

# Superintendent's Report - May 2024

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

#### Year-End Activities:

District Track Meet – June 7

#### Graduation:

Aboriginal Graduation – June 5 Merritt Secondary School – June 20 Princeton Secondary School – June 22 SCIDES - June 20





## **MERRITT CENTRAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

## **Merritt Central Elementary School**



#### Earth Day

Classes engaged in various activities that reinforced their connection to the land. We are fortunate to live, learn, and play on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Nlaka'pamux and Syilx Peoples, and activities like this represent simple - but impactful - ways we can show appreciation as fellow stewards of the land.



Jump Rope for Heart

This year, due to weather, we did our Jump Rope for Heart activities inside the school. The weeks leading up to this day were equally fun and put a spotlight on the importance of getting active and practicing healthy habits. Thank you Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Martindale, and Mrs. Cleaveley for taking the lead in this area!

Home of the Central Hawks



Vaisakhi Celebration

Thank you Mrs. Chhabra for providing traditional clothing for staff as well as samosas for all those who were interested; thank you Diya Chhabra (recent MSS graduate and former Central student) for presenting to the entire school to help us understand the significance of this holiday.









On Friday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> Merritt Secondary took part in an assembly and walk honoring, remembering and brining awareness to the Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women, Girls & Two-Spirit (MMIWG2S) throughout the country. We had guests present on the impact and importance of the day, as well as offering some practical strategies to stay safe. The walk concluded back at the high school where students were able to gather and share stories under the sunny skies.



# John Allison Elementary

#### Spring 2024 – Meaningful Moments at JA

Teddy Bear Picnic for pre-schoolers with **Community Partners** 





Learning about MMIWG2S



**Cross Grade Buddy Activities** 







Baby Chicks hatched in Strong Start





Raise and release Salmon





## Early Learning and Child Care







Princeton SEY2KT (Strengthening the Early Years To Kindergarten Transitions) planning table was happy to hold our first Teddy Bear Picnic at Veteran's Square. We had approximately 50 children in attendance with their families. The day was terrific, and the weather cooperated! Children and families received sandwiches, fruit and veggies, a lunch container, books, bubbles, and teddy bear cookies. This was a fantastic way to make some connections with families and children. We had music, crafts, storytime, literacy games and lots of smiles! A huge thank-you goes out to our SEY2KT committee – Princeton Family Services, The Okanagan Regional Library Princeton Branch, Little Seeds Early Learning Center, and Princeton Leaders for Literacy. We also thank the community members who came to support through providing face painting, information on vision and dental services. Janis Chase of custom baked goods by Janis made the wonderful teddy bear cookies and sandwiches. We gratefully acknowledge that the SEY2KT project is fully funded by the Ministry of Education and Childcare.







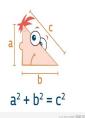


Penticton Secondary Jazz & Concert Band.









Grades 7 students take math into the real world—surveying activity for students after learning about Pythagoras Theorem.





The Tech trailer arrived at VFE and the students had the opportunity to make a birdhouse, a toolbox or a taco board.

# **Vermilion Forks Elementary**





VFE celebrated Earth Day by doing a cleanup hike to the Cormack Marsh. Where they were met by members of the Vermilion Forks Field Naturalists, who gave talks on various aspects of the area















WELCOME BACK





# HARVESTING









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We welcomed the little ones!



DRESS UP & GAMES THROUGHOUT THE WEEK OF MAY 6TH - 10TH SPORTS DAY - FRIDAY MAY 10TH

#### DRESS UP & GAMES

MONDAY: ADAM SANDLER TUESDAY: HOCKEY MOMS VS BBQ DADS WEDNESDAY: BATMAN VS JOKER LUNCHTIME ACTIVITY: BINGO IN THE LC THURSDAY: CHILDHOOD DREAM JOB LUNCHTIME ACTIVIY: PRINCETON TRIVIA IN THE LC FRIDAY: GRADE VS GRADE COLOUR WARSIII LOOK BELOW FOR THE COLOURS OF EACH GRADE, MAKE SURE TO SUPPORT YOUR GRADE AND SHOW OFF SOME TEAM SPIRITIII

### GRADE 8: ORANGE GRADE 9: PINK GRADE 10: GREEN GRADE 11: RED GRADE 12: BLUE TEACHERS: GREY

Friday: Sports Day! We are excited to be hosting the first PSS Sports day. This will be happening from 8:35 - 12pm outdoors. There will be loads of grade vs grade games as well as teacher involvement. If you are interested in helping with this fun day please reach out to Kabrie, Wyette, or Ms. Swetlikoe



Following our presentation and walk, our QBA shared a delicious Bannock snack with us.



All hands on decl this week!





Metis Dance Group from the coast came to visit Collettville.









## **Diamond Vale Elementary**

April is rugby season and we have had some of our Grade 5-7 students, along with Merritt Bench students, training with Mrs. Tjorhom in preparation for the District Tournament, which was held on May 3<sup>rd,</sup> and hosted by our school. We were grateful to some volunteers from the MSS girls' rugby team who continued the tradition and came out and refereed on the day.

Throughout April, classes have been having conversations around the theme of community safety. This culminated with our community safety walk on Friday morning.







THE SEVEN GRANDFATHER



We want to take back our education and teach our history, our language and our culture. We have begun to tell our story – our istory – and we want to tell it in our own words to the world, so that this will never happen to any of the other nations in the world." - Shirley Williams, Residential School Survivor

## **Community Learning Centre**

Students at CLC this month have been focusing on some science experiments in the kitchen! This has been a great opportunity to combine both the science and foods curriculum. Students also had a chance to try out their bowling skills at the local bowling alley. CLC finished the month off travelling to Kamloops to watch the performance, *Inner Elder* at the Pavilion









## Upcoming Calendar Reminders

April 26, 2024	Friday	MSS Grade 9 to 12 & PSS Report Cards go home.
May 20, 2024	Monday	Victoria Day.
June 27, 2024	Thursday	Last day of classes.
June 28, 2024	Friday	ADMINISTRATION DAY - SCHOOLS CLOSED.

# Success for ALL Learners ~ Today and Tomorrow