



NANOOSE BAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Newsletter #5 October 8, 2009

*"At Nanoose Bay Elementary, students, parents and staff
are inspired with a passion for learning."*

NBES School Goals

Literacy – To improve reading comprehension & writing | **Social Responsibility** – To develop active citizenship

HAPPY THANKSGIVING EVERYONE!!

**"I am thankful for the many gifts within me and around me today.
I celebrate each moment by opening myself to beauty and to learning.
I expect the best.."** The Virtues Project

WE HAVE LOTS TO BE THANKFUL FOR AT NBES!

We have had a great beginning to the school year at NBES. Students are settling into routines and the myriad learning programs are off and running! There is a feeling of happy engagement in the school as we settle in to our new year together. We appreciate the wonderful parents who support us in so many ways. It is a hallmark of this school that parents care deeply about the quality of our school community.



We Love our Beautiful New Playground!! With 'Heartfelt Gratitude' to Parents and Community Members!

Over the past few days we have watched a corner of our school property be transformed into an amazing new playground! On Tuesday, an army of volunteers converged on the site, rolled up their sleeves and dove in! All day long, more than 20 volunteers gave up their time and energy to help erect our stunning new equipment! It was a real treat to watch the joy in children's faces as they watched this dazzling new play area rise up from the gravel! And now, thanks to the continued hard work of a core group of volunteers, it is almost completed!

*Huge, heartfelt thanks to **Cynthia Pollak** and **Deb and Steven Kuhn** who have spearheaded this project from the very beginning. It has been their vision and hard work that has brought in the grant money and secured the other funding to make this possible. And the remarkable group of volunteers who built this masterpiece cannot be thanked enough. It was amazing to see parents, former parents, grandparents, community members, young and old, show up to do this for our children.
It is truly a gift that will keep on giving!*

Parent / Teacher Conferences (Oct. 26 to 28th)

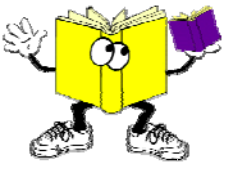
Please call in or stop by the school office to set up a conference time with your child(ren)'s teacher(s). Parent / Teacher conferences will be held October 26th to 28th after school. We welcome this opportunity to communicate with parents and hope to conference with everyone!

Thank You for a Great Open House/Family Dance!!

Last Monday evening we had a wonderful community get together at our school. There was a big turn out for our Open House and it was a nice chance for everyone to meet their child's teacher and to have a look around the school. There was a positive, supportive atmosphere throughout our school and it was special to see children proudly showing their classrooms and some of their work to parents and siblings!

After the Open House everyone came down to the gymnasium for a hot dog and drink and then our feature attraction, 'Shakewood Annie', took over. These talented performers wowed everyone with their costumes and entertaining dancing and they managed to fill with the dance floor with students **and** their parents!

Huge thanks to our PAC for supporting this special event. What a great way to start our year together as a school community!



THE BOOKFAIR IS COMING
(Monday, October 26th to Wednesday, October 28th)
We rely on volunteers to make this special event happen!

Our Annual Scholastic Book Fair will soon be here. This is a great way to pick up some extra reading material for your child and the NBES school library benefits greatly. We have planned for the fair to coincide with the week of parent conferences. Volunteers are needed to help with sales during these times. Volunteers will also be needed on to help set up ahead of time. Please sign up outside the library or contact Tandy Gunn (librarian), or Lisa Drury (library clerk), or leave a message with the school secretary, or send a note to school, if you are able to help out. Volunteers are needed for the following times:

Set Up: Thursday, October 22nd: 8:00 to 10:00 am

Book Sales: Monday, October 26th: 10:30 am to 6:30 pm (in 2 hour increments)
Tuesday, October 27th: 10:30 am to 8:00 pm (in 2 hour increments)
Wednesday, October 28th: 10:30 am to 8:00 pm (in 2 hour increments)

Clean Up: Thursday, October 29th: 8:00 to 10:00 am

NBES SCHOOL PLANNING COUNCIL 2009-10

The School Planning Council is *"an advisory body whose purpose is to formally acknowledge the importance of parental involvement in improving student achievement. The major responsibility of the SPC is to consult with the school community in developing, monitoring and reviewing school plans for improving student achievement."*

We would like to thank the 2008 - 2009 parent representatives who met regularly last year with administration to develop the NBES School Growth Plan. **Thank you to: Linda Campbell, Stephanie Christianson, Cynthia Pollak & Eve Flynn for all your insight and hard work in support of NBES!!!** This year Stephanie and Linda have decided to step down. Thanks to Cynthia & Eve for their willingness to remain as members of the SPC.

We are hopeful that two or more parents will step forward to take on this role in our school. If you are interested please contact Mr. Hamilton and come to the next SPC meeting

The School Planning Council meets 3 or 4 times a year and the next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, October 15th at 2:15 pm in the Research Lab. Any interested parents are welcome!**

IMPROVING LITERACY AT NBES

One of our school goals is to improve reading comprehension and writing, and NBES teachers have begun to focus on this goal by doing assessment *FOR* learning during the month of September. Staff have worked collaboratively to assess students' reading levels using standardized tools (Benchmarks for primary and DART for intermediate). This intensive whole school process that began early in the year provides us with solid information about how best to meet every student's learning needs and to plan programs that target areas of weakness. If you would like to hear more about this process, please contact Mr. Hamilton or your child's teacher.

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES : October 26th to 28th. Please see or phone Mrs. B in the office between 8:00 and 2:30 to book your appointment(s).

MONDAY, OCTOBER 12: THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15TH : PHOTO DAY!

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22ND: School Based Professional Development Day

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23RD: Provincial Professional Development Day



Community Events

Please check for Community News and Events link (second tab on the left side) on the School District website: www.sd69.bc.ca.