



PARKSVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

School District No. 69 (Qualicum)
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District website: www.sd69.bc.ca

Principal: Mme Mary Beil

Vice Principal: Mlle Manuela Raviglione

Newsletter No. 6

October 27, 2009

Friday, October 30th, 2009
School Based Professional Development Day
STUDENTS DO NOT ATTEND

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS NOVEMBER 1ST
REMEMBER TO TURN YOUR CLOCKS BACK ONE HOUR

H1N1 VIRUS

The best defense against the spread of the virus that causes this flu is:

- Good hand washing with soap and running water
- Covering your mouth when sneezing or coughing, either with a tissue or into your elbow sleeve
- Dispose of used tissues right away and wash hands
- Keep your child home if they are presenting flu or cold-like symptoms
- Visit the VIHA website for information about the virus and about the vaccine:
<http://www.viha.ca/h1n1/public/vaccine.htm>

OCTOBER 29th - ORANGE AND BLACK DAY

Show your spirit and also help our Leadership Club. Please bring a donation; a Loonie (\$1) is the recommended donation to help the leadership club projects which include raising money for families in Guatemala.



Individual classes may have planned something additional with their students including costumes. If so, your child will bring home a note from your child's teacher. A reminder that for safety reasons costumes are not to be worn to and from school, to gym or music classes or out on the playground.

TRICK OR TREAT FOR UNICEF

Once again, our school is taking part in UNICEF's Halloween fundraising campaign. The goal for this year is to help provide needed resources for schools in Rwanda and Malawi. Instead of the usual small orange boxes, pledge forms have been provided. Any students who wish to help raise money for this worthy cause can pick up a pledge form from the office. The money collected and the completed pledge form can be placed in an envelope or zip-lock bag and returned to school by Monday, November 2.

OLYMPIC TORCH RELAY & KIDS CELEBRATION RUN

November 1st, the Olympic Torch is coming through Parksville and Oceanside. Schools are invited to be part of the welcoming group. Our leadership club is making banners for the occasion. We hope to be along the Island Hwy close to Craig St. Students who would like to wear a PES shirt and really stand out in the crowd should come to the school at 9:00 a.m. to sign out a shirt. Others are welcome to join us at the end of Craig St. There are a number of events taking place in the Community Park to celebrate the occasion. There is a Kids Celebration Run at 10:00 a.m. All participants will receive a medal following the 150 metre run.



EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND STUDENT COMFORT KITS

We have many things in place in the event of an emergency situation during which students and staff may need to remain at the school for an extended period of time. This is still not enough to provide comfort for every child. We request that every child have an emergency kit which includes:

- ✓ A juice box.
- ✓ Fruit leather or granola bar. No peanuts please.
- ✓ You may wish to include a comforting letter.
- ✓ You may wish to include a photo.
- ✓ You may include a palm-sized comfort toy.

PES provides:

- A zip-lock bag with your child's name on it.
- All items will be kept by class in a secure tote in our emergency kiosk.
- All items will be returned at the end of June.

A labeled Ziploc bag should be going home today. Please try and send in items by November 10, 2009.

REMEMBRANCE DAY ASSEMBLY

Our school’s Remembrance Day assembly will be Tuesday, November 10th, starting at 11:00 a.m. This assembly will be in the gym and parents are welcome to join us. Poppies will be available for students and guests, and we are encouraging everyone to donate coins to the “poppy tray”.



COATS FOR KIDS

It’s time for Coats for Kids again. If you have unused or underused winter coats, scarves or gloves you would like to donate, please place them in the “Coats for Kids Box” located in the foyer. The Rotary Club, with the help of the Ballenas Secondary Leadership classes, will make sure that these items will be distributed to the members of our community who need them. Final pick up will be on Monday, November 9th. Thank you for your support!

INCLEMENT WEATHER AND EMERGENCY CLOSURE OF SCHOOLS PROCEDURES FOR BAD WEATHER



Now that we are entering the winter season with the possibility of freezing temperatures/or snow, it is important to provide a reminder to parents of district procedures when bad weather or other events impact schools. Here is an update with more information.

In such circumstances, the decision about whether schools will be open or buses will be running will be made in time to notify these media outlets by 6:30 am.

**CIBH Radio (“The Beach” – 88.5 FM) Parksville, CHPQ Radio (“The Lounge” – 99.9 FM) Parksville
 CHWF Radio (“The Wolf” – 106.9 FM) Nanaimo, CKWV Radio (“The Wave” - 102.3 FM) Nanaimo
 CKNW (980 AM) Vancouver, CBC (690 AM) Vancouver, CH News Victoria “A” Channel Victoria**

District staff will be considering current and forecasted road and weather conditions and also whether schools have power. District staff access information that is available from Highways Maintenance, our own crews and other community members in order to verify local conditions.

Conditions vary across the district and sometimes from school to school. Below freezing weather overnight may mean that conditions are hazardous for travel.

We recommend parents exercise their judgement based on their own local circumstance when making the decision whether to send or drive their children to school. Parents have expressed concern in the past about impassable sidewalks en route to some schools. Clearing roadways or sidewalks is the responsibility of municipalities.

Parents are reminded to have a battery operated radio and non-portable phone in the event of a power failure so that they can monitor media for reports on school operations.

EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSURES

Schools are rarely closed due to power outages or weather conditions. Most power failures are of short duration. During inclement weather some bus routes may be cancelled. During very severe conditions, schools may be closed. There also may be occasions when morning bus runs are limited or cancelled due to hazardous road conditions.

EMERGENCY EARLY DISMISSAL

Where an emergent situation arises or weather conditions deteriorate significantly enough to cause concern for local road conditions, the Superintendent will notify the school if a school emergency closure will be necessary. Staff would then contact parents and radio broadcasts may also be activated. In such cases, some or all bus schedules may be advanced.

Important Dates To Remember!

October	29	PES Spirit Day –Black and Orange Day
	30	PES School-based Professional Development Day - Students do not attend
November	4	Popcorn Day – popcorn is sold at our noon recess - \$1.00 per bag
	10	Remembrance Day Assembly – 11:00 am – all welcome
	11	REMEMBRANCE DAY - Students do not attend
	12	PAC Meeting – 6:30 pm
	18	Popcorn Day - popcorn is sold at our noon recess - \$1.00 per bag
	24	Report Cards Go Home
	26	Spirit Day – Twins or Triplets
	27	PES Reporting Day - Students do not attend
December	2	Popcorn Day - popcorn is sold at our noon recess - \$1.00 per bag
	9	First Nations Winter Celebration Dinner – 5 pm – Parksville Community Centre
	15	Christmas Concert – 9:30 am and 7:00 pm
	16	Popcorn Day - popcorn is sold at our noon recess - \$1.00 per bag
	16	Christmas Concert – 9:30 am and 7:00 pm
	17	Spirit Day - Funky Hats or Headbands
	18	Last day of classes prior to Winter Break
	21-Jan 1	Winter Break

Community Announcements

For further information on activities/events for students and families go to -- www.sd69.bc.ca and view details under the Community News and Events – second tab on the left.