

Superintendent's Report - February 2024

We recognize that we learn, teach and work on the ancestral, traditional territories of the Nie?kepmx and Syilx people and we acknowledge our Metis communities and their contributions to the Aboriginal ways of being and knowing.



Kindergarten Enrollment 2024

French Immersion Kindergarten Registration:

February 12 to February 23, 2024

District Wide Kindergarten Registration :

March 1 to March 16, 2024



Please visit our website at www.sd58.bc.ca for a complete overview of our online registration process.

Success for ALL Learners ~ Today and Tomorrow



MERRITT CENTRAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Merritt Central Elementary School



World Read Aloud Day

Staff and students dressed up as their favourite book character and gathered to listen to Ms. Omori read. Mrs. Cleaveley organized a virtual author visit featuring Shari Green and engaged the school for weeks with the "Shelfie Selfie" challenge. Great ways to promote literacy at Central!



Experiential Learning

An important part of land-based, experiential learning is connecting kids with the plants and animals that thrive off the land. Mrs. Ferris' ongoing collaboration with Rachel from Crazy Creek Farms provides kids with neat opportunities to build on their individual experiences, ask curious questions, and interact with their learning in hands-on ways.

Upper Nicola Culture Camp

Several members of Central's staff, along with other Nicola-Similkameen District staff, attended the Upper Nicola Culture Camp at N'Kwala School and engaged in valuable professional learning.

Home of the Hawks !

École Élémentaire Collettville • Collettville Elementary

Carnaval Week January 29 to February 2, 2024

It was very exciting for the community with a lot of parent involvement and volunteers for the pancake lunch, judges for the Tacot races, and attending the skating and curling field trips to assist with the equipment.





John Allison Elementary

Highlighting how Data Informs Instruction at John Allison

In our school, some examples of how data is used :

- Prioritize Student Support Teacher time to those students assessed as emerging or developing learners
- Provide reading instruction to grades 2 and 3 in Guided Reading groups organized by reading assessment levels
- Recommend developing readers for One to One reading with community volunteers
- Schedule Education Assistants with students requiring greatest degree of support based on IEP planning tools and behaviour logs
- Inform instruction with formative formal and informal assessments











Early Learning and Child Care

Ready Set Learn dates are set and will take place at each elementary school across the district. This is an exciting time as kindergarten registration kicks off.

Our ASSAI-funded after-school program has travelled to three schools in Merritt. Our team is currently at Diamond Vale Elementary where students get a healthy snack and the opportunity to engage in active stories, bowling, dance/movement, arts/craft activities and gym play. Seamless Day Before and After School care continues to take place at Diamond Vale Elementary School. Enrollment is up to 5 students, perfect for a year of learning and growing.



The kids were excited to meet the snow plow operator. Having some gym time and at the bowling alley.

Dare to Care—Anti Bullying program for our primary students. Open Parachute—support to classrooms being provided by Mrs. Ottens. Pink Shirt Day & RAC (random acts of kindness). Grade 1's celebrate "Our local Hero's " visit the RCMP office.









We had Justin Brien at our school on February 9th for a whole school assembly. Justin Brien is a Mental Health Advocate, Inspirational Speaker, Life Coach and Author. He was here to share his story on overcoming Mental illness and substance misuse. Important connections were made and many staff and students were moved by his story. Many conversations have followed.

New Rapid gear on the horizon, stay tuned for hats, hoodies and t-shirts! Students are excited to see the new logo making its appearance.

















HIKING & HOT CHOCOLATE











Thanks to the generosity of the DRAX Foundation, Vermilion Forks was treated to a free Science World presentation earlier this month!





Vermilion Forks Elementary

After a very gray January, VFE's grade 4 & 4/5 classes rose above the clouds to experience cross country skiing and snowshoeing at China Ridge!







Indigenous Education





FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16 8:30 AM TO 1:30 PM DOUGLAS LAKE

- Welcoming and History Chief Dan Manuel
- Demo
- Cleaning the Spuqlic (Ling Cod)

ACC.N

- Cooking the Spuqlic
- Ice FishingLunch
 - Lunch

9:00 Leave School Board Office 9:45 Arrive at Douglas Lake 12:45 Leave Douglas Lake 1:30 Arrive back at School Board Office Please RSVP to: Martha Chiliihitzia mchillihitzia@365.sd58.bc.ca 250-378-9931 or Shelley Oppenheim-Lacerte slacerte@365.sd58.bc.ca 250-315-1111

> Please meet at the School Board Office at 8:30 am

Lunch will be provided Please dress for the weather



Staff in the district attended the Upper Nicola Cultural Camp – Out on the Land. Due to the freezing weather, they changed the venue from outside to inside the N'Kwala School gym.

The staff were welcomed by Chief Dan Manuel. Chief Dan and Counsellor Scotty Holmes spoke about the history. Staff were given a demo of cleaning the Spuqlic fish and then it was hands-on to clean one themselves!





Some highlights from MSS this past few months include playing host to 6 basketball tournaments with 65 teams participating! The Winter sport season is wrapping up in the next few weeks before we gear up for Spring!

The Grade 10 students completed their Literacy 10 assessments and are preparing for their Numeracy assessments in April.



Our Winter Band concert was a huge success. It included performances from the Grade 7, Grade 8, Senior and Jazz Band classes as well as the Vocal Jazz group.

Our Flash Fiction Writing Contest is wrapping up and for our first one ever, we are thrilled to have had 23 entries. Mrs. Denton and Mrs. Larson have been instrumental in making this contest a success.

Finally, MSS opened their doors for students and families to meet teachers and check out different programs that are offered at here. We were thrilled with the turn out and have lots of ideas for next year!











Diamond Vale Elementary

At Diamond Vale this month, we have been grateful to Tim and Buzz Manuel for continuing to work with our Boys Group. Over coming weeks, they will have the have the experience of visiting the Coldwater River as well as a sweat lodge.

Two of our classes decided to try and beat the winter blues and headed out for a hike on the Tom Lacey trail.

Our school sports teams have been active, with basketball season just closing and handball season just beginning.

Our Grandfather teaching for this month has been wisdom and we have talking about the gifts we all have and how we use them wisely.

THE SEVEN GRANDFATHER







Students have also had the opportunity to be out on the land for some winter tobogganing fun, and then inside learning the finer points of Pickleball.

Community Learning Centre

The learning doesn't stop at CLC! Students have been enjoying the "Lunch and Learn Series" that Scw'exmx Child and Family is providing each Thursday. The sessions range from financial literacy information to how to create a charcuterie board!





March 8, 2024	Friday	Merritt, Princeton Elementary Schools and Merritt Secondary Grade 8 Report Cards go home.
March 8, 2024	Friday	Community Learning Centre Report Cards go home.
March 12 – 13, 2024	Friday	All Schools – Shortened day for Parent/Teacher interviews. (Schools closed 1 hour early each day.)
March 15, 2024	Friday	Last day of school before Spring Break.
March 18 - 28, 2024		SPRING BREAK.
March 29, 2024	Friday	Good Friday.
April 1, 2024	Monday	Easter Monday.
April 2, 2024	Tuesday	Schools reopen after the break.

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