



1025 Morningside Drive, Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6C3  
Telephone: 250-758-5711 Fax: 250-751-1873  
Website: <http://schools.sd68.bc.ca/hamm>  
School Year: 2011-2012  
Issue #4 – December 15<sup>th</sup>

Principal: Francine John  
Vice-Principal: Sharyn Andruski-Collins  
Secretaries: Karen Matthews  
Cheryl Olson

## **Principal and Vice Principal Message**

We would like to thank our PAC Executive for their strong leadership and for all their hard work this year! They have spent countless hours behind the scenes working on various projects and activities that make Hammond Bay a very special place for our students and their families. We have many dedicated parents who help out with classroom or/and school related activities. Remember that the PAC includes all parents of the school. Please attend meetings and become active with the PAC sponsored activities. Many of the student activities are only possible because of the fundraising events organized. No contribution is too small, and every little bit of help is very much appreciated. A huge thank you to everyone!

We also would like to thank our staff for all the learning opportunities they offer to our students during and after school hours. Your enthusiasm and dedication are noted. Merci!

As well, we would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a very happy and safe holiday season. May this New Year bring you good health, strong family ties and renewed energy to achieve your goals. It is a pleasure working with all of the Hammond Bay families and we look forward to continuing to work with the children, their families and staff of Hammond Bay School. Joyeux Noel! et Bonne Annee!

Sincerely,  
Francine John and Sharyn Andruski-Collins



## **Welcome**

We would like to welcome Cheryl Olson who is our new Assistant Secretary and will be working in the office on Tuesdays and Thursdays. We also welcome Sandi Bassett who is our new Supervision Aide.

## **Salvation Army**

Thank you to parents for donating non-perishable food items for the Salvation Army's Christmas Hamper program.

## **Student Council Activities**

### **Green, Red & White Day – December 16<sup>th</sup>**

Wear your festive Christmas colours to school on Friday, December 16<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you to Mme. Laura Harrison and the Student Council members for all of your hard work organizing various Christmas activities and a bake sale to support education in developing countries.

## **Grade 7 Band Performance**

Grade 7 band students will perform for families in our gym on Friday, December 16<sup>th</sup> from 12:15 – 1:00 p.m. Thank you to Mr. Chappell for organizing this performance. Donations will be accepted at the door to help out with their year end trip.

## **Christmas Sing-a-Long Sessions**

Students, staff and parents have been taking part in our carol sing-a-long sessions. Students had fun singing their favorite holiday songs in French and in English. Our last session will be on Thursday at 11:00 a.m.



## **Dressing for winter**

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.

### Lost and Found

All lost and found articles are displayed in the main hallway. We invite students and parents to claim lost articles. Unclaimed articles/clothing will be donated over the Christmas break.

### Snow Rules at Hammond Bay

Groups of students (primary/intermediate) are invited to take turns using the hill at recess. I would like to remind students:

- that there is “no snowball throwing” on the school grounds.
- students are not to participate in activities that may injure other students such as face washing with snow, kicking chunks of snow or ice, etc.

Our students have been very respectful of these rules but it is important to remind everyone that we must enforce these rules because snowballs may cause serious injury, especially if they hit a person in the eye.

### Games and Electronics at School

We are asking that parents ensure that students keep any of their electronics, Game Boys, DS Lites, Ipods, MP3 players etc...at home. Also, trading cards such as Pokemon, Chaotic and Bakugon games should be left at home.

We are finding that these items are starting to interfere with lessons in the classroom, and run the risk of being lost or stolen at school. The school cannot be responsible for these items should they be lost or stolen and we certainly do not want them to interfere with the learning in the classroom. Your cooperation in this matter is appreciated.



### 2011-2012 School Calendar

December 16	Last day before Winter Vacation
January 3	School Reopens
February 20	District PRO D Day
February 21	School-Based PRO D Day
March 16	Last day before Spring Break
March 26	School Reopens
April 6	Good Friday
April 9	Easter Monday
April 23	School-Based PRO D Day
May 14	School-Based PRO D Day (Secondary)
May 21	Victoria Day
June 28	School-Based PRO D Day (Elementary)
June 29	Administrative Day school closed

### Library News

Students are encouraged to take books home over the holidays. December 16<sup>th</sup> will be the last day for book exchange in 2011 at Hammond Bay! Do plan

on returning library books during that week to then make a fresh choice to last a couple of weeks.

Parents are also welcome to drop by and select favourite stories to share over the holidays. Stories read and retold in a warm, cosy place or while sharing a warm drink around the table strengthen family ties. Looking for a book to give to a child this Christmas? Here is a list of books compiled by SD 68 Teacher-Librarians, along with a brief plot summary and targeted age group to help you.

Title:	Author:	Sentence and grade level:
The Gingerbread Baby Gingerbread Friends	Jan Brett	Beautiful story and illustrations. For grades K-3.
A Porcupine in a Pine Tree – A Canadian 12 days of Christmas	Helaine Becker	A Canadian spin on a classic. All ages.
Inventions of Hugo Cabret	Brian Selznick	“an illustrated novel in which neither text nor pictures can tell the story alone”. For intermediate students.
Moon and Stars	Robin Muller	Wonderful story, beautiful illustrations.
The Worst Case Scenario Handbook	Joshua Piven	Good choice for those looking for a book with short and funny chapters.
The Book of Awesome (3 titles in the series)	Neil Pasricha	A very popular series for grade 7 and above.
Unwind	Neil Shusterman	For older readers; this book will be popular with readers who liked the Hunger Games
La Nouvelle Maitresse  (In French, with audio disk)	Dominique Demers	For ages 10-12, this story depicts classroom life with humour and originality.
Caramba	Marie-Louise Gay	This story affirms courage and uniqueness. Primary students.
Heir Chronicles Series and  Seven Realms Series	Cinda Williams Chima	For grades 6 and 7 and secondary.  Exciting fantasy series for readers who enjoyed the Percy Jackson series.
Knuffle Bunny (3 titles)  Pigeon Books (4 titles)  Elephant and Piggie (for beginning readers)	Mo Willems	Very funny and popular with primary students. Make great read alouds.

Traction Man	Mini Grey	A lovely picture book about the power of imagination. A boy and his action figure survive perilous adventures. The story and illustrations are great fun. Ages 5 -8.
Winter is the Warmest Season	Lauren Stringer	A lovely picture book.
Horrible History Series (Non-fiction)	Terry Deary	<i>“History with the nasty bits left in!”</i> For intermediate students.
The Rangers Apprentice Series	John Flanagan	Popular with boys 11 and up, a fantasy series about Will, a 15-year old boy who is chosen to become a Rangers’ apprentice and must help protect the fate of the kingdom.
Stick Man	Julia Donaldson Axel Scheffler	A witty, rhyming Christmas title great for primary children. Follow the adventures of Stick Man in a dangerous world as he tries to make it back to the family tree in time for the holidays.

Thank you parent library volunteers... the time you give helps put books in the hands of children!

Thank you PAC volunteers for having hosted the Scholastic Book Fair in November. A great success! Such initiatives help put a variety of books on our library shelves!

*Warm winter wishes filled with wonderful stories!*

Pam Boutin, Library Clerk  
Robert Lussier, Teacher-Librarian

### **Central Island Youth Soccer Academy**

Central Island Youth Soccer proudly presents our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Christmas Soccer Camp. The camp will run December 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> from noon to 3pm at Nanaimo’s New Turf Field (beside Merle Logan). This is a developmental camp for boys and girls from ages U9-U15.

Drop the kids off with us and let them burn off some pre-Christmas energy, while you finish up your shopping!! For more information about the camp and to print off the registration form, please visit our website at [www.ciysa.ca](http://www.ciysa.ca).

### **PAC NEWS**

Thank you to all parents who supported the Hammond Bay PAC this year. Happy Holidays and we look forward to another great year!

### **Christmas Sing-a-long**

The PAC is hosting a Christmas sing-a-long and a craft night on Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. in the gym. All families are invited to attend. At the end of the evening we will do the raffle draw.

### **French Immersion Review Report**

The French Immersion Review Report is available on the School District website at [www.sd68.bc.ca](http://www.sd68.bc.ca).

### **Scholastic Book Fair Rockets to the Top!**

We shot for the moon and went beyond our goal for a grand total of \$4,189! This is \$1200 over last year’s sales. Most importantly, our fundraising efforts have raised more than \$2200 in books and learning resources for our library and our students.

Thank you to all our volunteers, Hammond Bay families and teachers who supported this event with your time and your purchases.

Geronimo Stilton would also like to thank all his loyal fans for visiting with him at the book fair and for all their kind words. “Happy reading everyone! Please come see me and my sister Thea next time you are in New Mouse City!”

Congratulations to all our Caught In the Act...of Reading Contest Winners! We have some very creative and avid readers. Hope you are enjoying your new books! Also, congratulations to Madame Mundy and Madame Letwin , who each won \$25 in books for their classrooms. Madame Mundy’s class had the most contest entries with 16 photos and Madame Letwin won our door prize.

Mystery Reader contest winners were announced on Wed., Nov. 23.

The Scholastic Book Fair was a huge success. We hope you all had a great time and are loving reading your “out of this world” books.

*“The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you’ll go.” - Dr. Suess*

### **January Movie Night**

We will have another movie night in January featuring “Kung Foo Panda 2”. Watch for more information coming home in January.

### **Next PAC Meeting – January 16<sup>th</sup>**

The next PAC Meeting will be held on January 16<sup>th</sup>, at Serious Coffee, 7:00 p.m.