

FEBRUARY UPDATE

February has been full of excitement and celebrations at Prospect Lake with 100 days of School, Valentines Day, Chinese New Year Celebrations and a theme of Random acts of Kindness. We welcome six new students and their families to our school community. In keeping with our school beliefs *to look after ourselves, look after each other, and look after this place*, we encourage everyone to practice kindness throughout the month and wear pink on Feb 28 for a global anti-bullying movement. Follow us on Twitter to see some of our activities: Prospect Lake@sd63.PLake

New Curriculum and Core Competencies

Our staff have been learning, collaborating and exploring the new curriculum. The core competencies include Communication, Thinking and Personal and Social Responsibility.

If you would like to become familiar with the redesign curriculum, here is a ministry resource below:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uP4ndQ5ckoY>

Prospect Lake Staff's journey so far include:

1. Learning about the core competencies and using the language explicitly with students
2. Making Core Competencies visible for students and parents
3. Noticing, Naming, modeling, asking questions to probe deeper reflection

Thank you to Ms. Rashleigh's class for introducing core competency Communication in our school assembly last week.



Some sample “I can” statements from students include:

“I can put my hand up to speak in a class discussion”

“I can give a reason to support my point of view”

“I can share my idea with a group”

CORE COMPETENCIES

Communication

1. Share and develop ideas
2. Obtain, interpret, and present information
3. Work together to plan, carry out, and review tasks and activities
4. Describe/recall and reflect on experiences and what one can do

Creative Thinking

1. Novelty and value
2. Generating ideas
3. Developing ideas

Critical Thinking

1. Analyze and critique
2. Question and investigate
3. Develop and design

Positive Personal & Cultural Identity

1. Relationship and cultural contexts
2. Personal values and choice
3. Personal strengths and abilities

Social Responsibility

1. Contributing to community and caring for the environment
2. Solving problems in peaceful ways
3. Valuing diversity
4. Building Relationships

Personal Awareness & Responsibility

1. Self-determination
2. Self-regulation
3. Well-being

Artist in Residence

“Classroom without Borders”- We are pleased to have received a grant for this whole school project from ArtStarts and support from the PAC. Our Artist in Residence this year is Renee Sala and we will start work on this project May 25- June 18. All students from K- 5 will work with Renee for 3.5 hours. This Project is inspired by the students' real life experiences in their outdoor learning space. Stories told through pictures and words will help connect students to their environment and the students will create a collaborative felt mural depicting our Learning Community which includes the school, outdoor learning place, garden, stream and forest. We will focus on enriching our positive sense of community and celebrating of the efforts of the students in an engaging learning environment. *A similiar Whole School project was done at Sidney School called “Food Forest” 2 years ago and a sample of a collaborative mural looks like this:*



Whole school Inquiry

Learning about our local Watershed- This is a year long focus on water conservation and learning about our local watershed. Our staff have engaged in 4 hours of inservice training and are developing background knowledge with their students around water. Students' curiosity around our local watershed will guide our inquiry. We will have a whole school trip planned to Todd Inlet with learning stations and several community organizations on May 25 or June 2. More details to come on this field trip. Project Wet ties in well with our New BC Curriculum and developing Core Competencies in our students:

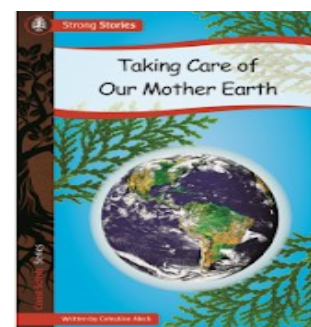
- **Communication**
- **Thinking**
- **Personal and Social Responsibility**

Gardening Update

Staff and students are gearing up for a spring clean up and making plans for the new planting season. We have set aside \$500 for our garden. We are looking for seed donations and soil donations. With an additional 3 division, we have arranged for sharing of some plots between classes and are looking to build some more in the future. If you have any seed donations or soil donations, please contact Lisa Harward at lharward@sd63.bc.ca . If you are interested in volunteering to help in the garden, please contact your child's teacher.

Indigenous Education

Over the past couple of months Indigenous education assistant Chesa Abma has been going from class to class sharing about the W̱SÁNEĆ (people and territory) through use of the flood story, territory maps, and the Saanich Year. She has also been reading stories by Snuneymuxw author Celestine Aleck, and doing activities that familiarize students with indigenous plants such as rosehips.



Recent Staff Professional Learning

Our teachers continue to dedicate their time to be continuous learners. They look forward to implementing their ideas into their classroom. Here are some of the workshops and professional development our staff have engaged in since January.

After school workshops

- All staff -Aligning read alouds to connect to Core Competencies (New Curriculum)
- All staff -Project Wet workshops
- Primary team- exploring Literacy Strategies
- NID Jan 29 Exploring and planning for teaching core competencies as a school staff and district

Weekend workshops

- 3 staff - Ed camp in Richmond around Core Competencies
- 2 staff - Restitution Training

Upcoming

- Coding using Scratch Jr.
- 2 staff to attend writing workshop in Richmond
- NID Feb 23- tri district (Victoria, Sooke, Saanich) multiple professional development offerings to our staff
- NID March 5 Reporting

Student progress reports

Term 2 Report cards will be coming home during the week of March 12- 15. If you have not returned your envelope from Term 1, it's not too late. Please return report card envelope to your child's teacher. Please stay tuned for information from your teacher regarding conferencing opportunities during the weeks of March 5-15. As always, if you have any question or concerns around your child's progress, feel free to contact your child's teacher.

Athletics

Basketball is in full swing with 25 of our Grade 4/5 students. Thank you to our coaches Mrs. Harward, Mrs. Gladwin, Mrs. Bossence and Ms. Brown. The teams play weekly games between Lochside and Cordova Bay. The Basketball Jamboree takes place on March 9 at Royal Oak.

Swim Club- Our swim club has 23 members . Thank you to the coaches Mrs. Lail, Mrs. Sinats and Mrs. Schwann for the weekly practices. The swim club is looking forward to opportunities to race at the Fast meet on March 4 and then the District swim meet at Commonwealth pool on March 14 at 10 am to 1pm. Come cheer on the team!

Lunch Hour Activities

Floor hockey Thanks to Mrs. Lail for sponsoring the Grade 3,4,5 intermurals at lunch on Wednesdays.



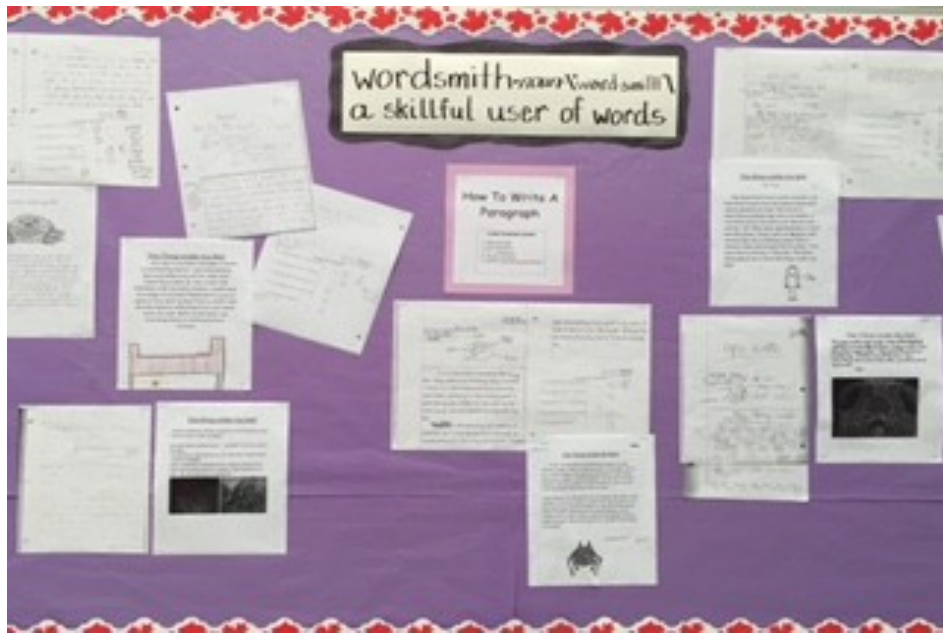
Knitting Club What a great opportunity for our Kindergarten, Grade 1 and 2's to learn a new skill from school leaders in grade 4/5. Thank you to Mrs. Evans, Mrs. Schwann, and Mrs. Bailey who organize this club. Our Grades 3-5 also have a day for knitting club too!

Before school Opportunity

Claremont Students (Natasha, Nicole and Amanda) are offering 6 weeks of before school activities on Tuesday and Thursday morning at 8:00 to 8:30 (Soccer, Minor games, flag rugby, basketball) starting April 10 – May 31 Keep your eye out for on-line registration site in March. This is for Gr2-5.

School Goals #2 Improve student achievement in writing.

Our staff and students continue to use Six Traits of Writing. Our bulletin board displays some intermediate students' writing with a focus on word choice and voice. Come in and have a read.



Upcoming dates

Feb 20 PAC meeting 7:00

Feb 21 K-Immunization

Feb 22 Spirit Day- Red and White

Feb 23 Prod - Tri district

Feb 26 Grade 4/5 Symphony field trip - 9:00

Feb 26 1-2 Skating field trip

Feb 28 Pink Shirt day

March 5 Pro-D – Reporting day

Mar 9 Basketball Jamboree ROMS

March 12- 15 Reports to go home

March 12 and 13 9-11am Curtis Henry (Yellow Cedar paddles and stories)

March 14 Swim meet 10-1

March 19-April 2 Spring Break

April 10 ROMS band 9:30

April 13 Arts Starts performance: Will Street Band Performance

May 11 Parent appreciation (coffee and muffins)

May 17 Spring Fair

May 25/June 2 whole school field trip re Watershed

June 15 Camp Thunderbird – Grade 5

June 26 Whole school year end assembly TBA

June 27 Grade 5 assembly

June 28 am Pancake breakfast