



NEWS

Sunset Elementary School

February 2016

Check out our website at www.sunsetschool.ca

Principal's Message

Assessment Practices

As we continue to learn and prepare for the implementation of the redesigned BC curriculum, teachers and students will build upon their skills and practices in the area of student assessment. The purpose of assessment is to improve students' learning and teachers' teaching as data and results are interpreted. There are several types of assessment and guiding principles of quality assessment.

Formative assessment (FA) is intended to monitor individual student learning and provide detailed and ongoing feedback to students. Essentially, students show what they know or understand. FA guides teachers to recognize where a student or students are struggling and lessons are adjusted accordingly. There are six strategies that teachers implement daily to support FA. They include; writing the **learning intention** on the whiteboard to demystify what the lesson is about and what the student should be able to do after the lesson is completed. Teachers and students set or create **clear criteria** for assignments and projects. Clear criteria will give students a strong understanding of what they are aiming to get better at and offer opportunities for goal setting. Teachers provide **descriptive feedback** with suggestions on how to improve. Classes are engaged in **thoughtful questions** and students **teach each other** in the learning

process to expand and solidify their own learning. **Students own their learning**, feeling confident and take responsibility for applying necessary skills to complete their assignment, think about what's next, use time management effectively and can reflect on their own new learning. Formative assessment is an active cycle for students and teachers and is embedded in day to day instruction.

Summative assessment (SA) is a task or activity to measure a student's understanding as a culmination of taught curriculum and/or specific learning expectations. These assessments could be a test, essay, final project etc. Foundational Skills Assessments (FSAs), are a provincial assessment to collect a snapshot of how well the students in BC are learning fundamental skills in writing, reading and numeracy. These assessments are for grade 4 and 7 students. The assessment is typically taken in January or February of the respective years. Information from summative assessments can be used formatively to guide future learning.

Assessments are far beyond a simple mark like 16/20 or a comment of 'good work'! Assessment practices are woven into a day's learning. Ultimately, through various assessments, the teacher provides the learner a path to make improvements.

Pink Shirt Day

February 24, 2016

Did you know that Pink Shirt Day originated in Nova Scotia in 2007? David Shepherd and Travis Price distributed 50 pink shirts after there had been bullying behaviours displayed towards a student who had worn a pink shirt on the first day of school. In 2012, The United Nations declared to take a stand against bullying and twenty five other countries participated.

The anti-bullying movement is practiced day by day at Sunset School, going beyond one day in the year. Kindness is this year's theme and the national slogan is "Kindness is one size—fits all."

Students and staff will participate in Pink Shirt Day with NISS and Cheslakees school. Dignitaries from Port McNeill will also join the schools at NISS for an assembly, student presentations and a pink shirt school/community photo. Students are invited to wear pink shirts to celebrate kindness.



Upcoming Events

February

05.....Sloppy Joe Day
 08.....Family Day
 15.....PAC Meeting
 17.....Basket Ball Tourney
 18Hot Dog Day
 19.....PD/In-service Day
 23.....Speed Control Performance
 24.....Pink Shirt Day
 25.....Fire Drill
 29.....District Implementation Day

March

02.....Science Fair
 08.....Family Day
 16.....Report Cards Issued
 17.....Hot Dog Day
 21.....Spring Break Begins

SAFETY FIRST

Constable Gordon from the local RCMP visited Sunset School on January 19. His message reminded students about bike and pedestrian safety. Students had many valuable comments and questions. We thank our community members in their valuable contributions in keeping all our students safe!



Elder Ms. Hazel Wilson came to teach, share stories and work with students on January 25th. Malarry and Joey were exceptional hosts and introduced Elder Hazel to staff and students and toured her around Sunset School.



Elder Hazel Wilson and Marissa talking and sharing experiences





Grade Ones 'paddling' to Sonitula with their leader Mr. Alfred.

Grade 5 students Garrett and Brooklyn making button blankets.



Sloppy Joe Day February 5

Order forms for sloppy joes will be available soon. If your child is ordering sloppy joes, please send in the order form and money by **Tuesday, February 2nd.**

With **SINCERE thanks** to our local IGA for offering a reduced rate for the hamburger required for our sloppy joes.



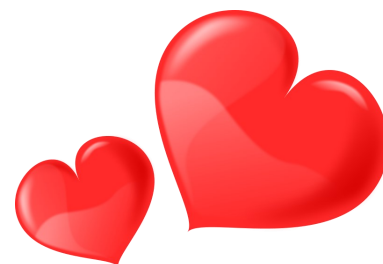
Speed Control Rock and Roll

Speed Control will visit Sunset on February 23. They will perform a medley of rock and roll songs from the 50's to present day.

The artists will then work with some students to write a school song. At the end of the day, the students and Speed Control will present the new school song to the rest of the student body.

Speed control will record our school song and after school approval of the lyrics, will send it to us!

This will be a wonderful creative musical experience for our students and staff.



Valentine's Events

Our ambitious Student's Council continues to create fun activities for our student body. They have planned activities for February 12, 2016.

For a sneak pre-view:

Student Council will be selling candy grams in the coming weeks. Students can purchase a card and candy for 50 cents and it will be delivered to a lucky recipient on Friday February 12th. Watch for further details in the coming weeks!



Wild Heart

Friday, February 5th we will welcome Ms. Joey Clarkson to lead our enthusiastic students to create magic with music!

All Sunset students were invited to put their name forward to participate in the music sessions. Twenty intermediate students will participate and sixteen primary students.

Practices are scheduled for Friday February 5, 12, 19, and 26. Practices are scheduled from 9:45—12:00. Students will practice at Sunset Elementary on February 5, 12 and 26. On February 19, students will be at the A-Frame church as school is not in session.

On Feb. 26th in the evening, there will be a special performance. More details to follow as they are presented to us.

Thank you to Deborah Murray for her collaboration with school and community to enhance our students' learning and creative experiences and expression!



**Grade Six
Ski Trip
Mt. Cain
January 11**

Newsletter Information

We are moving towards a digital delivery of our newsletters. After Spring Break, paper copies will not be sent home with each student. Please send an email to mhicker@sd85.bc.ca to ensure you receive our monthly newsletter. Alternatively, you can find the most recent newsletter at www.sunsetschool.ca



Kindergarten Registration

School District 85 invites all parents of Kindergarten-aged children to register their child for full day Kindergarten classes in September 2016.

In Port McNeill please register at:

**Cheslakees School
9:00—12:00
February 1—12**



**Wishing you and
your family a wonderful
Family Day on
February 8, 2016!**