Fernwood School Newsletter November 13th, 2026

Looking Ahead Dates:

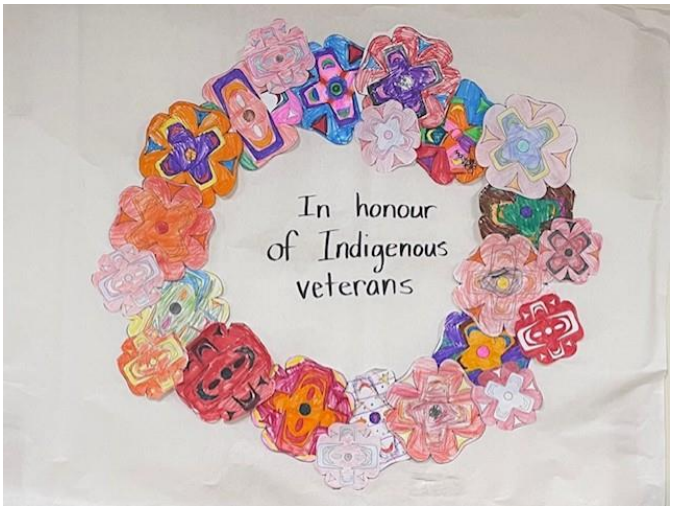
Monday, November 16 – Volleyball Gr 6/7 Away at Fulford
Tuesday, November 17 – Volleyball Gr 4/5 Away at Fulford
Wednesday, November 18 – Salt Spring Health Unit Nurses onsite for Grade 6 Immunizations (digital parent consent in your email)
Wednesday, November 18 – Volleyball Gr 6/7 Away at SSE; VIHA onsite for option for Grade 6 Immunizations (consent link shared)
Thursday, November 19 – Volleyball Gr 4/5 Away at SSE
Wednesday, November 25 – Sarah Currie's class to the Public Library FabLab and Rainbow Pool
Wednesday, November 25 – Volleyball Gr 6/7 Home vs Fulford
Thursday, November 26 – Volleyball Gr 4/5 Home vs Fulford
Tuesday, December 1 – Volleyball Gr 4/5 Home vs SSE
Wednesday, December 2 – Volleyball Gr 6/7 Home vs SSE
Tuesday, December 8 – PAC Hot Lunch Orders due (email fernwoodpac150@gmail.com any questions)
Friday, December 11 – Friday School Day; PAC Hot Lunch
Thursday, December 17 – Last day of school before Winter Break



Remembrance Day Ceremony

On Tuesday, November 10th, students participated in a 'Read-In' and then at 10:48 am parents and families were welcomed to join us when we held our own Remembrance Day ceremony in the gym. We also recognized National Indigenous Veteran's Day.









Volleyball Games Start Next Week! Return Permission Forms

Thank you to the coaches Natalie Bienias and Brian Reid who have offered to help make volleyball happen for the kids! Practices take place during lunch break, and the game schedule is set. Your child cannot leave the school grounds to board the bus to the other elementary schools without a signed permission form. Please bring back your signed form this Monday. Your child will have a consent form with them today and they were also emailed to all the parents of Gr. 4-5 and Gr. 6-7 students. You only need to sign the form if your child is on the volleyball teams.

Hot Lunch

Thank you to the Fernwood PAC and parent volunteers who helped with our pizza hot lunch today!

Our next Hot Lunch will be on **December 11th**. Orders will be due on December 8th.

Fernwood PAC Meeting on Wednesday, December 2

All Fernwood families are welcome to join our next PAC meeting on Wednesday, December 2 at 6:30 PM in the Fernwood library.

Can't make it in person? You're welcome to join virtually!

Join the Microsoft Teams meeting

We're also on Instagram now!

Follow the Fernwood PAC at @fernwoodpac for meeting reminders, updates, school events, and other PAC happenings. It's another easy way to stay connected with our school community!


PAC
invites you
to a free
COFFEE
SOCIAL
Wed, Nov 25th
8:15 – 9am
Outside or
in the library
weather dependant

Fun Friday Day

This Friday, we had a Let's Get Visible Day, PJ Day and Hot Lunch Day in one!





Firehall Visit with Ms. Hingston's Class





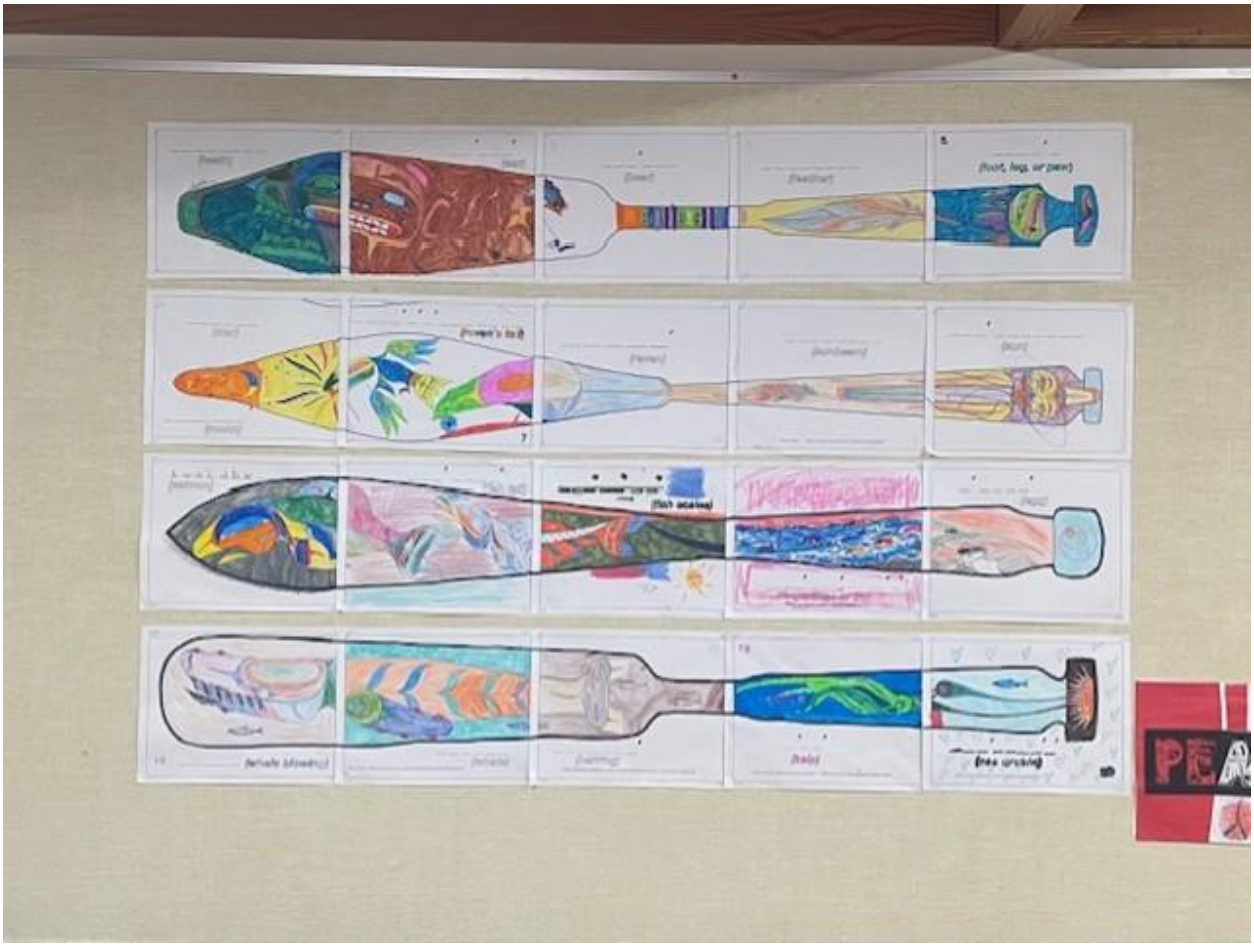




School House Teaching Book Fair

Thank you to everyone who participated in making the School House Teaching Book Fair a great success. Your support raises funds that go directly back to the Fernwood School

library. Thank you to the volunteers who helped students and thank you to Teacher Librarian Amber Thompson for putting this event on to encourage reading!



Let's Get Visible Day was today!

Let's Get Visible – Darker Mornings Road Safety Awareness Campaign

We encouraged students and staff to wear bright, sparkly or light coloured clothing, neon colours, reflective gear, visibility lights, or reflectors.

The Capital Regional District (CRD) in partnership with ICBC, invites all schools in the district to promote visibility and safety on roads and trails by participating in **Let's Get Visible Day** this November.

As winter mornings become even darker as British Columbia shifts to permanent year-round daylight savings time (PCT), it's important to remind students, families, teachers, and staff of simple ways to stay visible while walking, cycling, rolling, taking transit or diving to school. As nearly half (42%) of crashes involving pedestrians happen between October and January when weather and visibility worsen in BC (ICBC), the Let's Get Visible campaign encourages everyone do their part in the dark and:

- **Be Informed:** learn, understand and obey the rules of the road and trails, and follow signage.
- **Be Alert:** be aware of surroundings and watch for other road or trail users. Drivers should slow down, focus on the road and watch for pedestrians.
- **Be Visible**: When walking or rolling wear light, bright, and reflective materials on your clothing and gear.
- **Be Predictable**: Stay on the sidewalk or path, communicate intentions by using voice, hand signals, make eye contact. Drivers must turn on headlights, reduce speed in low visibility and be ready to stop.
- **Be Courteous:** safely share the road and trails.

Similar to other spirit days, this is a simple, fun, and engaging way to promote safety, visibility, and shared responsibility during darker morning commutes.



Foundation Skills Assessment

Students who are in Grade 4 and 7 have now completed the Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA). After the FSAs have been marked, the students' results will be sent home to parents along with the written booklet so the parents can see how their children have performed.

Adequate Clothing for Cold and Rainy Weather

Please make sure your child arrives in weather-appropriate attire, including a waterproof jacket, warm layers, and suitable footwear. **We also ask that each student keep a spare set of clothes at school (including socks and pants)** in case of unexpected weather-related changes.

This is for your child's comfort. If a student is not dressed suitably and does not have extra clothing available, we will need to contact home to request a clothing drop-off. We appreciate your support in helping us minimize these disruptions and keep all students comfortable and ready to learn.

Bus Stop Protocol: Requests to Drop Students Off at Locations Other Than Their Registered Bus Stops

Transportation Services policy is that students will only ride their assigned buses to their registered bus stops apart from exceptional or pre-arranged circumstances. Only parents/guardians can request a change in bus stop. In an emergency or last-minute situation, parents/guardians must contact the school in advance who will inform the Bus Driver of the requirements. If the student needs alternative arrangements on an ongoing basis, please contact the Transportation department on 250-537-5723 or transportation@sd64.org

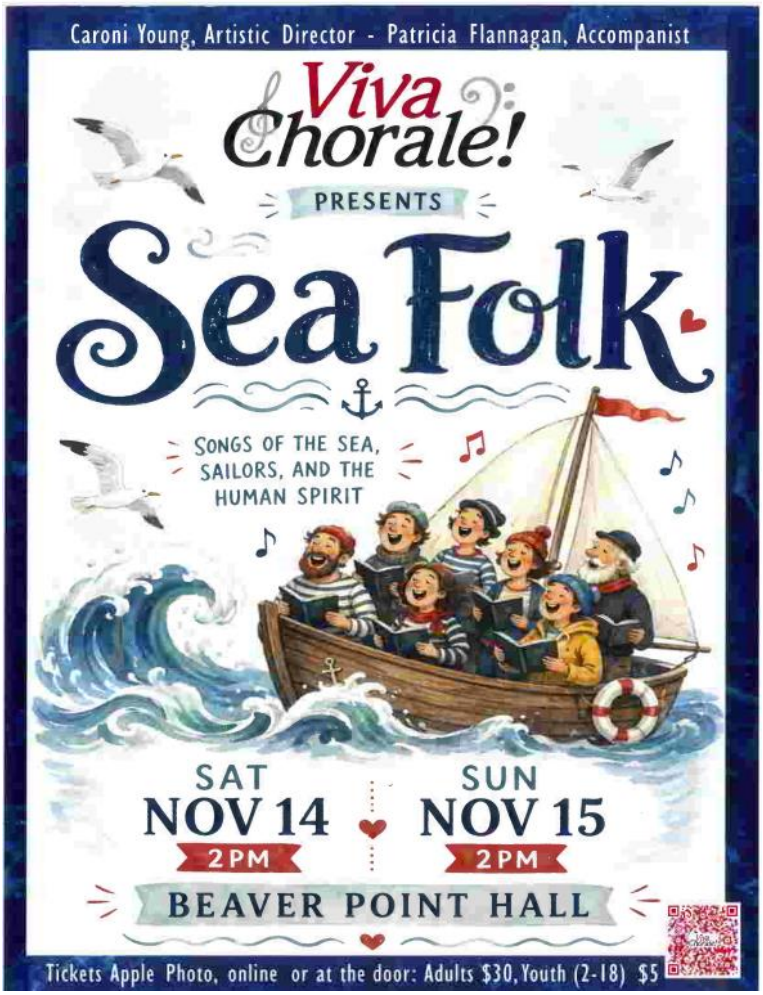
If you have any questions regarding this, please email transportation@sd64.org

Code of Conduct

Please visit this link to view our school Code of Conduct.
Code of Conduct

The Learning Services Department - Fernwood LIST Account has been selected as the charity for the remainder of October and all of November for the Return It Depot on the island. When you go to drop off your bottles, you can ask for it to be donated to the FERNWOOD Learning Services Account – THANK YOU!

Community Notices



ArtSpring Presents

Makana Youth Choirs
FALL CONCERT 2026
Dream Light



Sunday, November 22, 2026 | 2:30-3:30pm
ArtSpring | $15 adult, $7 youth

The concert will feature two choirs, Makana Youth (Gr 6-8) and Makana Kids (Gr 2-5) - and, for the first time, the Makana Family Choir for the grand finale. Our singers will present songs in a variety of styles and languages. Highlights include '*When I Grow Up*' from *Matilda, The Musical,* and a piece by the folk group the Wailing Jenny's called '*One Voice*'.

Music Director
Caroni Young

Accompanist
Ron Klusmeier

Proudly supported by Seth Berkowitz Photography, Viva Chorale!, Deb and Mark Toole, and Lynn Blanche

SEASON PARTNERS
IslandSavings
A DIVISION OF FIRST WEST CREDIT UNION
GANGES VILLAGE MARKETPLACE
Canada
bclive performance network
BRITISH COLUMBIA ARTS COUNCIL
Supported by the Province of British Columbia
BRITISH COLUMBIA

Special Olympics British Columbia



Build skills & connections!

Special Olympics BC – Salt Spring Island is offering fun and welcoming Active Start and FUNdamentals for children with intellectual and developmental disabilities ages 2 to 11!

Date: October 16 to December 18, 2026
Time: Every Friday from 4:30 – 6:00 p.m.
Location: Fernwood Elementary School

These programs are specifically designed for children with intellectual and developmental disabilities, to help them learn vital motor, sport, and social skills in a supportive environment!

Join us. It's easy to register and **program costs are minimal!**

Active Start
Ages 2 to 6

FUNdamentals
Ages 7 to 11

To register please contact:
Laura Mackillop at
lmackillop@specialolympics.bc.ca

specialolympics.bc.ca

SLOW DOWN SALT SPRING

TOY SWAP

5 DEC 2026



DROP-OFF
FRIDAY, DEC 4
3PM-6PM

FREE SHOP DAY
SATURDAY, DEC 5
10:30AM-1:30PM

LOCATION
MEADEN HALL
120 BLAIN RD.

Mouat's Family Series

New for 2026-27, The ArtSpring Presents: Mouat's Family Series is a wide-ranging group of performances that introduces the youngest members of our community to the joy and variety of the arts.



Water Words Thu Oct 29 | 7pm | Ideal for ages 6+ | 55 mins
Developed over three years in Burkina Faso, Senegal and Canada, this seamless blend of spoken word, puppetry, object theatre and live music from reflects on how water shapes our lives, communities, and identities. Mawine. Approx. 60 min.



Yuki the Juggler Sat Feb 13 | 2:30pm | Approx 90 mins
After a special performance from Salt Spring's Tsunami circus, Yuki takes the stage, combining skill with cultural exchange in this fusion of Edo Daikagura—an over 400-year-old performance tradition—alongside cutting-edge juggling, samurai swords, crystal ball manipulation and comedic audience interaction.



***The Wilds* by Wonderheads** Thu Feb 18 | 7pm | Ages 8+ | 60 mins
Charming and touching, The Wilds is a wordless, award-winning show that features Wonderheads' signature masks, whimsical puppetry, and enchanting music. When Wendell discovers that his wife Tilda and their beloved tree have vanished from the backyard, he must venture into the forest to bring them home.



Baby Space Opera Mon Mar 1 | 11am & 2:30pm | 6-24 months | 30 mins. Pricing from $25 for 1 adult and 1 child
Young audiences are invited to explore a colourful universe filled with music, movement, sound and imagination, in an environment created specifically for them. In partnership with the Salt Spring Arts Council and co-sponsored by Nancy Farran.24 months, these shows will take place at Mahon Hall



Stuart Little Tue Mar 16 | 9am | Ideal for ages 4+ | 60 mins
Joseph Robinette's enchanting play brings this timeless tale to life. As Stuart—the endearing little mouse with a great big heart—navigates a world built for humans, the play unfolds with a delightful mix of humour, adventure, and poignant moments. Family theatre at its most uplifting and entertaining!

Adult $45 | Youth $10 | Theatre Angel $15 | purchase.artspring.ca

salt spring arts council
EST. 1968

CRAFTING CONNECTIONS



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14
10AM-12PM AT MAHON HALL

FREE hands-on art & craft activities for children of all ages!

CHILDREN FIRST CANADA | LES ENFANTS D'ABORD CANADA



Register for National Child Day Today!

BIG IDEAS. INSPIRING VOICES. AN UNFORGETTABLE CELEBRATION!

Join CBC Kids News, bestselling authors, inspiring young changemakers and special guests for National Child Day!

Friday, November 20 | FREE Virtual Events | Early Years to Grade 12

Calling all teachers, parents and students! 📣

Get ready for an exciting national celebration filled with inspiring stories, special guests, creativity and powerful conversations about the world kids are growing up in!

Children First Canada invites young people across the country to celebrate National Child Day 2026, featuring award-winning author and illustrator John

Rocco (his beloved books include Blackout, and the Percy Jackson series), Ainara Alleyne of Ainara's Bookshelf, CBC Kids News, inspiring youth leaders and many more special guests!

With three engaging, age-appropriate programs, there's something for everyone: from our youngest learners to high school students.

Best of all? It's completely FREE!

✸ What's in store?

📚 Meet amazing authors and storytellers! Enjoy a special read-along with bestselling author and illustrator John Rocco and hear from Ainara Alleyne of Ainara's Bookshelf.

🎤 Meet inspiring guests! Join CBC Kids News journalist Mela Pietropaolo and special guests Land Heart Song, Baabii and JP.

🚀 Be inspired by young changemakers! Meet young leaders, including Ismena Toscan, Rachel Cook and members of Children First Canada's Young Canadians' Parliament, who are making a difference in their communities and across Canada.

💻 Explore Growing Up Digital! Discover how young people can make the most of technology, protect their rights, stay safe and shape a better digital future.

🎵 A special treat for our youngest viewers! Early Years participants will enjoy a special message from beloved children's entertainer Raffi!

🏫 In the classroom or at home - everyone is welcome!

Teachers: Bring your class together for an engaging, age-appropriate experience that connects with learning about children's rights, digital citizenship, kindness and student leadership.

Parents: Is November 20 a PD day for your child? Looking for something fun, educational and meaningful? Join from home! Kids can participate independently, with siblings, with friends or as a family.

Just 30-45 minutes can spark big conversations and inspire big dreams!

📅 Choose your **FREE** session - Friday, November 20

Each session is offered twice to make participation easy across Canada. All times Eastern (ET).

🐣 **EARLY YEARS | 30 minutes**

9:00–9:30 AM or 1:00–1:30 PM

🎵 Featuring a special message from Raffi, storytelling and engaging activities for our youngest learners.

REGISTER FREE: https://luma.com/x49lxnbp

🎨 **ELEMENTARY | 30 minutes**

10:00–10:30 AM or 2:00–2:30 PM

📚 Featuring authors, inspiring stories, creativity and young changemakers.

REGISTER FREE: https://luma.com/p5wewl1q

🚀 **MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL | 45 minutes**

11:00–11:45 AM or 3:00–3:45 PM

💡 Featuring inspiring youth leaders and thought-provoking conversations about technology, online safety, children's rights and shaping the future.

REGISTER FREE: https://luma.com/st3nweu2

Their rights. Their voices. Their future.

National Child Day celebrates the rights, voices and extraordinary potential of Canada's 8 million children.

This year's theme, **Growing Up Digital: Protecting Children's Rights in a Digital World**, explores how we can ensure every child has the opportunity to learn, connect, play and thrive, both online and offline.

Join thousands of students from coast to coast to coast for this special national celebration!

📣 Help spread the word! Share this invitation with teachers, parents, school communities and friends. Whether you join with an entire classroom or watch from your living room, every child is welcome!

We can't wait to celebrate with you on November 20!

Register for National Child Day Today!

GULF ISLANDS SCHOOL DISTRICT 64

SD64 MOBILE APP

