



Fernwood Elementary School Newsletter February 26, 2026

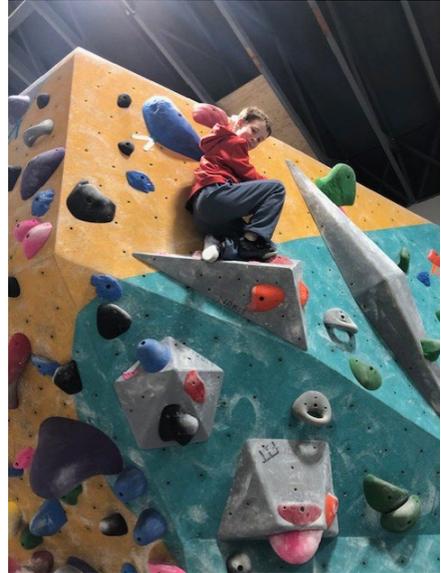
Heidi Cameron's and Cathryn Pyper's class went to the Hand of Man Museum in Maple Bay on Tuesday. The Hand of Man Museum is a 15,000 square foot Museum of Natural History, Cultural Arts and Conservation. [Hand of Man Museum - Hand of Man - Museum of Natural History, Cultural Arts & Conservation](#)







Brian Reid's class went to the climbing wall and skating in Duncan.



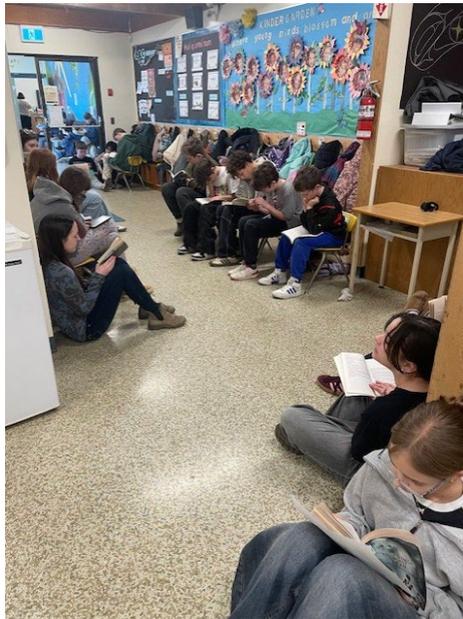


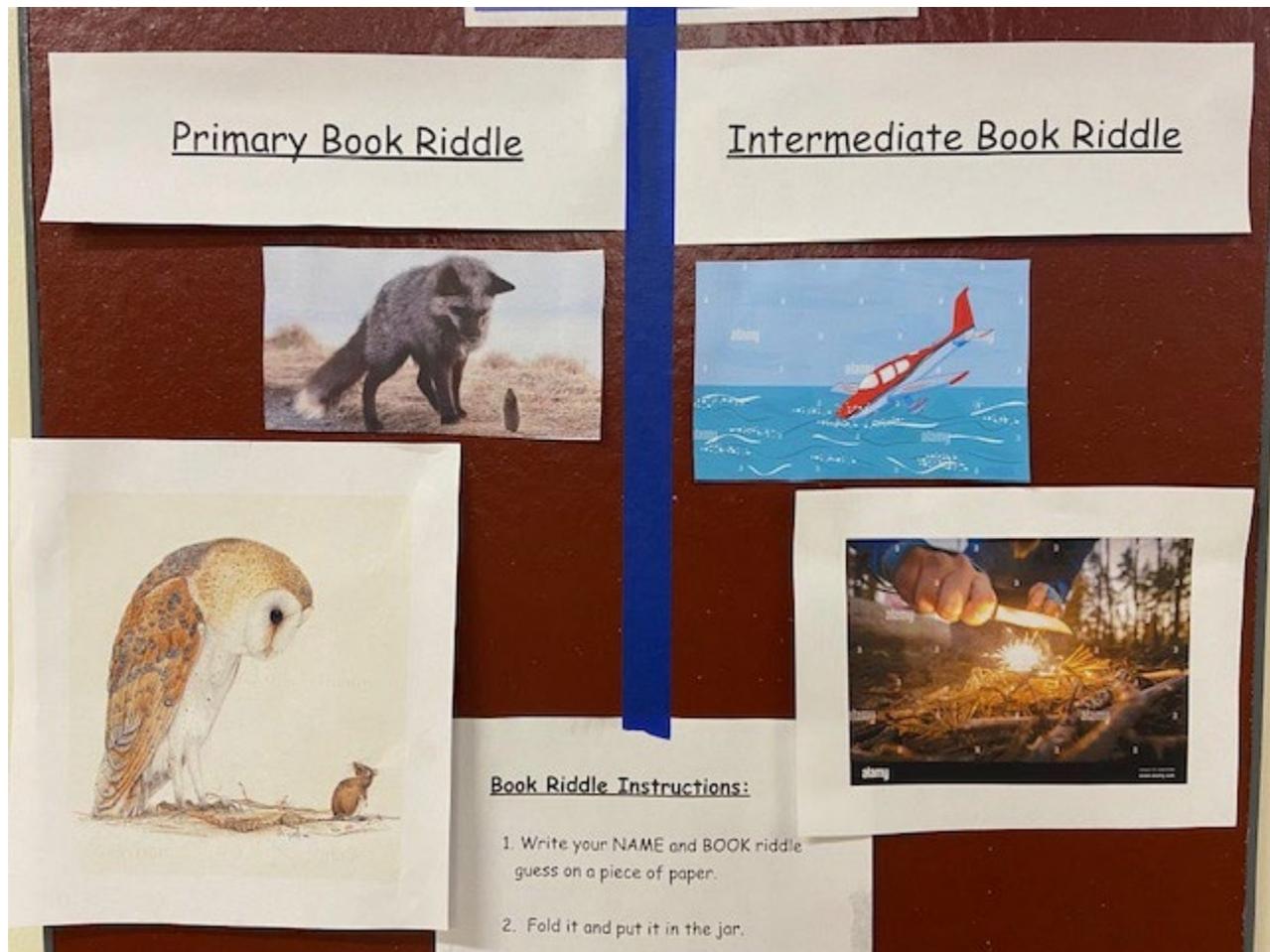
Sarah Currie's class went to Rainbow Pool and Country Grocer.



DROP EVERYTHING AND READ DAY!

Drop Everything and Read is a celebration of reading at the school! Everyone stopped what they were doing today at 11:30 am and read a book!





Book Riddle Winners This Week

There are many correct guesses and three winners drawn each week. Congratulations to this week's prize winners of the Book Riddle Contest. Luka, Sumi and Kai were the intermediate level winners for guessing the book Hatchet and Ignatia, Journey and Fable who were drawn in the primary level category for guessing correctly the book title The Gruffalo. This wraps up our Book Riddle Contest. Winners will be drawn every week in the month of February during the Reading Blitz so guess again next week when we will have two more books to guess in the Book Riddle Contest!



Thank you, Clay, for running the new lunch club for Dungeons and Dragons!



Chess Club

We are seeking volunteers to help us start a chess club at school. If you are interested, please let us know. You can be helpful in many ways and do not have to have experience. We already have a very keen parent (thank you Hannah!) who has always wanted to run a school chess club, and also an experienced grade 7 student who is willing to help.



We need more volunteers to let us know which day of the week works for them so we can start the weekly lunch club after spring break. The lunch hour runs from 12:15-1:00 pm.

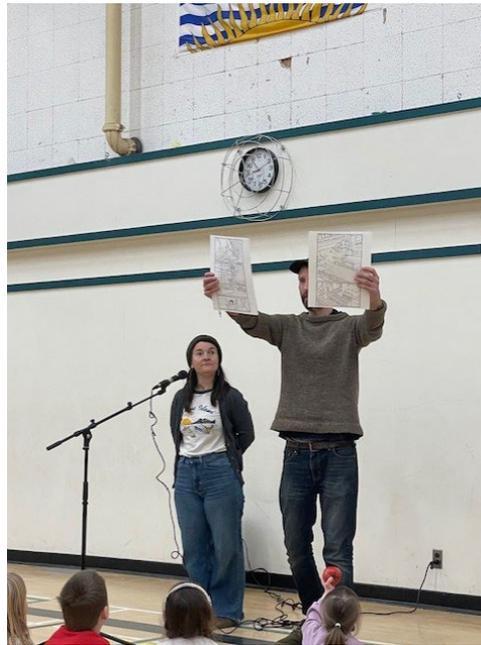
We would also like to find out if any families would be willing to loan the club a chess board so that we have enough.

A game of chess can be a fun way to learn math, strategy, problem solving and social skills and it doesn't matter if you win or lose because each time you play a game of chess you improve!

Please let us know if you can volunteer to run Chess Club! You can tell your teacher, phone the school at 250-537-9332 or email Leah in the office at fernwood@sd64.org.

Whole School Meeting – Everyone Welcome 8:45 – 9:15 am on Thursdays

At this week's Whole School Meeting, author, Nancy Deas and Illustrator, Mike Deas, shared the process of creating a graphic novel and answered questions from the students.



Students from Ms. Hingston and Mr. McLean's class recently took part in writing about what home means to them. This was a fundraising project connected to Habitat for Humanity, for which the 2 classes raised \$450.00. The stories were so heartwarming. Well done!

Shelly shared friendly deeds and the fun jokes.

Ms. Thompson reminded students to hand in their Reading Blitz forms.

Thank you to Parker and Jude for opening and closing the whole school meeting with the Territorial Acknowledgement.



Be kind.



PiNK SHiRT DAY ²⁰
FEB 25 ²⁶

On Wednesday students and staff were offered an opportunity to wear a pink shirt. The Fernwood PAC purchased 100+ shirts quite a few years ago that have had words of kindness written on them year after year. There were so many other ways that kindness was shown throughout the day including small gestures...smiles, words of encouragement, acts of inclusion, and lending a helping hand.









Be Kind



Fernwood Basketball

'Thank You' to Becky and Dane, Caitlin, Mr. Reid, and Ms Meghan for being our coaches this season!

Note: Grade 4/5 team – Be sure to bring your permission slips to school on Monday morning so you can travel to Fulford for your next game!

This week, we hosted the Fulford grade 4/5 team on Wednesday.





Here are some action photos of the grade 6-7 girls game Monday when we hosted Salt Spring Elementary!





We also hosted the Grade 6/7 SSE boys today!



Game Schedule

Date	Grade	Where	Time
Mon Feb 23	6-7 Girls	SSE Here (HOME)	12:15 pm
Wed Feb 25	4-5 mixed	Fulford Here (HOME)	12:15 pm
Thurs Feb 26	6-7 boys	SSE here (HOME)	12:15 pm
Mon March 2	4-5 (mixed)	Fulford	Bus Leaves 11:30 am
Tue March 3 (cancelled)	6-7 Girls	(HOME) Fulford here	12:15 pm
Thurs March 5	6-7 Girls	SSE	Bus Leaves 11:30 am
Thurs March 5	4-5 mixed	(HOME) SSE here	12:15 pm
Mon March 9	4-5 (mixed)	SSE	Bus Leaves 11:30 am
Wed March 11	Co-Ed 6-7 Tournament	GISS (Gulf Islands Secondary School)	TBA – outer island teams visit!

Student Learning Survey 2025/2026

The Provincial Student Learning Survey is unique in its scope, size and usefulness to schools. It gathers information from parents/guardians/caregivers, teachers, and students on topics related to school environment, safety, and achievement. The information is used for planning in individual schools and provides a district and provincial perspective.

Early in **2026** the Student Learning Survey will be administered to students in grades 4 and 7, their parents/guardians/caregivers, and all school staff. We encourage parents/guardians/caregivers to participate in this survey, as the results are important in identifying and celebrating current strengths,

as well as determining where the school needs to focus improvement. The surveys contain standard questions for the Province – in addition, questions from the school and/or district that focus on local conditions or issues may be included.

The survey can be completed electronically and can be accessed on the Internet at <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/support/student-learning-survey>. Any computer or mobile device with an Internet connection can be used, and access to the e-survey is simple and secure. The survey can be accessed through the link and by clicking on Take the Survey. On the login page, click on the Parents icon, and then select the school district and school name where your child attends school. Provincial, District and School Reports for previous years can be viewed at the same site under the *Results* section.

The e-survey site will be open until May 1, 2026. If you have any questions, please contact Shelly or Marie.



Fernwood's Spring Clean
Lost & Found

Collect your child's Lost & Found items by
March 12th.
All uncollected items will be donated.
Thank you.

February Reading Fun Challege

WE KNOW YOU CAN DO IT!

Reading Blitz February 2026

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
 1	 2	 3	 4	 5	 6	 7
 8	 9	 10	 11	 12	 13	 14
 15	 16	 17	 18	 19	 20	 21
 22	 24	 25	 26	 27	 28	

This is to certify that from February 2nd to 28th

1. My child, _____, read for 20 mins/night
2. My child, _____, read for 20 mins/night AND did the Cold Turkey challenge

Name of child: _____

Signed: _____

During Reading Blitz, you have two options for challenges:

Reading Blitz Challenge

Can you read for 20 minutes or more every day during the month of February? Post the attached calendar on your fridge and check off the book for each day you read for at least 20 minutes and earn a recognition award for 28 days of reading.



Cold Turkey Challenge

Do you need more of a challenge? The Cold Turkey Challenge is No T.V.- No Videos for a month. Can you NOT watch TV or videos for the month? Can you NOT play video or computer games? Can you READ for 20 minutes or more a day instead? We are offering great incentive prizes to those kids who are tough enough to make it through READING BLITZ month without watching a television set or videos, and who read instead! If you are up for this challenge, cross off the T.V. and check off the book for every day that you read for 20 minutes or more instead of watching T.V./videos.



What about computers?

No problem! Computers used for educational, useful, productive or creative things are great. Just playing games or "watching videos" are not allowed.

FLEX DAYS

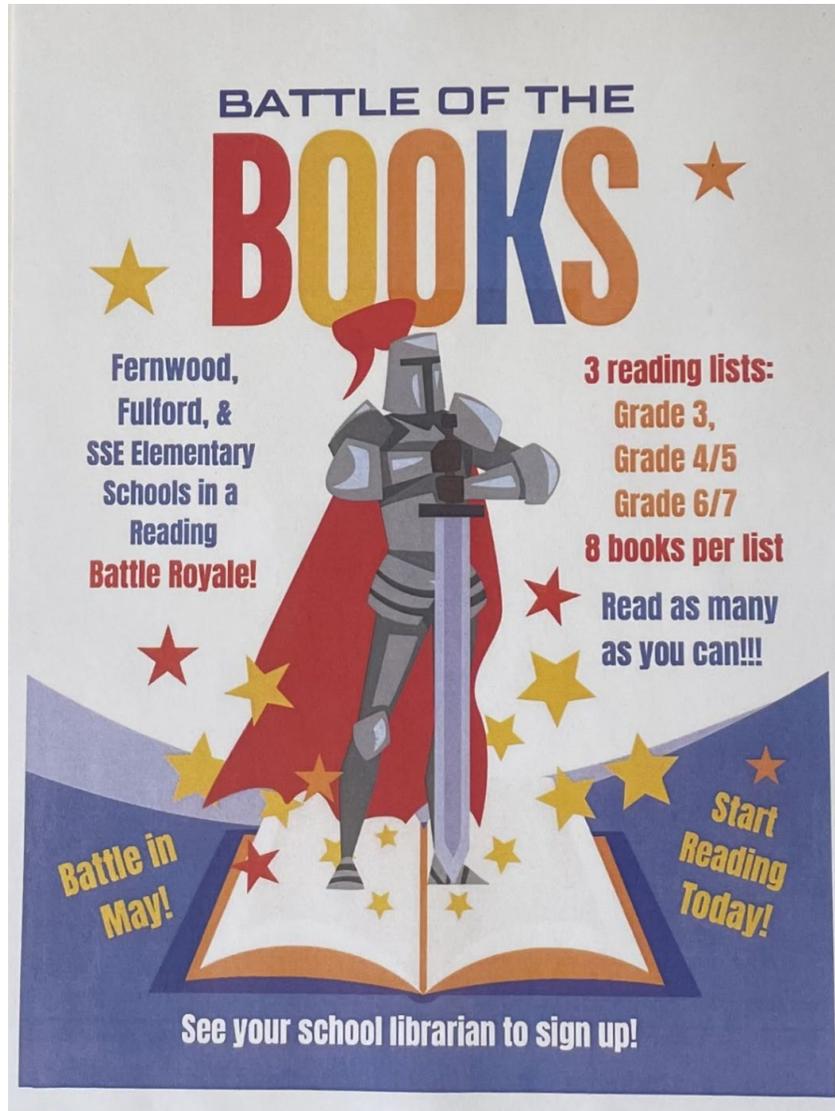
You have two "flex days" during the month when you can watch a T.V. or video and/or not read.

Good luck! We know you can do it!

'Battle of the Books' continues between Fernwood, SSE and Fulford!

All kids from Grades 3-7 are invited to join the Battle of the Books (BOB). It is a fun competition between the three elementary schools on the island, where students read as many books as they can from a list of 8 books! Students will then make a small team and practice answering comprehension quiz questions on the books. There will be a district wide event in May (date TBA) where Fernwood, Fulford and SSE compete against each other! All participants will be invited to an ice cream party and there will be awesome prizes for the winning teams!

Books can be borrowed at the school library, or at the Salt Spring Public library. They can also be audio books, e-books, or books that are read to them! Students sign up at the school library. Any questions? Email Amber, the teacher-librarian at athompson@sd64.org
May the reading battle commence!



Update from the Library

I will be meeting with kids to arrange teams this week! They will be coming up with their team names and 'theme' based on one of the books they have read. After Spring Break we will be practicing questions and the exciting news is that the actual event will be held on **Wednesday, May 20th at Fernwood School!** Parents are welcome to watch!

~ Ms Thompson

Dates Looking Ahead:

Tuesday, March 3 – Field Trip for Meghan Montgomery’s class to the Curling Rink!

Wednesday, March 4 – Field Trip for Sarah Currie and Allan MacLean’s classes to the Hand of Man Museum in Duncan

Tuesday, March 10 – PAC Meeting and next PAC Hot Lunch (orders through MunchaLunch)

Wednesday, March 11 – Basketball Tournament at GISS

Thursday, March 12 – Spring Dance & Raffle (Fernwood PAC Event); Field Trip for Natalie Binas’ and Meghan Montgomery’s classes to Mount Washington

March 16-26 - Spring Break



COMMUNITY NOTICES



Thank you to everyone who chooses to donate to Fernwood Elementary School through the Country Grocer Save-a-Tape program. Funds are used to subsidize field trips and purchase classroom and learning services supplies. It is very appreciated.

The Fernwood Elementary School number on their scanning two scanning kiosks is #114.



Nature Art Camp

March Break
WK 1: March 16-20
WK 2: March 23-27
10-3, \$375

Lisa Lipsett
250-538-2251
llipsett@me.com

Paint Draw Print
www.paintwithnature.com

March Break Nature Art Camp
Week 1- March 16-20, 10-3pm, \$375 – full
Week 2- March 23-27, 10-3pm, \$375 – might be room!

To register call/text Lisa Lipsett 250 538 2251
Email llipsett@me.com

For more info visit: <https://creativebynature.org/nature-art-classes-camps-2026/>

Fastpitch & Baseball Registration is

Now Open!

Registration is officially open, and we can't wait to welcome both returning players and new athletes to the field.

Registration Links:

Girls Fastpitch: SaltSpringIslandMinorBB.rampregistrations.com/participant

Boys Minor Baseball: saltbaseball.rampregistrations.com/participant

Our programs focus on skill development, teamwork, confidence, and — most importantly — having fun.

Whether your child is picking up a glove for the first time or looking to build on their experience, there is a place for everyone.

Spots fill quickly, so we encourage families to register early to secure their player's place for the season.



**BASEBALL
REGISTRATION**

REGISTER NOW

**WINTER CLINICS AND
SPRING REGISTRATION**

Winter clinics: 9U | 11U | 13U | 15U
Spring registration: 7U T-BALL | 9U | 11U | 13U | 15U

<http://saltbaseball.rampregistrations.com/participant>



REGISTRATION OPEN FOR

FASTPITCH

REGISTER NOW!

WINTER CLINICS AVAILABLE FOR:
Joined U11/U13 | U17

SPRING REGISTRATION FOR:
U9 | U11 | U13 | U15 | U17

REGISTER USING THE direct link below:

<http://SaltSpringIslandMinorBB.rampregistrations.com>

This newsletter is also sent out to the District APP – subscribe to Fernwood Elementary on the app or any other sources you choose!



SD64 MOBILE APP

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Download the SD64 App. From events to bus delays, all the information your family needs in one place. With up-to-date notifications and information directly from your school, you'll stay connected no matter where you are.

A blue rectangular graphic with a white icon of a mobile phone displaying the SD64 app interface. The text is white and black.

The Province of BC has a no cell phone policy in elementary schools.

