



THE COAL TIPPLE

Coal Tye Elementary School Newsletter
2280 Sun Valley Drive, Nanaimo, BC V9T 6P1
Ph. (250) 729-0450 Fax (250) 729-0460

December 2011, Newsletter #4

PRINCIPAL: Mr. Robbie Dhillon

SECRETARY: Mrs. Jill Williamson & Mrs. Julie Nychuk

<http://www.coaltyee.mysd68.ca/>

Dear Parents:

Christmas time is upon us. It is truly a wonderful time of the year. If you are having trouble getting into the spirit of the season, be sure to come to our concert on Monday December 12. We guarantee you will leave singing and full of Christmas cheer! I would encourage you to come to the 10 AM or 1 PM show.

With this time of year comes cold weather, and sometimes, snowy conditions. Please don't let your children leave home in the morning without proper clothes for the weather. Also, please note that supervision is provided for students starting at 8:35 a.m. I have noticed students arriving much earlier and this can be a long, cold and unsupervised wait for your child.

I invite you to consider a survey the district is doing as well in relation to student services. More information is provided in this newsletter and an email has already been sent on the Coal Tye email list serve with the documents from the actual district (from Mr. Bob Eslinger).



On behalf of the staff of Coal Tye I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and all of the best in the New Year! Please be aware we return from our Christmas holidays on **Tuesday** January 3rd.

Yours truly,

Robbie Dhillon,
(Acting) Principal

TENTATIVE SCHOOL CALENDAR 2011 – 2012 Please note the BCTF job action may change or cancel some of these dates. Up to date information is available at www.sd68.bc.ca

Christmas Show (K-5) 10 AM and 1 PM	Mon Dec 12
Last Day of School	Fri Dec 16
First Day back (note TUESDAY)	Tue. Jan 3
Pro-D [district wide]	Mon. Feb 20
Pro-D [school based]	Tue. Feb 21
Report Card 2 issued	Wed Mar 14
Last Day before Spring Break	Fri. Mar 16
First Day back	Mon. Mar 26
Good Friday (school closed)	Fri. Apr 6
Easter Monday (school closed)	Mon. Apr 9
Pro-D (school based)	Mon. Apr 23
Victoria Day (school closed)	Mon. May 21
Report Card 3 issued	Wed Jun 27
Last Day of School	Wed. Jun 27
Pro-D Day (school-based)	Thu. Jun 28
Administration Day	Fri. Jun 29

CANNED FOOD DRIVE

Coal Tye Grade 7 students are hosting a "12 DAYS of GIVING" Food Drive. **Starting December 1 through December 16** families are encouraged to help fill our hampers by donating dry and canned goods (non-perishable items). A large Christmas tree outside the library will "light up" with decorations from the 12 Days of Christmas as food is donated. All food will be donated to help families in need this season. The goal is to fill one box per day over the 12 days of giving!



ABSENCES OR LATES



If your child is absent or late for school please phone as early as possible to notify the office (and preferably before 8 AM). The school office does have a 24 hour voice mail and you can leave a message stating your name, your child's name, and your child's teacher. This will avoid the phone call from the office to you in the morning, as well as help us to ensure all students are accounted for as quickly as possible. On the topic of lates please ensure your child arrives to school prior to 8:47 as class starts at 8:50 and being late to class can cause distractions for students and staff.

CHRISTMAS VARIETY SHOW (Divisions 4-13)



On Monday December 12th, Mrs. Raducu is planning two shows, one starting at 10 AM (dress rehearsal) and the other at 1 PM, showcasing the singing talents of Divisions 4 and 6-13. Mrs. Galloway's class (Division 5) will also be participating showcasing their musical talents on the ukulele. Mr. Scot Rounding will have our very own Coal Tye Band perform during the start of both shows. Parents, grandparents, other family members are invited to attend. The 10 AM show will be a dress rehearsal and the entire school will be in watching, and seating will be limited. There will be more seating available for the 1 PM show.

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES (SSS) SURVEY OF PARENTS

SSS Principal, Mr. Bob Eslinger, is heading up a survey of Student Support Services in the district. This survey is quite comprehensive and he invites feedback from all parents, regardless of if your child receives additional services or not. As part of the planning process the district will collect feedback from parents/guardians, employee groups and various partner groups. You can provide your feedback by completing the online parent/guardian survey ("survey monkey") at www.sd68.bc.ca. If you wish a paper copy of the survey please contact our office at Coal Tye and we

would be more than happy to provide one for you. The survey is available until Monday January 16, 2012.

CROSS COUNTRY

We missed a name in our last newsletter. Congratulations to Chris Seifried for being a member of the team in the Bantam Boys division.

VOLLEYBALL



Volleyball season started up in mid November. Thanks to Mrs. Rhonda Wood (Bantam Girls—Grade 7), Mrs. Julie Wood (Bantam Boys—Grade 6/7), and Mrs Alyson Aitken (PeeWee Girls—Grade 6) for helping to coach our various teams this volleyball season. Many thanks also to Bryce Williamson (Mrs. Williamson's son) for helping to

referee many of our games. Volleyball season ends towards the end of January.

BASKETBALL



Basketball season starts in early February and ends by mid April. If you are interested in helping with coaching or refereeing please contact Mr. Dhillon. Currently we need coaches for PeeWee Boys (Grade 6) and Bantam Girls (Grade 7). Thank you to Mrs. Brayden and Mrs. Adamson for offering to look after our

PeeWee Girls and Bantam Boys Basketball teams. Volunteers coaching teams will be required to go through a criminal record check. We are also in need of referees for our basketball season (schedule TBD). If you are interested in officiating please contact Mr. Dhillon in the office.

REMEMBRANCE DAY ASSEMBLY

Thank you to those parents and grandparents etc... who were able to join us on November 10th for our assembly.



The ceremony was well received at the school and hopefully you had an opportunity to talk to your child about his or her experience.

Sgt Frank Graves was our speaker from the Legion and he left with a positive feeling. He was particularly touched by the "presentation of the wreaths." He took all of them back to the Legion to show everyone there. Thank you to all of the teachers, educational assistants, other support staff and students for preparing these wreaths as well as the art work around the school during this time.

Many thanks to the following staff:

Mrs. Den Ouden, Ms. Solomon, Mrs. Raducu, Mrs. Pakulak and Mr. Cusson

Thank you to the following students:

Natasha Karod, Tatiani Burtini, Taylor Pederson, Hannah Sworts, Hannah Munson, Emma Campbell, Maddy Luzney, Keyanna Graham, Ashley Ruttan, Saphire Foster-Tanti, James Harker, Janessa Hawsworth and Emma Reid

And of course the assembly could not have been possible without our two excellent MCs:

Madeline Boas and Julie Wood

SCHOOL CLOSURES



The following is a reminder about the Board's school closure policy for students and employees.

If schools are closed due to snow, or any other problems such as power

outages or bad weather, announcements will be on local radio stations (WOLF 106.9 FM and WAVE 102.3 FM) by 7 a.m. on the day of the closure. Please do not call the radio station --- tune in and listen for the announcements, which will be made on a regular basis.

WELCOME TO NEW STAFF

Welcome to a new staff member, Ms K. Turner. Ms. Turner joins us on Fridays as our teacher-librarian and her first day was Friday November 25th. Ms. Turner welcome to the Coal Tye team! Also we welcome Ms. A. Bowman to the school. She is an Educational Assistant and started working at Coal Tye a couple of weeks ago.

APPROPRIATE CLOTHING FOR WEATHER CONDITIONS

The cool wet weather appears to have arrived and there will be many days students will ask the question "Is it an inside day?" The answer on most days is no. Students will be going outside to play at lunch recess unless it is raining heavily. We thank you for ensuring your child comes to school with appropriate rain and cool weather clothing. At Coal Tye we believe in the importance of fresh air and outside play for all students and appreciate your assistance in this regard. It is also advisable students have a change of clothes in their school bags.

OUTERWEAR DONATIONS (JACKETS, WINTER PANTS)

Thank you to parent, Mrs. Tamara Mize, for continuing the used coat/outerwear program. If you have jackets, winter pants etc... that are no longer in use at home and wish to donate them please send the washed item to the school and the item will be made available for students who do not have proper cold weather clothing. The school has a rack, located just outside the library where these jackets are stored. Students who are in need of cold weather items are welcome to take (and keep) something from this rack.

TRAFFIC SAFETY

Please do not park in front of the school on Sun Valley Drive between 8:30 a.m.—9:00 a.m. and 2:15 p.m.—2:50 p.m. as this is a Kiss & Go Drop Off and Pick Up area only during these times.

Also if you are dropping off your child please consider using the area near the swings or on Mountain Vista Road in order to reduce congestion on Sun Valley Drive right in front of the school.

If you want to park at the school please use the parking lot near the swings or along Mt. Vista Drive.

GRADE 5 ACTIVE PASS

Was your child born in the year 2001?

If so, they are eligible to receive the **Grade 5 Active Pass from Nanaimo Parks Recreation and Culture (250-756-5200 or www.nanaimo.ca).**



The pass is for any child born in the year 2001 attending school in school district 68. The pass costs nothing and gives children **free** access to all public swims, public skates and

public open gym times. The pass is good from October 1st, 2011 – August 31st, 2012.

So what are you waiting for? Come into a Nanaimo Parks Recreation and Culture facility and pick up your card now.

In order for us to process your Grade 5 Active Pass, you must bring the following with you:

Child who was born in the year 2001 for a photo;

Birth certificate or passport (does not need to be current).

****Be prepared to complete a short application form and questionnaire on site****

GRADE 6 STAY ACTIVE PASS

For students born in the year 2000 this is a continuation of the program listed above. You can contact Parks and Recreation at 250-756-5200 or www.nanaimo.ca for further information.

PARENT REMINDER ABOUT SCHOOL WASHROOMS

Just a reminder if parents need to use a washroom in the school to please use a staff washroom. Parents should not be using student washrooms.

HEALTHY LIVING

HAND WASHING



Flu and cold season seems to be upon us. It is important that all of us teach children the rules of good health. Proper hand washing is an effective way to avoid the spreading of germs. Here are some suggestions for caregivers to help children with.

Hand Washing Routine for Children

1. Use soap and running water.
2. Rub soapy hands for 10 seconds.
3. Clean under the fingernails.
4. Rinse hands well for 10 seconds.
5. Dry hands well with a towel

When to Wash

- After using the washroom
- Before eating
- Before handling food for any reason.
- When needed after eating snacks or meals.
- After using play materials
- After touching pets and other animals

Parents of Primary Students:

* Include a variety of fruits and vegetables in your children's snacks and lunches every day.
* Have your children help you pack their lunches, so they can learn to make healthy choices early on. For some tips, check out this video:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PGkOADVkcpg>

* Help your children learn about and understand Canada's Food Guide at:

<http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fn-an/food-guide-aliment/index-eng.php>

* To encourage fitness take family walks with your children and, if possible, walk them to school.

* Introduce your children to active games they can play on their own, like hopscotch or jumping rope. When more children are around, introduce tag, soccer or baseball.

Parents of Intermediate/Middle School Students:

* Suggest that your children take the dog for a walk before and after school.

* Limit your children's screen time. Explain to your children that it's important to sit less and move more in order to stay at a healthy weight.

* As children grow, their nutritional needs change. Continue to encourage healthy eating habits using Canada's Food Guide to plan healthy meals and snacks.

* Teach your children to limit foods high in sugar, fat and sodium, and help them learn to replace these foods with more nutritious snacks instead.

ALL PARENTS:

* Encourage your children to eat breakfast every day, as it provides fuel for the brain to learn and helps them maintain a healthy weight.

* Keep nutritious foods, like cut-up vegetables and fruit, cheese sticks, yogurt and butter-free popcorn on hand to make healthy snacking

* Schedule regular dental and any necessary medical checkups.

* Encourage your children to choose milk or water at meals instead of sugary drinks or energy drinks.

* Get children active through sports, or go for nightly family walks or bike rides.

CENTRAL ISLAND YOUTH SOCCER ACADEMY

Central Island Youth Soccer proudly presents our 2nd Annual Christmas Soccer Camp. The camp will run December 19-22 from 12:00 PM to 3:00 PM at Nanaimo's New Turf Field (beside Merle Logan). This is a development camp for boys and girls from ages U9-U15.

Drop the kids off with us and let them burn off some pre-Christmas energy, while you finish up your shopping! For more information about the camp and to print off the registration form, please visit our website at www.ciysa.ca.