

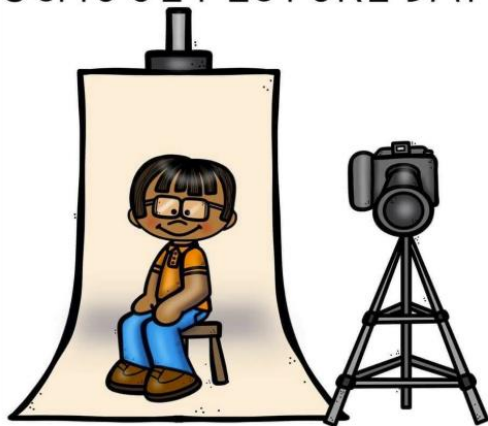


## Fernwood School Newsletter September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025



*Late Summer Bouquet from the Acosta family garden...thank you Maya!*

## SCHOOL PICTURE DAY



**Thursday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>**

All students will have their individual photos taken for our database. Instructions on how to order your own portraits will come from Lifetouch Photography once they provide proofs to the school (usually a couple of weeks after photo day).

Retake Day is scheduled for November 6<sup>th</sup>.

## Whole School Meeting – Everyone is welcome! - Thursday 8:45 am in the Gym

Whole School Meetings are an opportunity to be together as a whole school community and everyone is welcome! Everyone is always welcome to our Whole School Meetings usually held on Thursday at 8:45 am in the gym.



At this week's whole school meeting we heard from Ms. Bienias' class. The students wrote poems inspired by George Ella Lyon's poem called "Where I'm From." Dallas introduced Jude, Juliette, and Scarlet reading their poems.

Thank you to Jet and Luka for opening and closing the meeting with the territorial acknowledgement.



*Winners of the 10 class draws for Orange Shirt Day t-shirts: Gunnar, Kouhei, Annie, Andrii, Bonnie, Rowan, Hazel, Cash, Kailash and Theo*



### **Tuesday, September 30<sup>th</sup> is National Day for Truth and Reconciliation**

School is closed Tuesday, September 30<sup>th</sup> in recognition and observance of National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. There will be school on Friday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>. We will have Orange Shirt Day at School on Monday, September 29. You are invited to wear orange on Monday. Orange Shirt Day is a commemorative day to raise awareness about the intergenerational impacts of residential schools on children, families and communities. This day reminds us that 'Every Child Matters'. As a collaborative effort to promote a culture of reading within the school community, we will also be having a whole school 'Read-In' on Monday in smaller groups where students choose the book they would like to hear read aloud.

### **Salish Storm Hockey- Storm the Ice** Low Barrier Hockey Program Vancouver Island for Indigenous Youth

Shayce Johnston, one of the school district Indigenous Support Workers wanted to share with you all an amazing low-barrier hockey development program for Indigenous youth ages 6-18. The program is called **Salish Storm Hockey- Storm the Ice**. Fundamental hockey skills are taught through a play-based system building on physical literacy basics and fun. Children work on skating, basic puck handling, passing and shooting with emphasis on participation. No previous hockey experience is required. **ALL costs are covered** (equipment, registration fees). It looks like this program is offered in Nanaimo, Cowichan, and Saanich.

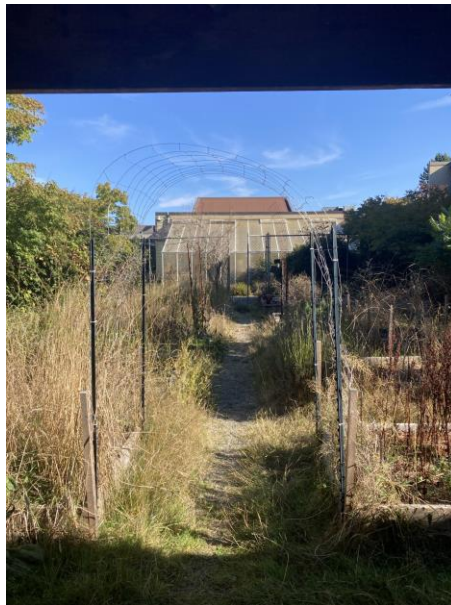
Here is a link to the Salish Storm Website [Salish Storm Hockey Association](http://SalishStormHockeyAssociation.com).

### **STRONG START EARLY LEARNING OPENS WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1<sup>st</sup> !!!!!**

**Thank you to Mundy for everything she did to help transition the early learners into Kindergarten during September!**

**Hours are: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday mornings 8:30 am to 11:30 am**

## **FERNWOOD SCHOOL GARDEN UPDATE**



**BEFORE**



**AFTER!**

**Thank you Matthew & Kari Burgess, Jaime Taraskiewicz, Linda burgess, Lisa Duttman & Dana Byron for all the work they did rejuvenating and beautifying the school garden last Friday!**

**Please help continue to make the garden a success!** Here are some suggestions from these wonderful folks that could be a balance between parent involvement and class stewardship making it easier to maintain the garden long-term.

-Some extra work this Fall: trimming bushes and general upkeep building on what has already been done

-Garden Work Parties: in the future similar to this one done twice a year – one time in the Fall and another one later in the school year to help get the beds prepped and ready for the classes to plant

-Class Garden Beds: Each class is welcome to a garden bed that they can be responsible for and take care of

Let us know if you are interested in helping out!

### **FROM THE FERNWOOD LIBRARY**

Dear Fernwood Families,

We need your help finding books in our wonderful library! We would really appreciate any donations of gently used, up to date children's books for our library to help add to our collection this year! We are specifically looking for:

- Non Fiction Fun Facts/Trivia books
- Cooking for Kids
- Sports
- Lego/Pokemon/Minecraft etc
- Fiction Graphic novels Manga (child appropriate)
- Children's classics Novels for Grades 5-7
- Thank you but at this time we don't need picture books or early readers!

We are also looking for gently used, stuffed animals to use as cute reading buddies for kids who benefit from a buddy to read with! Thank you SO much! I am available at the email below if you have questions, I am in the Fernwood library Wednesday and Thursday!

Gratefully, Amber Thompson [athompson@sd64.org](mailto:athompson@sd64.org)

**PAC Hot Lunch is Back! Order on Muncha Lunch – Pizza Day will be Friday, October 17<sup>th</sup> – Orders must be entered onto the Muncha Lunch webpage by Monday, October 13<sup>th</sup>**

Dear Families,

Hot Lunch is returning!! **Pizza Day will be Friday October 17<sup>th</sup>**. The choices include cheese, pepperoni, or Hawaiian pizza, an applesauce cup, and a Smartie cookie. There is also a gluten free dairy free pizza option.

We have also included the option to donate \$5 towards the PAC, which will support various initiatives, including teacher appreciation and sports equipment.

To order Hot Lunch, you will need to log in or create a new account on Munch a Lunch: <https://munchalunch.com/login>. Preferably, you can pay with a credit card through the site. If you do not have a credit card, you may send cash or a cheque made out to the Fernwood PAC to your child's teacher, or send an e-transfer to fernwoodpac@sd64.bc.ca with your child's name, their teacher, and what you would like to order in the notes. Please label any money sent to school clearly with your child's name and teacher, their order, and make sure the money is sealed in a ziplock or envelope. We cannot provide change.

**Orders need to be completed and paid for by Monday October 13<sup>th</sup>** so we have time to communicate with vendors.

Thank you for your support!  
Fernwood PAC



# Fernwood PAC

fernwoodpac@sd64.bc.ca

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## WHAT IS THE PAC?

The PAC's here to help make Fernwood Elementary a great place for kids, by supporting students, sharing parent feedback with the school, organizing events, and encouraging everyone to get involved. We keep parents informed, speak up for families, help out with fundraising, and work together with other PACs and the school district.

The business of the PAC shall be unbiased in respect of race, colour, religion, politics, family status, gender, sexual orientation or physical or mental ability. The PAC is not a forum for the discussion of individual school personnel, parents, or other individual members of the school community.

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## FUNDRAISING

Whether it's hot lunch or the Fun Fair, the PAC provides these events for fun and as a way to fundraise. We use the funds to subsidize field trips, art supplies, graduation ceremonies, yearbooks, sports equipment, library books, parent education programs, teacher appreciation and more.

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## WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

As a parent or caregiver of a child at school, you're already a member! Our meetings are hybrid so you can join in person or from home via a Teams link.

You don't have to attend meetings to help out. We always need volunteers to put on the events and love to support new ideas to bring the school community together! Here are other ways to get involved:

- Become a champion for the garden
- Bake for a bake sale
- Volunteer for the events and hot lunch days
- Keep Lost and Found organized
- Have an idea to improve the school? Lead the project in collaboration with the PAC

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## UPCOMING DATES

- **Pizza Day**- Friday, October 17
- **Movie Night**- Thursday, October 30
- **Teacher Appreciation**- Wednesday, November 26
- **Winter Concert Raffle**- Wednesday, December 3
- **Pizza Day**- Thursday, December 11
- **Lantern Festival, School Dance, Fun Fair and more**- coming 2026

**Looking Ahead Dates:**

**Monday, September 29** - Orange Shirt Day at School - We will be having a 'Read-In' - you are invited to wear orange

**Tuesday, September 30** – National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (Stat Holiday); Schools closed

**Wednesday, October 1** – school day; Strong Start early learning program opens 8:30-11:30 am

**Thursday, October 2** - School Photo Day (Individual Portraits) - students are photographed on picture day, and then Lifetouch Photography will let you know what date they would like you to order by when we send home your 'proofs' a few weeks later

**Friday, October 3** – Friday School Day (due to the school closure on Tuesday, Sept 30)

**Monday, October 6** – Salt Spring Fire and Rescue firefighters will be here for Fire Safety Talks to all classes; Fire Drill; Ms Hingston's class field trip to Cusheon Cove (Salt Spring Conservancy)

**Tuesday, October 7** – Field Trip for Mr. Reid's class to Cusheon Cove (Salt Spring Conservancy)

**Monday, October 13** – Thanksgiving Monday (school closed) - get your order in for the PAC Hot Lunch Pizza Day this week- it's due today on the Muncha Lunch system

**Thursday, October 16** – ShakeOut Earthquake Drill 10:16 am

**Friday, October 17** – Friday School Day (due to the school closure Monday, Oct 13) - today will be your PAC's Hot Lunch Pizza Day – orders must be in by Monday, October 13



## SD64 MOBILE APP

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.



**OUR LIVING LANGUAGES EXHIBITION AT THE SALT SPRING PUBLIC LIBRARY**

How many of us in BC can say “hello” in the language of the people on whose traditional territory we live, work and play? You might find yourself expanding your vocabulary – and appreciation for the state of Indigenous languages spoken in BC – after visiting “Our Living Languages: First Peoples’ Voices in BC” travelling exhibition.

Learn what First Nations communities throughout the province are doing to help 36 different languages survive and flourish in Our Living Languages, an interactive exhibition from the Royal BC Museum and First Peoples’ Cultural Council that celebrates the resilience and diversity of Indigenous languages in the face of change. Whether you’re curious about the sounds and stories of these languages or eager to learn a greeting in a tongue rooted to this land, this exhibition offers an enriching opportunity for everyone.

You are all warmly invited to experience “Our Living Languages: First Peoples’ Voices in BC” in the Community Program Room starting August 29th. Don’t miss this chance to connect with the vibrant heritage and ongoing revitalization of BC’s Indigenous languages!

Our Living Languages Exhibit will be displayed in the Salt Spring Island Public Library’s Program Room, free of charge to all community members from August 29 to October 28, 2025.

