

Prospect Lake Elementary

321 Prospect Lake Road, Victoria, B.C. V9E 1J7

Phone: 250-727-331 Fax: 250-479-2927

School e-mail: admin_plk@sd63.bc.ca

School website: www.sd63.bc.ca (and follow the link)

EARLY MORNING WATCH: **250-727-9993**

Principal: Mark Guiguet

mguiguet@sd63.bc.ca



Once again December is here and Winter Vacation is just around the corner. The children are excited in anticipation of coming events and the school is buzzing with such things as seasonal art, singing, gingerbread houses and skating. However, this year we are also preparing for a Farewell Assembly to celebrate the teaching careers of four of our long standing and dearly loved teachers who will retire at the end of December. Mrs. Curry, Mrs. Primrose, Miss. Morris and Mrs. Miller have touched the lives of countless children and families over their years at Prospect and, although we are so pleased for them, they will be dearly missed. Their leadership, wisdom, collegiality and kindness have been a corner stone for Prospect and it has been our good fortune to have these dynamic educators at our school for so many years. On behalf of the children, families and staff at Prospect Lake Elementary, thank you for all that you have done and enjoy your well earned years of retirement.

Mark Guiguet



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Dec. 9-19 Toy and Food Drive
- Dec. 6, 13 & 19 Winter Singalongs @ lunch
- Dec. 11 Poinsettia Pick Up 2:00 – 6:00
- Dec. 12 Medieval Feast 5:45
- Dec. 17 Gingerbread Houses
- Dec. 18 Skating @ Panorama 12:30
- Dec. 19 Farewell Assembly 12:45
- Dec. 23-Jan. 3 Winter Break
- Jan. 6 School reopens
- Jan. 22 Ready Set Learn: Open House at all Elementary Schools 3:15 – 6:00
- Jan. 29 District Kindergarten Information Evening: 7:00 – 8:30 at Sidney School.

WE WILL MISS YOU



FAREWELL ASSEMBLY

Please join us at 12:45 on December 19th for our Farewell Assembly where we will pay tribute and say good bye and to our retiring staff members: Mrs. Curry, Mrs. Primrose, Mrs. Miller and Miss. Morris.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU TO.....

Mrs. Miller, Mrs. Curry and all of the parent volunteers who made our recent Scholastic Book Fair a great success.

To all the parents that have helped with the following:-

- Safe Arrival program.
- Hot Lunch, Fruit and Vegetable Program
- Decorating and organize the gym for our Medieval Feast.
- Poinsettia sale
- Purdy's fundraiser
- Gingerbread houses
- and all the other numerous events that have taken place so far this year!!!!

WET WEATHER CLOTHES

It is rare that we do not spend time outside during lunch or recess play time. During the winter the weather is usually wet and students are prone to getting wet or muddy. If your child is one of those people who often gets wet it is a good idea to send some additional clothing from home in a plastic bag (inside their backpack - extra socks are also helpful!). Then your child can change and put their soiled clothing in the plastic bag to take home. Our entire playground entire playground is wet and soggy and boots are also well advised.

LOST AND FOUND

Please remember to check out our Lost and Found in the central foyer. Many items of clothing remain unclaimed and these will be sent to a local charity over the Winter Break

THE GREEN TEAM

 The Green Team is sponsored by Mrs. Harward and the children work hard every Friday during their lunch time to recycle for our school. Their leadership through dedication and strong work ethic is much appreciated. The Green Team wishes to thank all students who sort and clean their own lunch wrappers and containers. They really appreciate these daily efforts at recycling. *Any parents willing to volunteer on Friday from 11:15-11:45 to help our Green Team with recycling, please contact Mrs. Lisa Harward.*

COMMUNITY CLUB

 Ms. Kelt has sponsored the Community Club during her teaching practicum at Prospect. Members of this club gave up their lunch recess once a week to make a positive difference in their community. This year, these big-hearted students decided that they wanted to let children who are struggling with a disease or illness know that they are not alone. The students put together

beautiful packages that included a hand-made card, a hand-made bookmark, a sparkly pencil and two brand new books. In December they delivered them to Jenece Place, a home for sick children and their families who come from out of town to stay while receiving treatment at the Victoria General Hospital. Each child who stays at Jenece Place was offered one of these packages, which put a smile on their face!

EXTRA-CURRICULAR

Indoor Soccer Club was sponsored by Mrs. Evans and Miss. Morris this year and they finished their season with a jamboree at Claremont in November.

The Swim Club will begin on January 13th. Practices will take place at Commonwealth Pool. The club will again be sponsored by Mrs. Hamilton and Mrs. Schwann and will accommodate all interested swimmers in grades 3, 4, or 5 who are capable of swimming 25 m (one length) of front crawl.

A Juggling Club will begin in January at lunch time on Wednesdays.

The Garden Club has been sponsored by Mrs. Tate and will continue to meet on a weekly basis in the New Year.

CHECK IT OUT

NEWS FROM OUR SCHOOL LIBRARY

The recent **Library Book Fair** was once again successful, thanks to our fabulous parent volunteers & community support. We realized \$511 worth of new books for Prospect Lake Library and about \$300 in cash for purchasing more resources. As we have done before, some funds were donated to **PlanCanada** to purchase a package of books for a school in Africa.

We also made a donation to assist with printing *The Paper Mache*, a local newspaper of elementary student work. Many of our students have contributed to the December edition of this freely-distributed paper, which will be out by Dec. 19!

This is also a bittersweet **good-bye** to our beloved Prospect Lake Library. We have so enjoyed sharing our student's enthusiasm for books, as well as the wonderful projects and ideas they have created. As Mrs. Miller and Mrs. Curry enter a new chapter of our lives, we consider ourselves enriched by having been a part of the Prospect Lake community. Thank you for all your support through the years and don't forget to take time to enjoy & share a good read!

We trust that everyone will welcome Melissa Bourdon, our super new Teacher-Librarian starting in January! We know she will continue to encourage our students in their reading and learning.

Sincerely,
Pat Miller & Wendy Curry



EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSURE

The emergency closing of a school is a rare occurrence; nevertheless, circumstances such as a heavy snowfall or an extended power failure can demand that such a decision be made. It is important that you are aware of the procedures, outlined below should such an emergency closure become necessary.

1. The school district will provide information to the media when schools are being closed. There will not be media releases when schools are open and operating.
2. The following radio stations will be provided with closure details for immediate broadcast: CFX (1070 AM), CKKQ (The Q - 100.3 FM) and CBC Radio (90.5 FM).
3. If a school closure decision is made when a school is in session, students will be permitted to leave school only after contact has been made with a parent/guardian or a person pre-authorized by a parent/guardian. If contact is not possible, school administrators will make appropriate arrangements. As necessary, special arrangements will be made for students with special needs. An early bus run will be organized if road conditions permit. If a school closure decision becomes necessary, your understanding, tolerance and cooperation will be most appreciated. If you have concerns regarding the above procedure, please call the principal of your child's school to enable him or her to consider the matter before an emergency occurs.

WINTER IS HERE SD 63 TRANSPORTATION



1. SD63 Transportation phone line is: 2506527343 (hours are 7:15am – 4:00pm). For school / busing updates you can also go to the District web page (www.sd63.bc.ca) or “[twitter@sd63bus](https://twitter.com/sd63bus)” and become a follower.
2. School buses may be late or may not even arrive. Students should wait for 20 minutes and if they have not been picked up then they should return home or follow the plan laid out by their parents/guardians. **It is very important that parents/guardians have a plan for their children should the school bus does not arrive.**
3. IN THE EVENT OF BAD WEATHER, by 6:15am the Superintendent of Schools, Mrs. Nancy MacDonald informs area radio stations (e.g CFX, The Q, CBC Radio, The Ocean, A Channel and CH News) that School District No. 63 schools are closed and/or school buses are canceled. No announcement means schools and buses are operating.

Rules:

Never throw snowballs, ice or anything at the bus. Cold snow and warm windows do not mix and if windows shatter, glass fragments could cause injuries. Do not encourage or provoke others to throw snowballs.

Safety Precautions:

1. Stay at least 2 meters from the bus. Due to road conditions buses can slide as they are stopping so please stay well out of the way. Cars may also fail to stop, slide or may lose control so be aware whenever you are around them. Look out for your own safety as well as for the safety of your friends.
2. Be on your best behavior on the bus and at your bus stop. Poor weather requires all of the drivers attention to be able to drive safely.
3. Because of the slippery conditions be careful as you get off the bus and then get well clear of the bus.

For Information please call:

SD63 Board Office Recorded Message: 250-652-7300 OR
SD63 Transportation Department: 250-652-7343

GET YOUR HOUSE BUILT FOR FREE BY SAANICH SCHOOL DISTRICT CARPENTRY PROGRAM



Do you have a building lot or small acreage in reasonable proximity to Stelly's Secondary?

Have you ever wanted to build an out-building or a dream home for yourself but lacked the time or skill?

Would you like help coordinating all aspects of the construction of your new home?

Would you like to help a young person learn about the trade of carpentry?

Would you like to have the labour component for the construction of your new project/home/building provided for free?

Does this sound too good to be true? Well, it could be your reality. To find out more about how Saanich carpentry students can build your next home (or similar sized building) please contact Stu Rhodes at Stelly's Secondary School. phone 250 415-9211 or 250 544-0313

Saanich Carpentry students build one home each year in the second semester. The next start date will be the first week of February, 2014. Structures should be at least 1000 square feet in size and less than 3000 square feet. Renovations will not be considered and new construction is much preferred to additions. Barns or out buildings of the same size are also excellent candidates for consideration.

Please share this invitation to participate in Saanich School District Carpentry Program project with family, friends, and colleagues.

Check out this link to learn more about Saanich Career and Apprenticeship programs: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BEWFBZkZOSQ>

PLES PAC NEWS



It's hard to believe that we are in December and that the Holidays are just around the corner. The Pac Executive would like to thank all of you for your support and patience. We have had a wonderful start to the year. All the fundraising events have been very successful thanks to all of your help . We would like to acknowledge all the parent Volunteers who have helped with PAC events, your contribution of time and energy serving PAC Hot Lunches, calling parents for morning watch, and reading to the kids contribute to a wonderful school community. We couldn't do it without you.

Our heartfelt thanks to all Prospect Lake staff, but especially to our retiring teachers who have given so much care to so many of our children for so many years. We will miss all they have brought to our school community and wish them all the best in their retirements. We hope they will stay in touch as they enter a new and exciting phase of their life.

Next Fundraisers **Coming In January**

1. Red Barn Bucks

The PAC has partnered with *locally owned Red Barn Markets* to create a great fundraising opportunity for our school!

How do I participate?

Purchase "Barn Bucks" gift cards through the PAC to buy your groceries at the Red Barn

Red Barn will donate **10%** of the value of all "Barn Bucks" purchased back to our school!

2. Spring Fair Committee meeting

Date to be announced in early January

3. Bottle Drive

Grade 5 Fundraiser: January 18th 2014

contact: prospectlakepac@sd63.bc.ca

Please keep all your bottles over Christmas to support our Grade 5 Camp Thunderbird trip.

More details to follow in early January.

Next PAC Meeting

Wednesday, **January 15th 6:45 PM** in the School Library. Please join us. Refreshments and child-minding provided (ages 5+). All families welcome!

I would personally like to thank our PAC Executive for their hard work and commitment to our school. This School is such a wonderful learning environment because of their commitment.

Thank you for all of your support

Vice President: Dora DeMedeiros

Treasurer: Christine Carrigan

Communication: Jenny Eastman

Secretary: Andrea Sage

COPACS reps: Sarah Ommundsen, James Taylor

First Nations Liaison - Steve Cooper

Past President: Dorothy Ogurek

Member at Large: Julie Pinel

Stef Hutchison

Your PAC Executive wishes all families and staff a safe and Happy Holiday Season!

Saanich Schools (SD63) Ready, Set, Learn Open House

introduce yourself

Parents and preschoolers (3 years and up) are invited to visit their neighbourhood school.

- ♦ Participate in hands-on learning activities.
- ♦ Tour your neighbourhood school.
- ♦ Learn about community resources available to support families.

Wednesday, January 22, 2014

3:15 – 6:00 pm

Join us at your neighbourhood school.

Brentwood Elementary 250 652 3996

Cordova Bay Elementary 250 658 5315

Deep Cove Elementary 250 656 7254

Keating Elementary 250 652 9261

KELSET Elementary 250 655 4648

Lochside Elementary 250 658 5238

Prospect Lake Elementary 250 727 3314

Sidney Elementary 250 656 3958



Every success for every child

www.sd63.bc.ca

We gratefully acknowledge the financial support of the Province of British Columbia through the Ministry of Education.

Saanich Schools



Great Places to Learn
& Safe Places to Be



Saanich Schools (SD63)
Kindergarten 2014 Information Evening
(Children born in 2009)

Be Informed... Be Involved...
Learn About...

- ♦ Engaging learners through play.
- ♦ Optimal learning environments for the success of every child.
- ♦ Beginning literacy, language and numeracy development.
- ♦ A day in kindergarten.
- ♦ Opportunities to be involved at school.
- ♦ French Immersion option (K - 12)

Kindergarten Information Evening
Wednesday, January 29, 2014
7pm- 8:30pm
Sidney Elementary
2281 Henry Avenue, Sidney

Kindergarten Registration in School District 63
takes place at your
Neighbourhood School
February 3 - 7 , 2014.
Children born in 2009 are eligible.



Every success for every child

www.sd63.bc.ca

Saanich Schools



Saanich Schools (SD63)

Kindergarten Registration for Fall 2014

February 3 to February 7, 2014 at your neighbourhood school. All children born in 2009 are eligible to begin Full Day Kindergarten.

Our Kindergarten programs offer:

- Teachers who are knowledgeable in early childhood development.
- Engaging learning opportunities through play.
- Optimal learning environments for the success of every child.
- French language instruction.
- Rich literacy and numeracy experiences.

Register February 3 to 7, 2014 at your neighbourhood school.

Brentwood Elementary
Cordova Bay Elementary
Deep Cove Elementary

Keating Elementary
KELSET Elementary
Lochside Elementary

Prospect Lake Elementary
Sidney Elementary

French Immersion registrations:

- Deep Cove Elementary (North Zone)
- Keating School (South & Central Zone)

To register at your neighbourhood school please bring:

- Proof of your address (resident driver's license, utility bill, etc).
- Proof of your child's age (birth certificate).
- Your child's BC Care Card.

After February 7, all K-8 registrations will be done at:

Saanich School Board Office
2125 Keating Cross Road, Saanichton
8am to 4pm

Kindergarten Information Evening:

January 29, 2014, 7pm - 8:30pm

Sidney Elementary School Gym
2281 Henry Avenue, Sidney



Every success for every child

www.sd63.bc.ca

Saanich Schools

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& Safe Places to Be