

Nicola- Similkameen Public Schools



Indigenous Education Report

**Director of Instruction Indigenous
Education**

Shelley Oppenheim- Lacerte

January 8, 2025



MSS Girls Group



Skirt Making



Beading



Water Plunge

Christmas Concerts



Bench Gr. 1



Merritt Central Gr. 7

And.... Many more fun filled Christmas Concerts throughout the school district!

CLC Christmas Crafts



Beaded Earrings



Bead Making

CLC - Beading & Crafts



Beading



Bench -Literacy & Crafts



Nooaitch Girls Group

First Nations Girls Group Land-Based Learning

Learning about Traditional Medicines. The girls went on a walk to gather medicines. They learned about the medicines in Tea bag making with 4 types of medicines & this is a great example of meaningful hands on experience with Land Based activities/ teachings.



Cultural Building



Nooaitch -Girls Group First Session

Elder
Cultural
Teachings



Sharing
Caring

Christmas Fun at Vermillion Forks Elementary

John Ellison Elementary



Left: Students drumming the Welcome Song on Indigenous Veterans Day

Right: Students reading a poem About Indigenous Veterans.

No photo: Students learned about Nicola Valley Veterans and presented to the school about what they learned.



Grade 1's and 3's having rosehip tea, cookies and coloring

Michelle

Stoney

Coloring pages

Continued..... Vermilion Forks Elementary John Ellison Elementary



**Left: Grade 3's
learning different
drum songs.**



**Right: Oly Bent
telling stories and
drumming with
grade 1's**



**The Christmas Concert.
Students from VFE and
JAE both drummed the
Welcome Song at their
Christmas
Concerts.**

Continued..... Vermilion Forks Elementary John Allison Elementary



Every morning and recess at VFE, students are invited into the Welcome Room to do many different activities. Some activities include, making leather keychains, beading, painting, Christmas crafts, art, directed drawings and more. We've watched cartoons written by First Nations, Inuit and Metis peoples. We have traditional teas, cookies, and lots of other foods. The room is almost always filled to capacity. Having the Welcome Room open for students has been fun but it has also helped build relationships and connections with students.