

Eye of the Cyclone

Cilaire Elementary School

25 Cilaire Drive
Nanaimo BC V9S 3C9
School website:

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<http://schools.sd68.bc.ca/cila>



Principal: Mr. M. Ireland
Secretary: Mrs. D. Ludvigson

December 7, 2009

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Can you believe that it is almost 2010? My, but this first term has flown by. Students and staff have been working really hard and the reports that came out last Friday demonstrate that hard work. I thoroughly enjoyed reading each child's report card and hearing of their growth in so many areas. Our students have worked diligently since the start of this year and made great gains in their learning – well done!

We're gearing up for our annual Christmas Concert that will take place on Tuesday the 15th of December. The concert will include all classes. Concerts are at 10:00 a.m. (dress rehearsal) and 6:30 p.m. We encourage you to attend the ten o'clock performance if you can as the evening performance is always FULL!

To help with planning from a school perspective, we sent home a notice home last week that highlights the activities happening at school during December. It is a busy season; we hope to make it fun and enjoyable too!

We are looking forward to a great December. Thanks for continuing to support both your own child(ren) and the larger Cilaire community.

Mr. Ireland

PRINCIPAL'S ENCOURAGEMENT



Principal's Encouragement is a time when students are more formally recognized for an accomplishment or service they have made in the school. Students from each class are selected and sent to the office to meet with the principal to be acknowledged for work they have done. Be sure to check out the bulletin board between Mr. Hird's and Miss Scott's room which will display the students that are recognized each week. The students recognized this month are:

Jordyn Crema, Devon Kruger, Sam Laidlaw, Jack Park, Rose Bolivar, Maya Long, Bethany Morley, Rachel Gueulette, Christian Clifton, Ben Whiting.

SCHOOL WIDE RUNS AND CILAIRE KILOMETER CLUB

Each Wednesday morning before lunch and each Friday afternoon all of our students head out for a school wide run. We all gather on the lower field (11:30 am on Wed., 12:50 pm on Fri.) for a short warm up, then head down the driveway to Cilaire Dr. where we head on a 1.5 km run/walk around Cilaire Drive. This has been a great way to promote fitness. Parents are welcome to join us for our run/walk on Friday afternoons if you are available – the best way to promote fitness is to model it! ☺

Congratulations to the following students for their Kilometer Club milestones!

25 Kilometre - Chloe Lewis, Elliott Dunbar, Emily Brandstaetter, Kalib Furlong, Blake Wessel, David Briones, David Svenstrup, Jasmine Schultz, Michael Briones, Yiorgos Vassilopoulos, Mitchell Nelson, Nicolaas Kouwenhoven, Quinn Dusenbury, Shalayna Harrison, Spencer Strutt, Dylan Strutt, Stew Brown, Linnaea Holden, Katelyn Irving, Megan Isaachsen, Wyatt MacKay, Asfand Saeed, Alexa Cambridge, Michael Ewanyshyn, Joey Chi, Leanna Milligan, Megan Nelson, Hudson Richards, Savanna Bice, Maya Thompson, Ben Whiting, Rose Bolivar, Jordyn Crema, Rachael Gueulette, Devon Kruger, Maya Long, Bethany Morley, Ben Villares, Jack Park, Ethan Blott, Xanthe Day, Owen Peace, Nolan Pritchard, Gabriel Enns, Ethan Hall, Zoe Malainey, Parris Mook Sang Forbes, Daniel Mottahedah, Paige Mushenski, Owen Oakley, Rowan Sholberg, Carter Smith, Austin Spandier, Casey Kent, Shivam Thakur, Amanda Anderson, Brianna Aquino, Shyenne Bice, Jillian Boomer, Jacob Houtman, Chloe Hunt, Jesse Park, Ethan Olynyk.

50 Kilometre - Josie Laidlaw, Kierra Anderson, Seth Loewen, Jack Park, Sam Laidlaw, Raya Jecklin, Chloe Hunt, Savanna Jecklin.

75 Kilometre - Kylie Hoffman, Chloe Hunt, Savanna Jecklin.

100 Kilometre - Leora Middleton, Chloe Hunt

125 Kilometre - Leora Middleton, Chloe Hunt

150 Kilometre - Chloe Hunt

SPORTS REPORT

District Cross-Country Champions - Small Schools

We had over forty students (all six teams) qualify for the District Cross-Country Meet held on Thursday, November 5th at Rotary Bowl. Despite the horrible weather, our Cilaire runners competed hard. Even though we only had one runner, Leora Middleton (6th bantam girls) finish in the top 10 of their races, our runners finished high enough in their races for Cilaire to finish 1st in the Small Schools division. A big congratulation to the following students:

Tyke Girls (first – small schools): Ella Olesen, MacKenzie Kerr, Savanna Bice Chloe Hunt, Alexis Charles

Tyke Boys (third – small schools): Ben Whiting, Eric Labas, Spencer Richards, Ethan Loewen, Jacob Williams

PeeWee Girls (second – small schools): Jessica King, Kierra Anderson, Emily Coutu, Savanna Jecklin, Natasha Jensen, Hana Villeneuve, Josie Laidlaw

PeeWee Boys (third – small schools): Jared Sladde, Nic Kouwenhoven, David Svenstrup, Max MacKay

Bantam Girls (first – small schools): Kylie Hoffman, Leora Middleton, Kiah Loewen, Grace McCheyne, Sydney Howlett, Megan Dodds, Rachel Mayer, Leora Gueulette, Kate Mason-Betts

Bantam Boys (second – small schools): Luke Swabey, Jordan Jenkins, Sam Browne, Hunter Gackstatter, Shivam Thakur, Simon Svenstrup, Riley Aquino, Sean McAuliffe, Jake Webber.

Volleyball



We are into the fourth week of the volleyball season. Cilaire has four teams involved in the small schools division of the NETPEA volleyball league: Bantam Boys (Mr. Drexhage, coach); Bantam Girls (Mr. Ireland, coach); PeeWee Boys (Mr. Gillies, coach); and PeeWee Girls (Ms. Scott, Mrs Rogers, Ms. Jones, coaches). Good luck to the teams as they continue in their league play.

BEFORE AND AFTERSCHOOL SUPERVISION

Please note that there is no supervision available for students prior to 8:25 AM and after 3:00 PM. We would request that you make arrangements with friends, neighbours, or relatives if must drop your child off prior to 8:30 or pick them up after 3:00. Thank you for your cooperation.

FLU SEASON



Flu season is upon us so please follow the guidelines of being scrupulous about hand washing and sneezing or coughing into handkerchiefs or the crook of your arm. If

you feel sick stay home until you are better. Sick kids need to be at home and we will be asking parents to pick up students who feel ill. As H1N1 is the predominant flu this year there are likely to be cases in our Nanaimo and Cilaire community. If you have questions about Swine Flu call the Public Health Office. They are the ones that provide public information and announcements.

SCHOOL CLOSURE REMINDER



Occasionally, schools are temporarily closed on short notice for emergency reasons. A heavy snowfall is the most frequent reason for emergency school closure; however, individual schools can also be closed because of power or heating failures. The following emergency school closure situations are possible.

- **Morning school closures** – announcements will be on local radio stations: Wolf 106.9 FM and Wave 102.3FM by 6:45 a.m. or go to the school district website - <http://www.sd68.bc.ca/>
- **Schools may be dismissed during the day and students sent home.** – When schools are closed during the day, radio stations will have announcements. If this were to occur, parents and caregivers would be contacted before students were dismissed.

The Superintendent of Schools, in consultation with the Transportation Supervisor, makes the decision to close schools. In most circumstances the school district does not close schools early (in the middle of the day) because of the concerns associated with ensuring that there will be someone there when students arrive home early.

CHRISTMAS FOOD DRIVE

Once again this year we will be having a Christmas Food Hamper Drive to benefit those families and persons in need. This year we are once again supporting the Salvation Army. The Special Events Committee (grade 6 and 7 students) will have boxes in each classroom to collect non-perishable food items. If you are able to contribute some non-perishable foods to our food hamper drive, please send them with your son/daughter **Friday December 4th to Thursday, December 17th (by 9:00 am.)**. The Salvation Army will pick up the food items and distribute



it to needy families prior to Christmas. Some suggested items are:

Canned Salmon or tuna	Canned ham	Canned fruit
Canned vegetables	Canned beans	Cranberry sauce
Jam (500 ml)	Soda crackers	Kraft Dinner
Stove top dressing	Dry cereal	Cookies
Tea (Orange Pekoe)	Juice (1 L)	Rice
Instant coffee (small)	Ground coffee	Sugar
Soup – large and small cans	Peanut Butter (500 ml)	

Thanks in advance for your community support and generosity.

DIVISION 4 – METIS DAYS



On November 19, Ms. Scott's class (Division 4), attended the Metis Days Celebration at North Oyster School. The class had a great day taking part in many games and activities during this celebration of the Metis culture.

SCHOOL EDUCATION PLAN REPORT

Cilaire's School's Education Plan includes a goal of improving student achievement in literacy. Here is what is currently happening at Cilaire.



Questioning is one of the strategies that successful readers use to better understand what they are reading. As parents, you can model this strategy by using the following questions when you read with your child. With practice your child will then be able to use this strategy on their own.

Below you will find a list of possible questions to help you with conversations about your child's reading. They are not intended to be used all at once or every time you read with your child. Use them at your discretion and where they are appropriate. Happy Reading!!

Questions to ask before you read

- Can you look at the pictures and predict what you think will happen in this book?
- What makes you think that?
- What characters do you think might be in our story?
- Do you think there will be a problem in this story? Why or why not?
- Does the topic/story relate to you or your family? How?

Questions to ask during the reading

- What do you think will happen next?

- What can you tell me about the story so far?
- Can you predict how the story will end?
- Why do you think the character did _____?
- What would you have done if you were the character?
- How would you have felt if you were the character? (use different characters)
- As I read _____, it made me picture _____ in my head. What pictures do you see in your head?
- As you read, what are you wondering about?
- Can you put what you've just read in your own words?

Questions to ask after reading

- Can you remember the title?
- In your opinion, was it a good title for this book? Why or why not?
- Were your predictions about the story correct?
- If there was a problem, did it get solved?
- What happened because of the problem?
- Why do you think the author wrote this book?
- What is the most important point the author is trying to make in his writing?
- What was your favorite part of the story?
- If you could change one thing in the story, what would it be?
- Can you retell the story in order?
- If you were _____, how would you have felt?
- What is the most interesting situation in the story?
- Is there a character in the story like you? How are you alike?

Why did you like this book?

FAMILY READING NIGHT WITH THE NANAIMO CLIPPERS

You are invited to the whole school reading night with the Nanaimo Clippers. Some of the Clippers will be here to read with the students. You will have a chance to get a closer look at the Library resources, find a cozy corner to read with your son/daughter, try out the Accelerated Reader program, and visit with other Cilaire families.

Date: January 21, 2009

Time: 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm

Place: Cilaire library and Student Support Services room

PAC NEWS

Bottle Fundraiser

There will be a Bottle Fundraiser in the Cilaire parking lot in the morning of December 9 2009! Drop off the children and drop off any refundable bottles/cans at the same time! This is an easy



fundraising opportunity. Watch for this new fundraiser every second Wednesday of the month from your Cilaire PAC.

Pac Sponsored Magazine Sales

While the PAC sponsored magazine sales are officially over, you can still renew/order through the year. You can renew/order on-line at www.ccrp.ca . Please use the campaign order code **BC650**



BOARD SEEKS FACILITIES FRAMEWORK FEEDBACK

The Board of Education is seeking feedback on a draft facilities framework which outlines the guidelines the Board would follow when creating its capital plan. The capital plan outlines the district's priorities for new construction and renovation of schools.

The draft framework can be viewed on the district's website at www.sd68.bc.ca. To provide feedback on the framework:

- Mail a letter to the Board of Education, School District 68, 395 Wakesiah Ave., Nanaimo, B.C. V9R 3K6 or fax to (250) 741-5309.
- Submit an online feedback form, available on the district website www.sd68.bc.ca.
- Drop in to discuss the framework with trustees in an informal, open-house format.
 - Saturday, January 16 – McGirr Elementary drop in anytime between 10 a.m. and 12 noon
 - Saturday, January 16 – Chase River Elementary drop in anytime between 2 and 4 p.m.

Please note that all feedback is due by January 20.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE - BECOME A FOSTER PARENT

By Margaret C. Howley, Executive Director
Foster Parent Support Services Society

The most important job in every society is caring for children, and in every society, there will be children whose families are temporarily unable to look after them. In the Vancouver Island Region there are over 1,500 children and youth living in foster care, and we need more foster family homes.

Foster families provide stable, nurturing homes for children and youth who come into care of the government, and ensure that they have a safe place to live and people to care for them. A family environment is

the preferred living arrangement for children and youth, so, in partnership with the Ministry of Children and Family Development, the FPSS Society has embarked on the "Foster Hope" foster parent recruitment campaign to find Vancouver Island families who are willing to take on the important job of caring for our communities kids.

Foster parenting can be an incredibly rewarding experience. It can also be challenging and frustrating at times, so it is important to take the time to consider if it is right for you and your family. People decide to become foster parents for many reasons, but all share a love for children and the desire to help those in need. Our foster parents will tell you that it is the small things make it all worthwhile. A smile. A hug. And then there's the big thing ... knowing you have genuinely made a difference in the life of a child or youth.

Fostering is:

- one family helping another family in their community;
- a community service that has immense rewards for both families and children;
- about helping children return to their own homes;
- supporting children to move to new permanent homes;
- helping children maintain contact with their own family and culture.

We are always looking for safe, stable, and nurturing families who can welcome children of all ages into their lives. There are many ways you can become part of the fostering community, such as becoming a full time foster parent, a respite/relief care provider or discovering the many ways you can help spread the word.

Foster parents are from many different backgrounds and life experiences. Some are married with families of their own and some are single; some live in common law relationships or with same sex partners. There are foster parents who own their own homes and foster parents who rent.

What all foster parents have in common is a commitment to caring for children who are coping with a very difficult time in their young lives. Children do not need perfect foster parents, but they do need adults who are committed to caring for them.

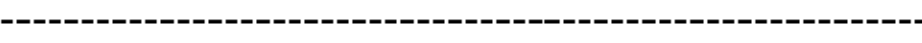
All children need and deserve to have the support of a nurturing and loving family. *Do you have room in your heart ... and in your home for a child in care?* Find out more at www.fosterhope.ca or by calling toll free 1-888-922-8437. Together ... we CAN make a difference.

DATES TO REMEMBER

December 7	1:15 pm – Fine Arts Performance – Axis Theatre
December 9	8:20 - Bottle/cans drop-off – school parking lot
December 9	PAC Mtg. – 3:00 pm – Library
December 10	Division 5 to VIU – Dance
December 11	Division 3 & 4 – Swimming
December 11	Hot Lunch orders due
December 15	Christmas Concert
December 16	PAC Hot Lunch
December 17	Grade 6 dinner
December 17	Grade 5 – 7 Christmas Dance
December 17	Last day for Salvation Army hamper donations
December 18	Movie Day?
December 18	Last day of classes
January 4	School reopens from the Winter Break
January 11	OPT for Health Education – Grades 4, 6, 7
January 18	OPT for Health Education – Grades 4, 7
January 21	Family Reading Night

NEWSLETTER CONTEST

Winners for the October 6th newsletter draw were: Jared Sladde, Dylan & Spencer Strutt, Brandon Crum



NEWSLETTER RESPONSE SLIP

The newspaper response slip will be used to draw 3 names for prizes each month. Once you have read the newsletter, return the slip below with your son/daughter to put it in the draw box, three names will be drawn at the month end assembly. If you have any questions or comments regarding the information in this newsletter, you may also include them below. Thank you



Student's Name: _____

Division: _____

Date: _____

_____ **Yes, I would like to receive the Cilaire newsletter, etc via email. My email address is:**

_____ @ _____

Comments:
