

Aboriginal Education

First Nations Support Workers





Merritt Secondary School

CULTURE & LANGUAGE— HEART BEAT AT MSS

Every Tuesday students gather in the House of Honour at lunch with the FNSW team and guest Skiellst (Paul Joe) to learn the songs of the Nicola Valley. Skiellst spoke to the drum teachings and how to care for a drum, “if you take care of the drum, the drum will take care of you”. Since the arrival of COVID we haven't been able to gather until this year and it has been a process getting back into the swing of things and hand drumming was a refreshing start to bring the heart beat back into MSS. The hand drummers have been invited to start off school spirit at various sporting events.



STRATEGIC DIRECTION:



FIRST NATIONS SUPPORT WORKERS:

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Grade 9

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Grade 10

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Grade 11 & 12

Melissa Pinyon
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ADMINISTRATION:

Principal

Adriane Moulard

Vice Principal

David Andersen

Vice Principal

Gian Cavaliere

Health & Wellness— JASON SIMON, RETIRED NHL PLAYER

Jason Simon joined MSS for a motivational talk about the significance of living a healthy life style and the importance of mental health and the effects of substance use. Jason is an ex professional NHL hockey player and personal trainer who grew up on the Aam-jiwnaang First Nation Reserve in Sarnia Ontario. After retiring from pro hockey Jason achieved his Medical exercise specialist diploma and has been working with the youth since 2006. After the presentation Jason went from class to class signing autographs of his NHL playing cards.



ACADEMIC SUCCESS: GRAD PREPARATION



Grade 12 students have been participating in the ribbon skirt making in preparation for the indigenous grad ceremony to be held in June. If more students are interested they are welcome to attend every Wednesday at lunch hour.

SELF WORTH & IDENTITY— BONES OF CROWS

A few cast members joined the grade 10-12 students for a impactful movie showing of *Bones of Crows*. The movie is based on true events about a Cree woman who survives residential school to become a code talker for the Canadian Air Force during World War 11 and how the trauma of residential school affected her for the rest of her life, which she faced with resilience and resistance. The movie speaks to the emotional, physical and sexual abuse that was experienced by the indigenous children and how that impact is felt through generations.



ACADEMIC SUCCESS— TRANSITION SUPPORT

For grade 12 students their final year in high school can be overwhelming to say the least. Lots of expectations to complete graduation credit requirements, the final Literacy assessment, and the off time table Career Life Connections class. Try to stay in the moment and take it all in can seem unrealistic for these guys as they are in constant future planning mode for most of the year. The transition team (Ms. Denton, Jen Lisle and Melissa Pinyon) are here to assist students in carrying some of that weight. Students have been brought in one by one for an interview on transition plans to identify their goal of post-secondary or employment and training opportunities. Once the students decide on a path the team works with each student to provide support as needed, this could be with ordering transcripts from BCeID or assisting in the application process to post secondary. As well as providing support for band funding applications. Students were under the crunch as applications open in October for most Post Secondary institutes in the province and all have various application deadlines to be aware of as well. Now that students have applied we are looking at entrance bursaries and scholarships as well as waiting for the local bursary booklet to be available in March.



Diamond Vale Elementary Newsletter—First Nations Support Worker: Christine Anderson

Ph. (250) 378-2514 or email—canderson@365.sd58.bc.ca

Douglas Lake Pit House Visit



Stake Lake

Ms. Foster and Ms. Allen's classes went to Stake Lake for a snowshoeing/cross country skiing trip. It was a beautiful day to be outside in the fresh air.



Diamond Vale Newsletter ... continued.

Girls Group

Girls Group is on Monday's at lunch...
This month we focus on love, family
day and friendships.



Classroom visit

Mrs. Stead's grade 2/3 class came to the
Welcome Room to learn about making tea and
some of the wild plants used to make
medicine.



Upcoming Events

Feb 15th – Earth Rangers

Feb 17th – Pro D

Feb 20 – Family Day

Feb 23rd – Girls Handball

Mar 7th – Girls Handball

Mar 10 – Report Cards Go home

Mar 14th – Girls Handball

Mar 17th – last day for Spring Break



**limlæmt kʷuləncutn
xl yaʔyat stim**

thank you creator for everything

Nicola-Canford Elementary

ephillips@365.sd58.bc.ca

Spirit Houses & Goal Setting w/ elder Amelia Washington



Beading Club Popsockets



Weekly Drum Club & Drumming at Assembly



Christmas Crafts



Upcoming Events

Feb 17: Pro D Day

Feb 20: Family Day

Feb 21: Div 1-3 to Scotties

Feb 22: Pink T-Shirt Day

Feb 24: Month End Assem.

Feb 28: Read A Book Day

Mar 1: Nicola Canford

Science Fair

Mar 3: Month End Assem
(Pri)

Mar 6: MMIWG2S Event

Mar 8: NCE Spirit Day

Mar 10: Report Cards Go
Home

Mar 14: Shortened Day

Mar 15: Shortened Day

Merritt Central – Martha Chillihitzia



We were busy in December: Pictograph, Dream Catchers, Tree Ornaments and we provided the entire Staff & Students with a Turkey & Ham Lunch with the assistance of Upper Nicola's Kwustemtima Group (Grandmothers)



Toque Making is back again, they find it so relaxing



Visit to Upper Nicola Pit House and the Student were taught how to scrape a Deer Hide



École Colletville Elementary

by Dawn Williams First Nation Support Worker

MAKING TEA POTS



The K-class and grade 1 students had an opportunity to make tea pots with their own tea bag. The students learned how to make a tea bag with rose hips and Labrador leaves, & buck brush leaves that were all gathered in the Nicola Valley.



CHOICE CLUB BLOCK

Choice Club Block is available for students that are in grades 5-7. In my Choice Club Block I am doing First Nations Arts & Activities. In this block the students are learning how to make their own Bannock, learning what plants you can harvest throughout the year, learning some Nla?kepmx words, and making mini moccasins and then making their own moccasins for themselves.



We will be doing this for the month of February on Monday & Wednesday afternoons.

NLA?KEPMXCIN WORDS

YE TEK SNWENWN

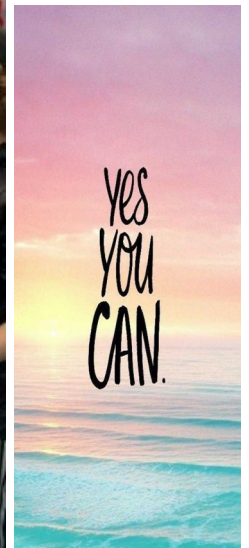
(ye-dik-shin-one-one)

It is a good morning

k^wuk^wscémx^w

(kook-sh-jem-wh)

Thank you



DRUMMING WITH THE GRADE 2 CLASS



The grade 2 students had the opportunity to learn a few Sylix (Okanagan) drum songs from Tim Manuel, who is from Upper Nicola Indian Band member. Mr. Manuel also taught the students some dances that go with the coyote & bear drum songs.



FIELD TRIP TO THE PIT-HOUSE

The grade 2 students went on a field trip to the pit-house, which is located in the community of Upper Nicola Indian Band. The students did storytelling, drumming and dancing with Tim & Buzz Manuel. Buzz Manuel brought in an elk hide that the students had a chance to learn how to scrap the fur off of. It was an awesome experience.



CLASSROOM

CONNECTIONS

- K-class & Gr 1 class made rose hips/ labrador/ & buck brush leaves tea bags
- Grade 1 class—'I hope...' art activity
- Grade 2 Drumming & Dancing with Tim Manuel
- December & January—every Mon & Weds did girls group during lunch hour
- Grade 2 field trip to Upper Nicola Indian Band pit-house.

If you have any questions &/or comments please call me at 250-378-2230.



(home-alth)

Humet

Good bye



Spring 2023

Newsletter

Princeton Secondary and The Bridge



The Welcome Room

Students over the past few months have been working hard on their coursework, but they never forget about having fun, food and their friends. When you walk into The Welcome Room it is common to see students beading, eating, puzzling, working on assignments, or just needing a space they can decompress between classes. Recently we have had a leatherwork lesson, multiple lessons on learning to process game meat and Oly teaching us to bead seasonal pins.



Upcoming events

February 16th- Princeton Youth Conference

February 23rd- Self-defense training at PSS

March 7th- Grade 11 trip to UBCO, Indigenous grad transitions

March 15 & 16- Grade 11 and 10 trip to TRU, Indigenous grad transitions

March 17th to April 2nd- Spring Break!!



What have we been up to?

Looking at Classroom Connections that have been happening around here, there has been lots of learning happening. Creation stories to complement Astronomy 10, creating tea blends for health in Senior Outdoor Education, learning to cook moose stew and Bannock in Foods. A new pilot project is teaching groups of grades 8 and 9 student's every Friday new skills and activities to improve their social, emotional and cultural awareness.





John Allison Elementary School

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Principal Sandee Blair

First Nations Support Worker Krista Szymczak

We are already half way through the school year! Time has just been flying by. Students have been enjoying so many different activities and learned about a lot of new things. They learned how to make Bannock, we designed our own teapots and made our own traditional teas. We did birch tree paintings and made some totem poles. We learned about how First Peoples lived long ago and designed our own Tipi's. They also had their Christmas Concert which was a huge success. Guided reading is ongoing as well as some one to one support.

We are looking forward to continuing our learning journey over the next few months and of course, warmer weather!!!



Students enjoyed learning how to make Bannock!!

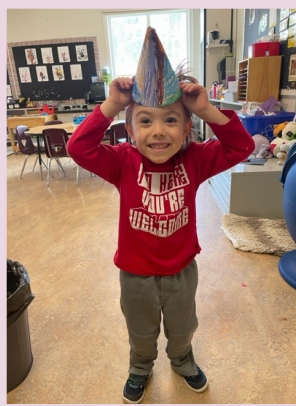
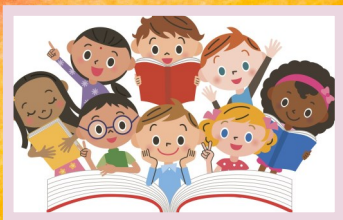
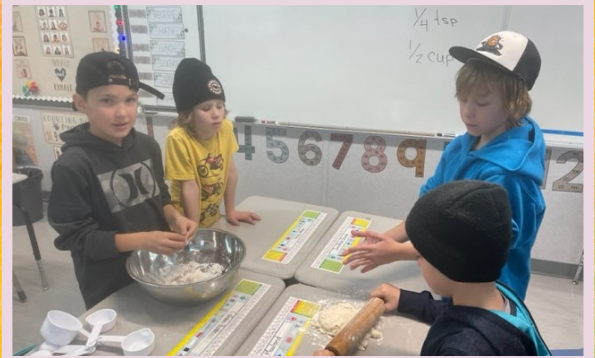




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Wednesday, February 22nd - Pink Shirt Day. Classes will be doing a variety of activities with an Anti-Bullying focus. Also pizza day.

March 10th - Report Cards go home.

March 14th and March 15th - Shortened days for Parent/Teacher Interviews. Schools closed one hour early each day.

March 20th- March 31st - Spring Break. There is no school.

Vermilion Forks Elementary

Winter 2023 Newsletter

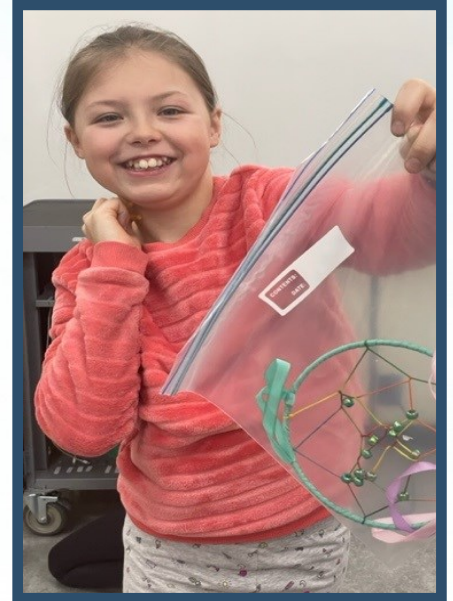
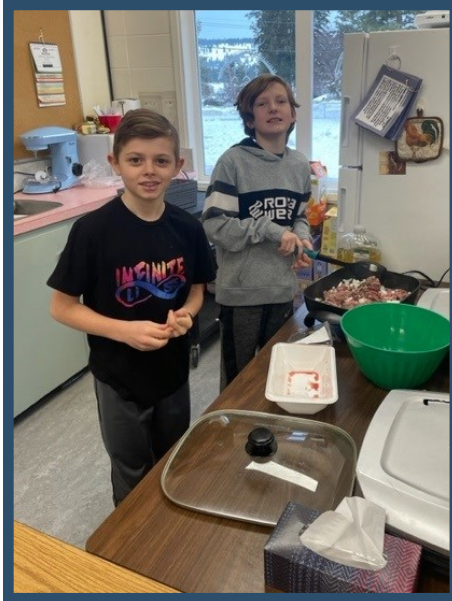


Vermilion Forks students have been busy the last few months. They've done some really fun things, like, shadow painting. Some students learned about the 7 Sacred Teachings and did a watercolor painting to go with what they learned. Many different classes learned about Metis Culture and the significance of the Metis Sash. After the lesson they got to do some finger weaving themselves and made friendship bracelets. We've been making so good food too! Moose Burger Soup, Bannock, Berry Salad, Smoked Salmon with crackers, and Traditional Teas are some of the favorites made since November.



Vermilion Forks Elementary

Winter 2023 Newsletter



IMPORTANT DATES:

Friday, February 17: Pro-D Day. School is not in session.

Monday, February 20: Stat Holiday. School will not be in session.

Wednesday, February 22: Pink Shirt Day for Anti-bullying Day. Ice-skating in the afternoon for Ms. Baur/Ms. Martin's Grade 5 class.

Tuesday, February 28: The second Apex Mountain Ski and Snowboard field trip. Buses will leave VFE at 7:30 am and return to VFE at approximately 4:45 pm. Homework Club is cancelled.

Wednesday, March 1: Free Pasha's pizza hot lunch for all students in the school.

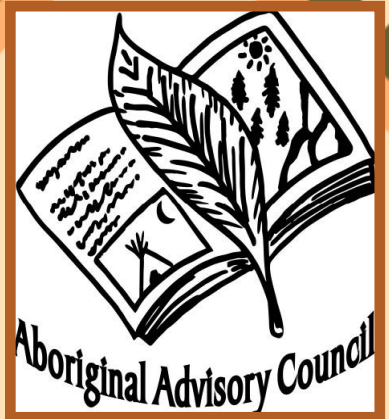
Thursday, March 2: P.A.C. meeting by zoom or in person in our library at 6:00 pm.

Principle Barry Clark

FNSW Krista Szymczak



*SD #58 -
Aboriginal
Education*



District Principal of Aboriginal Education

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Nl̓eʔkepmxcin Teacher

Diamond Vale School , MCC

& MSS Grade 8-9

Leona Dumont

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Be sure to check out the Aboriginal Education website at:

www.sd58.bc.ca

As well as the SD58 First Nations Support Worker page on Facebook

SD #58 - Aboriginal Education Contact Information



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