



# THE COAL TIPPLE

Coal Tye Elementary School Newsletter  
2280 Sun Valley Drive, Nanaimo, BC V9T 6P1  
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January 2017, Newsletter #5

PRINCIPAL: Mr. Doug English

SECRETARY: Mrs. Jill Williamson & Mrs. Adrianna Furlan

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

## DRESSING FOR WINTER

Welcome back. I hope everybody had a great winter break. I would like to remind parents that we expect our students to go outside to play during our

recess breaks. This is a healthy activity. Thank you for sending your children to school prepared for the cold, wet winter conditions. It is also helpful for students to have spare clothing available at school in case they get wet or fall in the mud.



## SNOW RULES AT COAL TYEE SCHOOL

We'd like to remind parents and students of the "snow" rules at Coal Tye Elementary School. The following rules are enforced for the safety of students:

- There is "no snowball throwing" on the grounds
- Students are not to participate in activities that may injure other students - face washing with snow, kicking chunks of snow/ice, etc.
- No sliding devices to be brought to school

It is important that our students understand the rules and our concern that snowballs can cause serious injury, especially to a person if struck in the eye.

## GUIDELINES FOR SICK KIDS - "WHEN DO I KEEP MY CHILD AT HOME?"

Please keep your child at home if he or she:

- ◆ Is vomiting (2 or more times in the past 24 hours)
- ◆ Has a body rash especially with a fever or itching
- ◆ Has diarrhea (3 or more watery stools in 24 hours)
- ◆ Has an eye infection (thick mucus draining from the eye)
- ◆ Has a sore throat with a fever or swollen glands
- ◆ Has a fever of 100 degrees F. or higher AND sore throat, rash, vomiting, diarrhea, earache or is just not feeling well. Is just not feeling well (unusually tired, pale, lack of appetite, confused and cranky)

Please be sure to have back-up childcare if your child is ill. We would also ask you to remember to phone the school office (250 729-0450) if your child won't be attending.



## STUDENT ABSENCES

If your child is going to be away from school for the day or a period of days please give the secretary a call so that we can document the appropriate reason.

## PARENTS HELPING CHILDREN: Managing anxiety, stress and maintaining mental wellness

Presentation delivered by Jerry Boychuk M.Ed.

An information session provided to parents and caregivers of children/youth who may be struggling with managing anxiety, stress, mood, and maintaining mental wellness.

Children struggling with mental health issues achieve better outcomes when their caregivers are informed and involved in their treatment.

Wellington Secondary School  
3135 Mexicana Rd.  
February 16<sup>th</sup> 2017 @ 6:30pm

All parents and caregivers in the community are welcome



## A NEW WAY TO REGISTER 2017/2018

A new convenient and streamlined **online** process to register your child in Nanaimo Ladysmith Public Schools **Online registration will begin Wednesday, January 11, 2017 at 8 a.m. PST.**

- Kindergarten
- French Immersion
- Late French Immersion
- Departure Bay Eco School
- Secondary Academies
- School Transfer

## To register online you will need the following:

- A valid email address
- Snapshot or scan showing proof of your child's age and citizenship (ie. birth certificate, passport, care card etc.)
- Snapshot or scan showing proof of BC residency (ie. driver's license, utility bill, mortgage document etc.)

Register @ [www.sd68.bc.ca](http://www.sd68.bc.ca)

For more information email: [ereg@sd68.bc.ca](mailto:ereg@sd68.bc.ca)  
Registration is online only



Every child deserves an education free from discrimination, bullying, harassment, intimidation and violence. The ERASE (Expect Respect and A Safe Education) bullying strategy is part of the Province of British Columbia's efforts to personalize learning and supports for all students. For more information check out the website [www.erasebullying.ca](http://www.erasebullying.ca).

### MEETING WITH STAFF MEMBERS



First thing in the morning, 8:40, as well as right at the end of the day is a particularly busy time in classrooms with students getting ready to start or finish their school day and parents picking or dropping students to and from class. At 8:40 teachers are

trying to start their classes and at 2:30 trying to help students as they leave for the day. These times are not appropriate to be having conversations with teachers about students as privacy of students, including your own child, cannot be guaranteed in this environment. Teachers are always happy to meet with parents, please contact the office and a message will be left for the teacher of your child to contact you to schedule an appointment.



### JULY IN JANUARY

The next school spirit day is July in January. Students are encouraged to wear their summer clothes and accessories on Friday January 20<sup>th</sup>. Students and staff will be having a picnic lunch in the gym that day with summer music and games.

### FOUNDATION SKILLS ASSESSMENT 2017

In January and February, **all Grades 4 and 7 students in British Columbia** will be taking the provincial Foundations Skills Assessments (FSAs) in reading comprehension, writing and numeracy.

This year, the FSAs will be administered between January 16<sup>th</sup> and February 17<sup>th</sup>. Each of the three assessments has two components - a written component and an online component. A 'walk-through' of the assessment is available on-line at:

[http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/assessment/fsa/sample\\_tests.htm](http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/assessment/fsa/sample_tests.htm).

The FSAs have been administered every year since 1999 and they provide a provincial, system-wide measure of achievement for elementary students. These tests provide a snapshot of information that tells parents, teachers and schools in each district across the province how well students are doing in reading, writing and numeracy. The assessments are based on the learning outcomes of the curriculum and the results help educators plan for improving student achievement.

The tests are mandatory for all Grades 4 and 7 students. The few exceptions include:

- students with IEPs documenting a disability that significantly impacts their performance in reading, writing or numeracy and who cannot meaningfully participate in all or part of the assessment, even with adaptations,
- students with IEPs who would need extensive adaptations or who would need such extended periods of time as to create a hardship for the individual student,
- English-as-a-Second Language students who have not yet reached a level of proficiency sufficient for them to provide meaningful responses.

Parents can request that the Principal excuse a student in the event of a family emergency, a lengthy illness or other extenuating circumstances. Extenuating circumstances are those which are unforeseen, unexpected, and significantly disruptive and beyond a student's control. The FSA results do not make up part of a student's report card marks, but parents may wish to discuss the results with their child's teacher. Individual tests and results will be sent home to parents on or before March 31, 2017.

For more information about the FSAs, visit the Ministry of Education's website at:

<http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/assessment/fsa/>

### MINISTRY OF EDUCATION SATISFACTION SURVEYS

All grades 4 and 7 students will be participating in an electronic survey about their level of satisfaction with current educational programs and also their personal wellbeing within the school confines. The survey will be conducted in the computer lab under principal and/or teacher supervision. The parent survey information will be sent home as well. Please complete the survey at your convenience. Thank you.

### VOLLEYBALL

Coal Tyee Pee Wee and Bantam girls have been involved in the NETPE volleyball league since before Christmas. We have two teams that have demonstrated improved skills and excellent sportsmanship. I would like to thank Ms. Dickie and Mr. Pinckney for working with Pee Wee girls and Mr. Ingalls for working with the Bantam girls. The boys will be putting a team in the playoffs which will begin the last week of January.



### BASKETBALL

Basketball season starts in early February and ends by mid-April. If you are interested in helping with coaching or refereeing please contact Mr. English. We are currently looking for sponsors and coaches for all four of our teams. Volunteers coaching teams will be required to go through a criminal record check. We are also in need of referees for our basketball season (schedule TBD). If you are interested in officiating or coaching or need more information please contact Mr. English at 250-729-0450

## SPIRIT WEAR

Our fall order of Coal Tye Elementary Spirit Wear was delivered just before Christmas. Many students and staff ordered school clothing and it is nice to see them wearing the school logo proudly. We will be sending out another order after spring break for those families that are interested and missed the first order, we do have some extra items at the office that can be purchased. If you are interested, please see Mrs. Williamson.



## NON-INSTRUCTIONAL DAYS

February 20th and 21st are non-instructional days. On these days, staff will be involved in various professional development activities provided by teacher leaders and administrators around the district. The school will be closed on these two days.

## TRAFFIC SAFETY

Please do not park in front of the school on Sun Valley Drive between 8:30 a.m.—9:00 a.m. and 2:15 p.m.—2:50 p.m. as this is a Kiss & Go Drop Off and Pick Up area only during these times. If you are dropping off your child please consider using the area near the swings or on Mountain Vista Road in order to reduce congestion on Sun Valley Drive right in front of the school. If you want to park at the school please use the parking lot near the swings or park on the street along Mt. Vista Drive. **Also, please make sure you are not blocking sidewalks, crosswalks or any other restricted parking areas.**

## BIKE SAFETY

During the winter months there is less daylight. This increases the dangers on the roads with students cycling to school in very poor lighting conditions. It is very important that students wear brightly coloured clothing or reflective tape so others can see you better. Ideally, the importance of having proper lighting affixed to their bike is the best way to allow for others to see you best as a cyclist. Just a reminder, it's against the law to ride a bicycle without a red rear light and a white light on the front when riding at night. Also always wear your helmet --- "It's your last line of defense!"



## SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

Our garden and playground committee will be starting to meet more frequently as the weather starts getting better. If you are interested in joining either of these committees, please call the office and leave your name and number. This year we are hoping to complete phase two of the garden project and begin ground preparation for the new playground.

## COAL TYEE EMAIL LIST SERVE

Subscribe to our school newsletter! Because of the Canadian Anti-Spam Legislation, we require parents' consent to send you our school newsletter via email. By signing up here: [https://wwwssl.sd68.bc.ca/Parent\\_Subscription/Subscribe.aspx?Schoolcode=coal](https://wwwssl.sd68.bc.ca/Parent_Subscription/Subscribe.aspx?Schoolcode=coal) you are giving your consent and you will receive the school newsletter to your email address. Alternatively, you can email [subscribe-coalteeelementary-news@listsrv.sd68.bc.ca](mailto:subscribe-coalteeelementary-news@listsrv.sd68.bc.ca). If you do not receive a confirmation email, be sure to look in your Spam folder. You can unsubscribe from this service at any time.

## COAL TYEE WEBSITE

Our school website contains an assortment of information that may be of interest to students and parents. We can be found on the web at:

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



## DATES TO REMEMBER

|                            |             |
|----------------------------|-------------|
| July in January Spirit Day | January 20  |
| Symphony Member Visit      | January 20  |
| School Performance         | January 24  |
| Recognition Assembly       | February 3  |
| Interim Report Card        | February 10 |
| BC Family Day              | February 13 |
| Valentine's Day Spirit Day | February 14 |
| Grade 4's to Symphony      | February 17 |
| Non-Instructional Day      | February 20 |
| Non-Instructional Day      | February 21 |
| Pink Shirt Day             | February 22 |