



HAPPY VALLEY ELEMENTARY

3291 Happy Valley Road, Victoria, B.C. V9C 2W3

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Principal: Mrs. Karen Sjerven

Vice-Principal: Mrs. Sarah Laughton

February 26, 2018.

Dear Families,

After a snowy day at school on Thursday, children were looking forward to waking up to more snow on Friday's Pro-D Day. I hope everyone enjoyed the weekend.

We are well into a busy second term and students are working toward their learning goals. We have had a terrific start to the new year with numerous special events, guest performers and fun activities in recent weeks.

Here is a look at what is happening at HV with only 3 weeks remaining before Spring Break. Second term report cards will be issued on Thursday, March 15th.

Sincerely,
Karen Sjerven
Principal

UPCOMING DATES TO NOTE:

Wed. Feb. 28th – PINK SHIRT DAY “Be a Friend”
Tues. Mar. 6th- Performance “Uzume Taiko” @ 1:30 / Grade 5's to Dunsmuir for Music concert
Mon. Mar. 12th- Div.9 “Celebration of Learning”
Tues. Mar. 13th- PAC meeting @ 6:30
Thurs. March 15th – Second term reports home
Fri. March 16th – Last day of School
Mon. March. 19th- Mon. April 2nd – Spring Break
Tues. April 3rd- Back to School
Thurs. April 5th- Div. 17,18,19 parent conferences
Tues. April 10th- PAC meeting @ 6:30
Mon. April 16th-Thurs. April 19th – Book Fair
Thurs. April 19th- 3 hour early dismissal @ 11:25 & Div. 1-16 parent conferences
Fri. April 20th – Pro D Day
Fri. May 4th- Pro D Day
Mon. May 7th- Music Monday
Thurs. May 10th- Spring Fair
Mon. May 21st- Victoria Day holiday
Tues. May 22nd & Wed. May 23rd – Art Show
Tues. May 22nd- PAC AGM
Thurs. May 24th – Class and school photos

UPCOMING DATES TO NOTE (continued)

Wed. June 6th- New Kindergarten orientation (am)
Tues. June 19th- Beach Day
Fri. June 22nd- Fun Day
Wed. June 27th- Grade 5 Assembly @ 10:30
Thurs. June 28th- Whole School Celebration Assembly @ 1:15 & Last Day of School

Welcome Student Teachers

You may have noticed several new staff at school in recent weeks. We are fortunate to have four student teachers from UVIC and two student teachers from VIU working in classrooms at Happy Valley for the next several weeks. We would like to extend a warm welcome to *Molly Buchanan, Christine Tischer, Karlissa Lem, Caitlin Mauger, Joel Nason and Nathan Moro.*

PINK SHIRT DAY- Feb.28th

This Wednesday the message is “Be A Friend”. We are all wearing pink to show that we are kind to each other!

A Glowing Success!

Thank you to PAC and our parent volunteers for organizing such a fun family dance on February 8th! The “Glow” theme was a hit! The atmosphere, food and music made it a great party for everyone.

Congratulations Contest Winners!

On Saturday, February 10th, several HV students were awarded monetary prizes at the Royal Canadian Legion, Prince Edward Branch #91 for their entries in the Westshore Poppy Fund's Poster and Literary Contest. Congratulations to *Brooklyn M., Sophie F., Jayah N., Hannah P., Cohen P., Sophie M., Alissa H., and Bryce G.* for their winning entries. *Hannah P.*'s entry was selected to be forwarded to the Zone level for judging as well. Way to go, everyone!

HV has Heart

Thanks to Mrs. Laughton and the Grade 4 helpers who organized the Jump Rope for Heart stations in the gym for all classes on Friday, Feb. 16th. Students worked hard to get their hearts pumping and we all learned some heart smart facts on the announcements. Many students contributed to the Heart and Stroke Foundation by collecting donations. Congratulations to *Seren* for raising \$300 for this important cause!

Basketball Superstars

Our basketball teams are on the road to play against other schools during this intense, short season. Happy Valley is known for great sportsmanship and teamwork. The Jamborees will happen before Spring Break and we are looking forward to playing in the high school gyms! Thank you to our coaches and refs- Mr. Cook, Mrs. Kosolofski and Ms. Berenyi and thanks to our other staff helpers.

PAC NEEDS YOU!

Our dedicated Parent Advisory Council works hard to bring fun events and opportunities to all children. As well as offering family-friendly events like our dances, Spring Fairs, Movie Nights and more, our PAC organizes an excellent Hot Lunch program and helps to coordinate many school-wide events.

The PAC's fundraising efforts go directly toward supporting the children in our school through funding field trip admission and bus transportation, classroom resource purchases, school performances, equipment, books, technology and more. The PAC is looking for your involvement through attending monthly meetings, sharing your input and volunteering for school-wide events. The next big event will be the Spring Fair and plenty of volunteers will be needed. Thanks for jumping in to volunteer to work a shift to make this happen. Information will be coming home soon. We appreciate all parents do for the HV kids and staff!

Potential Snow Day Announcements

News of District school closures due to extreme weather events are broadcast on CFAX beginning at 6:00 am. In the event that District schools are closed, an email message will be sent from the School District to parents via the autodialer system. The School District website will be another source of information regarding school closures.

New Kindergarten Orientation

We will be having a 1 hour orientation for incoming Kindergarten children during the morning of Wednesday, June 6th. This will involve a parent meeting in the gym while students visit various stations in the school. Information will be sent home to families to confirm specific times for groups at a later date. At this time, we have over 90 in-catchment students registered for Kindergarten for next year. We are continuing to confirm registrations and enrolment and staffing information for next year. Stay tuned!

Are you Moving?

Is your family planning a move? If you know that your children will not be attending HV next year, please let us know at the office. Thank you for your help.

Term 2 Parent Conferences

There will be a District Wide "3 hour early dismissal day" on **Thursday, April 19th** to allow for Parent Conferences / Open Houses. Students in **Divisions 1-16** will be having an opportunity for conferences on this day. At a later date, there will be an opportunity to view the April 19th schedules on-line and sign up for individual conferences if needed. *Every teacher will be sending home a newsletter to let parents know of the format for their second term conferences.*

Division 9 will be having a "Celebration of Learning" on Monday, March 12th.

Our 3 Kindergarten classes, (**Divisions 17, 18 & 19**), will be scheduling conferences on **Thursday, April 5th** with student teachers in attendance, in lieu of April 19th.

Parking and Pick-up Reminders

Thank you to parents for your patience regarding limited space on site for after school parking. It is a struggle with so many vehicles and such a busy site.

We continue to have difficulty with traffic blocking the bus lane and drivers vacating their cars in the through-lane. Thank you for remaining in your vehicle so that traffic can continue to move.

We have been contacted by neighbours regarding cars being parked in bike lanes and blocking driveways at the end of the day. Thanks for being aware.

If you visited us recently, you may have noticed...

- 5 new students were welcomed to our school since January!
- Some kindergarten children visited Parry Bay Sheep Farm! Ms. Buchanan's family owns the farm and 3 classes went on a tour.
- All of our Grade 4's and 5's participated in the Olympic Games in the gym on Wednesday! They created flags, carried the torch, listened to National anthems, raised the Olympic rings and joined in the Winter Games.
- Division 3 performed at UVic's Farquar Auditorium, with help from Mrs. K and Maestro Joey. The students performed movement pieces to "*Maple Leaf Rag*" and "*Russian Sailor's Dance*". What an opportunity!
- Many kids from Kindergarten to Grade 5 start their morning by doing "Sensory Circuit" in the gym. We get our muscles moving and our brain busy to start our day.
- Belmont Buddies worked with Grade 1's in Div. 12 to make Valentine boxes.
- Grade 3's in Div.8 regularly exchange letters with Dunsmuir buddies.
- Grade 2's in Div. 10 are becoming Extreme writers by writing a class book and thinking like authors!
- Div. 11 learned about safety on their field trip to the Fire Hall last week.
- Classes from Kindergarten and Grade 4 are working with Mrs. Mathews on learning the "Zones".
- Primary students are working on a play with Mr. Borland during Music time!
- Grade 4's in Div.4 stormed the office with their personal shields!
- Grade 1 and 2 classes are working to create amazing structures during "Maker Space" time.
- Kindergarten and Grade 1 children can do incredible math and estimating! They are becoming writers too!
- Growing readers are working hard with Mrs. Gregory, Mrs. Postle and Mrs. Zanicelli
- Many children created beautiful artwork for Chinese New Year.
- Grade 3 and 4 students in several classes are working on Inquiry projects and doing research.
- Div. 9 was trying to teach Mrs. Sjerven how to clap along with their complicated patterns! The class also created amazing treasure maps and instructions.
- Kids in Kindergarten to Grade 5 read their Book Reviews on the Announcements during Literacy Week.
- Kids and teachers dressed up like their favourite characters. We saw hundreds of famous people and creatures from books!
- Almost 500 books were donated to our Book Swap.
- A funny clown named "Sand Northrup" performed for us.
- Recyclers are hard at work with Mrs. Kwan.
- Amazing learning is happening in **ALL** of our classrooms.