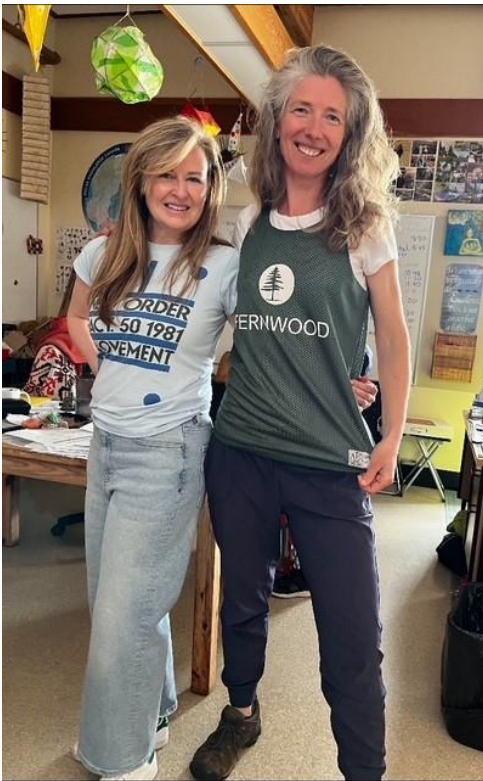




Fernwood Elementary School Newsletter April 10, 2026

Friday Whole School Spirit Day - Theme 'Numbers' OR 'Sports'





BUS REGISTRATION IS OPEN - closes April 30th

PLEASE REGISTER BEFORE APRIL 30 IF YOU REQUIRE BUS SERVICE NEXT YEAR



March 31, 2026

Re: School Bus Transportation Registration – 2026–2027 School Year

Dear Parents and Guardians,

School bus transportation registration will open on April 1, 2026. If your child or children require bus service for the upcoming school year, please complete the registration process before April 30, 2026.

Transportation Registration for the 2026–27 School Year Is Now Open — [Click Here](#)

Early registration is important as it allows the Transportation Department to effectively plan bus routes, determine capacity, and assign stops. Registering your child early provides the best opportunity to secure a seat on the bus and helps minimize the possibility of overcrowded buses.

Please review the following important information regarding transportation registration:

Registration Period: The bus service registration window will be open from **April 1 through April 30, 2026**.

Transportation registrations are valid for one school year only, and students must be registered each year.

Late Registration: Bus registrations received after April 30, 2026 are subject to a \$75 late registration fee. This fee is waived for students who move into the district after the April registration period.

Transportation Cards: Transportation cards are required to ride SD64 Transportation Services. Please keep your child's current bus card, as it will be used for next year's bus service.

Registration Blackout Period: No transportation registrations will be processed from August 15 through September 18. Any registration requests received during this period will be reviewed after September 18.

Bus Eligibility: Only students who have received confirmation that they have been assigned a seat on the bus are permitted to ride. Unregistered students are not permitted to use SD64 transportation services.

Water Taxi Riders: Students who travel by water taxi are registered directly through the Transportation Department. Note: Students traveling by water taxi to Pender Island will also be registered for the Pender bus service through the Transportation Department.

If you have any questions regarding student transportation, please contact the Transportation Department at transportation@sd64.org / 250-537-5723.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,


Transportation Department

School District 64

Whole School Meeting

Thank you Scarlet and Dallas for opening and closing the Whole School Meeting with the Territorial Acknowledgement and drumming. We recognized birthdays and also students who had demonstrated the 3Cs (caring for self, others and the environment), read the jokes and asked students to try to keep the hall floors clear of personal items as a reminder. We also heard from Ms Curtis' students for the weekly class presentation. Ms Curtis' students presented their 100th Day of School Celebration efforts at the Whole School Meeting.



HAPPY
100TH
DAY  **OF**
SCHOOL



Ms Curtis, Ms Michaux, Mrs. Pyper and Ms Heidi's classes are recognizing this special day. '100 Days of School' marks a joyful milestone for classrooms, celebrating growth, creativity, and the small wins that add up to big learning.

IF YOU COUNT VERY
CAREFULLY YOU WILL
SURELY DISCOVER
THAT THIS SENTENCE
CONTAINS EXACTLY
ONE HUNDRED COLORFUL
LETTERS



Thank you to the parent volunteers who made another Pizza Day happen for the kids on our Friday school day today! You are very appreciated! Samantha, Kate, Shawna and Meaghen thank you for your time.

The next PAC meeting is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, April 28th.

The next Pizza Day is Thursday, May 22nd.

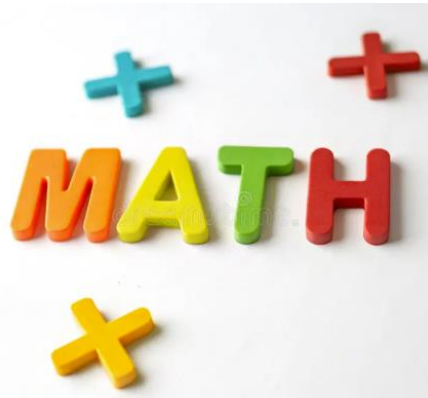
Thank you for your support!
Fernwood PAC



Salt Spring Arts Council 'Flight of Colour' - Fernwood Elementary Participating

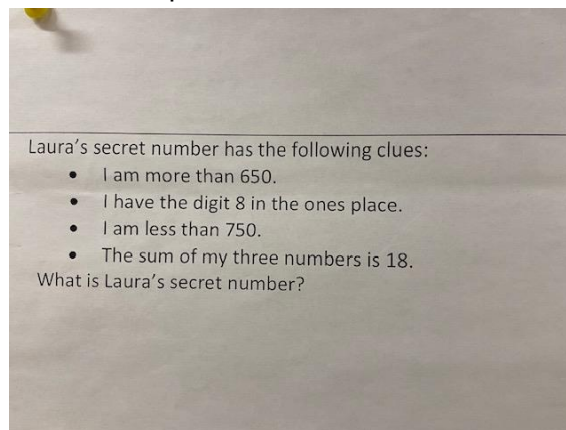
Janice Parker from the Salt Spring Arts Council was at school Thursday to introduce students to a new children's community project this spring called 'Flight of Colour'. This outdoor public installation of painted driftwood and bird-shaped plywood cutouts will be planted upright on the grounds of Mahon Hall and will stay in place for two years. Once the installation is complete in early May, they will host an opening exhibition to celebrate the students and their work. Students in Cathryn Pyper, Brian Reid and Melissa Hingston's classes began this project this week!





Weekly Math Challenge - Winners This Week
Congratulations Kohen Rink, Wyatt Knoblauch and Theo Seguin!

The question this week was:



See if you can get the right answer!





Welcome to Kindergarten Events – emails have gone home to parents of New Kindies to sign up for these events...

The first event is a Pizza Night (4:30-5:30 pm on April 30th) and then an opportunity to come in small groups (small groups of up to 7 children) on one of the days to choose between May 5, 12, 19 or 26.

Further events, such as Family Info Night and a Family Picnic are in the works with dates to be announced at the end of May and in the month of June. We hope you can make it to some of these events to help your child transition into K!

Kick Start to Kindergarten

Pizza Night 🍕 🍕 🍕

Date: Thursday, April 30

Time: 4:30-5:30

Meet in Fernwood Strong Start (ELF) classroom for pizza and play, meet Fernwood Staff, and tour kindergarten classrooms.

K Play Sessions

Location: Fernwood ELF

***Dates: May 5, 12, 19, 26**

Times: 2:00pm-3:00pm

Play with 5-7 other future kindergarten students, tour the school, participate in a story walk and connect with future K teachers. *Parents will need to sign up for preferred dates.

Kindergarten Hearing Screening for Current Students

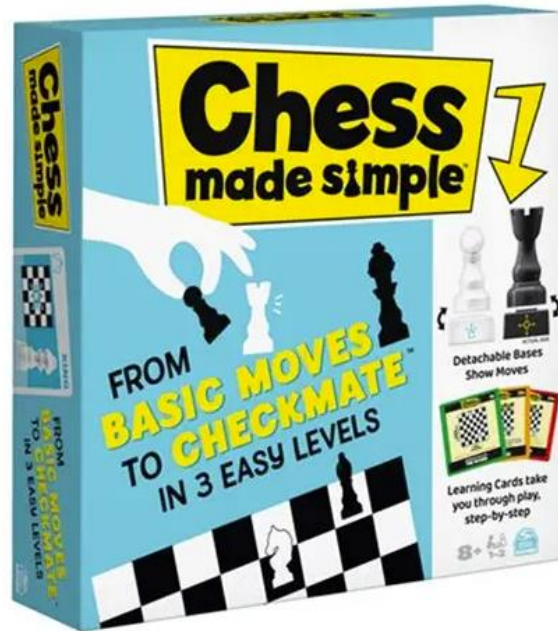
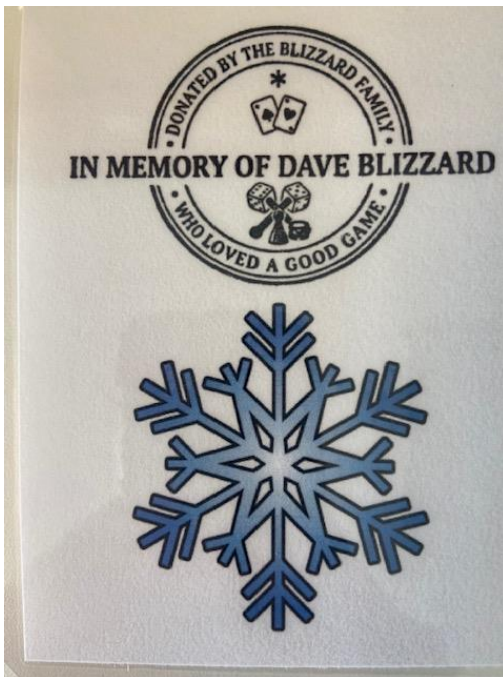
VIHA will visit Fernwood on April 16 to conduct 'Kindergarten Hearing Screenings' for the current Kindie students. You will get your child's results if there is any concern, and, if necessary, recommendations for further hearing assessment. Letters were sent home about this already to parents for awareness and permission.

Do you play chess?

Would you like to learn?



The Chess boards have arrived! Thank you to the Blizzard family who generously provided 12 'Chess Made Simple' games and 10 soft travel style chess bags to Fernwood Elementary in response to a request for the need. We are very excited and grateful for this donation and to the games that have been donated in memory of Dave Blizzard. Chess Club will be open to all ages and abilities and will start next week during the lunch hour on **Tuesday**. Everyone is welcome. Thank you to Hannah Garvie-Ransen for spearheading this opportunity for kids to learn and enjoy chess! Thank you also to teacher, Clay Dawson, parent Bruce Winstone and Leah for helping to run this club!



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 on 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.

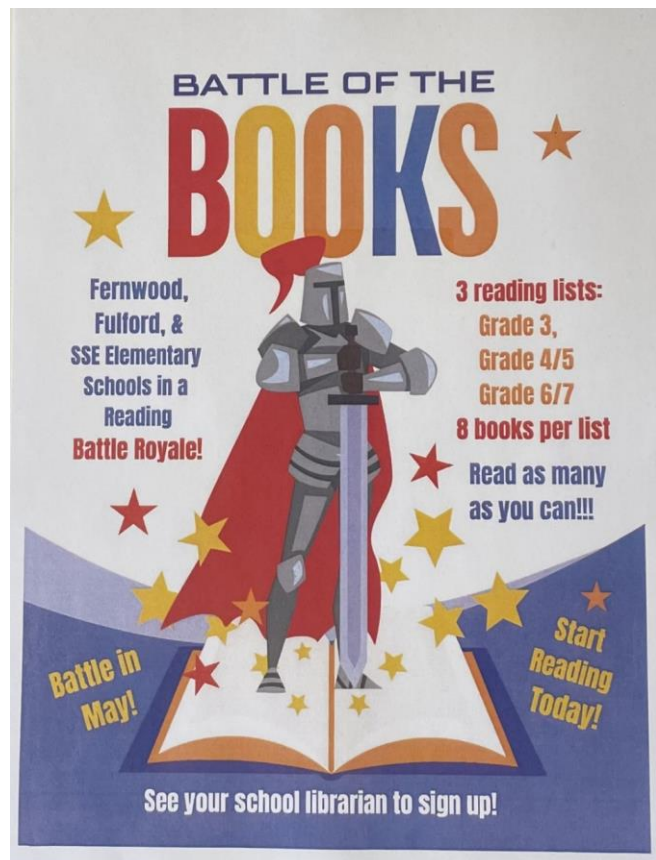
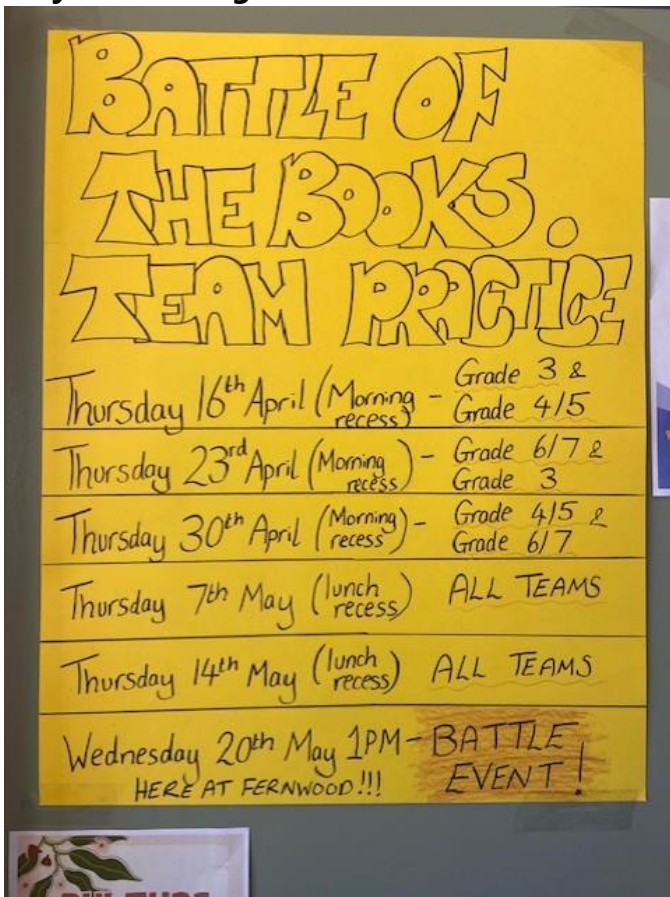
'Battle of the Books' continues between Fernwood, SSE and Fulford!

Wednesday, May 20th at Fernwood School! Parents are welcome to watch!

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!



Dates Looking Ahead:

Thursday, April 16 - Kindergarten Hearing Screening – Nurses onsite at Fernwood – letters have gone home

Tuesday, April 21 – Melissa Hingston and Allan MacLean’s classes to Mahon Hall to see the Nature-Tech Exhibit

Wednesday, April 22 – Earth Day

Thursday, April 23 – Earthquake Drill

Tuesday, April 28 – next PAC Meeting; Grade 6/7 Career Event at GISS

Thursday, April 30 – Kindergarten Kickstart Pizza Night (for next year Kindies) - 4:30 –5:30 pm

May 5,12,19,26 – Kindergarten K Plays (in the StrongStart room) 2:00 – 3:00 pm (a sign up will go home to fill 5-7 spots per session)

Monday, May 18 – no school

Wednesday, May 20 – Battle of the Books (elementary schools visit Fernwood)

Friday, May 22 – Friday School Day; Pizza Day; next Whole School Spirit Day

Thursday, June 11 – The Fabulous Fernwood FUN FAIR!

Thursday, June 25 - Last Day of School



Thank you to everyone who chooses to donate to Fernwood Elementary School through the Country Grocer Save-a-Tape program. We appreciate the time it takes to scan your receipt! Funds are used to subsidize field trips and purchase classroom and learning services supplies.

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

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

A blue rectangular advertisement for the SD64 Mobile App. It features the SD64 logo in a small square, the text "SD64 MOBILE APP", and a paragraph of text: "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."

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

