library
Drama Club - (Lunch Tues) Library
Games Day - (Lunch Wed) Gym
Basketball - (Lunch Mon) Gym

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.



DATES TO REMEMBER

Feb 20 District Pro D - school not in session
Feb 21 School Based Pro D-school not in session
Feb 22 Anti-Bully Day - Pink Shirt Day
Mar 3 Recognition Assembly
Mar 8 PAC Meeting
Mar 17 Spring Break Begins
Apr 3 Classes Back in Session
Apr 7 Recognition Assembly
Apr 11 Jump rope for Heart Assembly
Apr 12 PAC Meeting
Apr 14 Good Friday - school not in session
Apr 17 Easter Monday - school not in session