

False Bay School

False Bay School is a place that encourages personal and global harmony and love of learning in a spirit of joy and respect



Vice-Principal Ms McKinnon's Message: Fostering Independence

When our first child, Regan, was born in April of 2002, I held her close to me for hours on end. After a week or so, my neighbour, Mary, came over to visit. She must have sensed an emerging doter. Mary's sage advice changed my life – and Regan's fate – forever. "Your job is to make her independent of you." I thought this the most inane advice I had ever heard. After all, how could a six-pounder be independent? As the months and years passed, however, Mary's words echoed and I came to see the importance of empowering my kids. In 2018, ABC News reported that 65% of Italians aged 18 to 34 still lived at home. No thanks! I love my kids, and for that reason, when the time comes, they need to spread their wings. I will recover.

Sometimes we fall into the habit of doing tasks for our kids; we might make the bed or prepare breakfast for them each morning out of habit. Maybe we cut up their food or tie up their shoes too long. Maria Montessori said, "**Never help a child with a task they can perform for themselves.**" Are you doing too much? This article gives age-appropriate tasks that kids should be doing on their own: <https://www.focusonthefamily.com/parenting/age-appropriate-chores>

At school we often depend upon students to do some of the clean up and run errands. Most kids love to be chosen to help the teacher. And teachers spend their workdays giving kids tools and prodding them to "Read it / write it /spell it / add it / yourself." I often hear Ms. Amanda and Ms. Anna encouraging students "Use your strategies" or "Try again" until a skill is performed without direct support. With both parents and teachers fostering independence, we create young people who strike out on their own to live capably and fully.

March Dates to Note:

March 6th – Altered Friday

March 12th – Celebration of Learning Day

March 16th - 27th – Spring Break



Our recent Learning Grant Field Trip went really well! Lots of fun was had at Flipside Gym, the careers day at Ballenas, and a lovely dip at Ravensong pool but the tour of Parksville Fire Station seemed to be a firm favorite!

Blast from the past – Our Gardens' Early Days



False Bay School Garden News

Well done to our wonderful teacher Anna Dodds for making such an awesome grant application to Qualicum Beach Seedy Saturday. They have very generously granted us \$750 to spend on our vegetable garden at FBS!

The school garden runs on a small budget supplied by the PAC from fundraising activities, however this grant enables us to purchase some more hand tools for the younger students, more garden gloves for the older students, organic garden amendments and some bark chips to re-mulch our pathways.

The produce grown in our garden is used in the weekly school lunches made by volunteers in our community. We are still enjoying the leeks, herbs and kale we planted last year and our garlic is just peeking its head out of the ground.



Grants Galore in February!

We also applied for the Times Colonist Literacy Grant earlier this year and they very kindly granted us \$700 towards our library books! We will be ordering a new batch soon, so please let us know if you have any suggestions, your input is appreciated. We acknowledge the financial support of the Province of British Columbia through the Ministry of Education, as well as the Times colonist literacy society. Both of these grants are very much needed and appreciated.

Learning New Skills at FBS



Our older class has been learning some useful new skills! We have our own "Maker-Space" set up in the teacherage and the kids are learning some wood-working skills with Bruce. We also have Rachel and Laura teaching sewing skills once a week. The kids are making some awesome things and are particularly proud of the cool bags they recently made.