



NEWS

Volume 2020/21-2

October 1, 2020

Principal: Mrs. W. Kelemen

Admin. Assistant ~ Mrs. J. Vossen

Decker Lake Elementary School

Office Hours: 8:30 AM to 3:15 PM

Phone: 250-698-7301

Fax: 250-698-7349

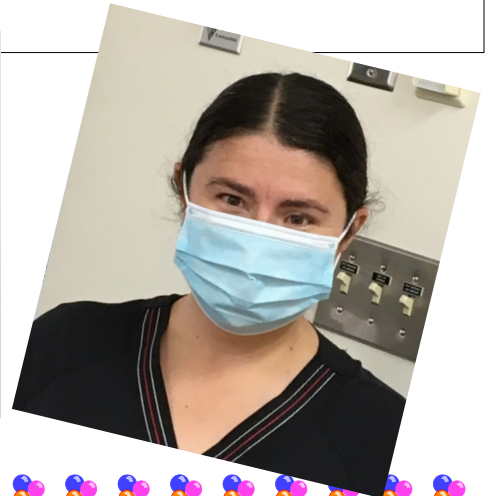
Principal's Message

Since the start of September, our school family has worked hard to learn the health and safety protocols of phase two. In addition to this, we have practiced important emergency drills, such as fire drills. All these measures are in place to keep our school safe and healthy. Thank you to the staff and students for their continued application of these procedures.

I would like to acknowledge the hard work of the three custodians who clean our school every day! Mrs. Vivian Eftodie begins her daytime shift at 11 am and then two additional custodians, Ms. Tanya Hainstock and Miss Chrissy Stoner start a shift at 3 pm. This custodial crew goes above and beyond to sanitize high-touch surfaces, such as light switches, and chairs, etc. This extra layer of cleaning is greatly appreciated by everyone at this school. Thank you!

In the spirit of thankfulness, I am thankful for our health and for the wonderful children who grace us with their presence every day at this school. It is a joy to watch them laugh, play and learn.

Respectfully,
Mrs. Kelemen,
Principal



Mark your Calendar

October

- 12 Thanksgiving Day—No School
- 14 Hot Lunch
- 19 **Photo Retakes**
- 19-22 Book Fair
- 21 Parent Teacher Interviews
- 23 Pro D Day—No School
- 27 PAC Meeting 6:30 PM
- 28 Hot Lunch

HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY DECKER LAKE SCHOOL!

In **1920**, our very own Decker Lake School opened for it's first fall classes! The building itself has changed over the decades, but our school has endured. We, as a staff, are planning on celebrating in some way, but due to COVID, it will not be until later in this school year.

Do you have some Decker Lake School history tucked away in a closet, on an old bookshelf, or stored away in the memories of elders? How about old report cards, photos, or other memorabilia? If you have any history you'd like to share, pictures or stories, please contact Brenda (a Decker Lake Alumni herself!) here at our **100** year old Decker Lake school!

Health and Wellness...

The Daily Health Check list has been updated by the BC Centre for Disease Control. Please see below.

Daily Health Check			
1. Key Symptoms of Illness*	Do you have any of the following new key symptoms?	CIRCLE ONE	
	Fever	YES	NO
	Chills	YES	NO
	Cough or worsening of chronic cough	YES	NO
	Shortness of breath	YES	NO
	Loss of sense of smell or taste	YES	NO
	Diarrhea	YES	NO
	Nausea and vomiting	YES	NO
2. International Travel	Have you returned from travel outside Canada in the last 14 days?	YES	NO
3. Confirmed Contact	Are you a confirmed contact of a person confirmed to have COVID-19?	YES	NO

If you answered "YES" to one of the questions included under 'Key Symptoms of Illness' (excluding fever), you should stay home for 24 hours from when the symptom started. If the symptom improves, you may return to school when you feel well enough. If the symptom persists or worsens, seek a health assessment.

If you answered "YES" to two or more of the questions included under 'Symptoms of Illness' or you have a fever, seek a health assessment. A health assessment includes calling 8-1-1, or a primary care provider like a physician or nurse practitioner. If a health assessment is required, you should not return to school until COVID-19 has been excluded and your symptoms have improved.

When a **COVID-19 test** is recommended by the health assessment:

- If the COVID-19 test is **positive**, you should stay home until you are told by public health to end self-isolation. In most cases this is 10 days after the onset of symptoms. Public health will contact everyone with a positive test.
- If the COVID-19 test is **negative**, you can return to school once symptoms have improved and you feel well enough. Symptoms of common respiratory illnesses can persist for a week or more. Re-testing is not needed unless you develop a new illness.
- If a COVID-19 test is **recommended but is not done** because you choose not to have the test, or you do not seek a health assessment when recommended, and your symptoms are not related to a previously diagnosed health condition, you should stay home from school until 10 days after the onset of symptoms, and then you may return if you are feeling well enough.

If a COVID-19 test is not recommended by the health assessment, you can return to school when symptoms improve and you feel well enough. Testing may not be recommended if the assessment determines that the symptoms are due to another cause (i.e. not COVID-19).

If you answered "YES" to questions 2 or 3, use the [COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool](#) to determine if you should seek testing for COVID-19.

Parents and guardians,

School District 91 and Decker Lake Elementary School would like you to know that Joanna Cardinal, Shauna Ianson and Nick Ferguson, three of our district counsellors, are working in our school multiple days each week.

Joanna, Shauna, and Nick will be working alongside staff and students in the school in a variety of ways. These may include helping to facilitate programs in the classroom, working with small groups on topics such as dealing with anxiety, building healthy relationships, etc. as it is suitable to a specific child, as well as some individual counselling. If you have any questions or concerns or would like your child to be able to access support through our school counsellors, please contact Wendy Kelemen or Stacey Lee at 250-698-7301.

In addition, if you are looking for longer-term individual support for your child, please contact Carrier Sekani Family Services at 250-692-2387.

Reading Club and Scholastic Book Fair!

This year, our Library/Learning Commons Leaders would like to begin a schoolwide Reading Club. Students would read books at home, have parents sign their Reading Club sheet, and bring the sheets back to the Library regularly to receive a small prize before moving onto the next level. This is a wonderful time for your student to learn the love of reading at engaging levels!

The Scholastic Book Fair is scheduled to take place October 19 to 22nd. Decker Lake School is in need of parent volunteers to help run the book fair. If you think you may be able to spare a bit of time to help, please call the office and let us know. Your help makes this recurring event a real success!



**ORANGE
SHIRT
DAY
SEPT. 30,
2020**



Every Child Matters Poem

Abused with their past lives	This is the hope and strength
Abused people can't hide	As we stand against this,
Loved but taken backwards	Every person matters
Engulfed in with blackness	This is us, and
Sickened by the past	Our lives that were driven.
We no longer keep hidden	

Destiny Wooldridge—Gr. 6

DLES PAC EXECUTIVE 2020-2021

Co-chair: Shawna Abietkoff
250-304-8398

Co-chair: Shawna Belcourt
250-691-1094

Secretary: Amy Dash
250-691-1612

Treasurer: Dallas Matson
250-692-0516

**Next DLES PAC Meeting is
scheduled for October 27,
2020, at 6:30 PM at DLES.
Please use the main door for
entrance.**

Decker Lake Staff 20-21

Mrs. Kelemen - Principal
Mrs. Hiebert - Gr 4/5
Mrs. Payne - HSC
Mrs. Gooding - LSW
Ms. Woode - LSW
Miss Vanderwijk - PAA
Miss Stoner - Custodian
Ms. England - Gr 3/4
Ms. King - PCA
Mrs. Vossen - Admin. Assistant
Mrs. Junkee - PCA
Mrs. Stevenson - PAA
Mr. Matte - Gr 1/2
Ms. Mason - Gr 6
Ms. Allan - LSW
Mrs. Benoit - Gr 7
Mrs. Trottier - Librarian
Miss Lee - Resource Teacher
Mrs. Baldwin - LSW
Ms. Hainstock - Custodian
Ms. Hushard - LSW
Ms. Eftodie - Custodian
Mrs. Shelford-Schneider - K/1

And the last word goes to:

Photo Retakes...

Monday, October 19, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians

RE: POOR VISIBILITY /ROAD CONDITIONS

On occasion we experience low visibility and or poor road conditions that compromise our ability to stop safely on public roadways. This can be as a result of dense fog, heavy snow or icy conditions.

In these situations our drivers use their best judgment to determine if the stop can be done safely in accordance with, “*Motor Vehicle Act and Regulation - Division 11.12. (1)(b)*”. This regulation requires us to ensure that we can be seen a minimum of 60 meters. In these situations parents will need to make alternate arrangements for their children. If you suspect these conditions exist you can contact us to make alternate arrangements by contacting your Transportation Coordinator in your area.

Burns Lake: (250) 692-3130 Sue Disher

SEVERE WEATHER/UNSAFE ROAD CONDITIONS

For the information of parents of children travelling by school bus during the winter months the Board of Education wishes to stress that no matter how good the busing system is, emergencies can happen so students should wear clothing suitable to the outside conditions.

All bus runs will be cancelled when the 5:00 am Transportation Department temperature is at -35 C or colder, or when the Manager of Transportation deems roads to be unsafe due to weather conditions. **If bus runs are cancelled in the a.m., there will be no bus runs in the p.m.** Schools will be open and students are encouraged to attend, if possible.

Early morning information will be available on the School District Website, School Messenger – notification service, local radio stations and Facebook.

Website: www.sd91.bc.ca

School Messenger: notification service

Facebook: available through the link on the school district website

Local Radio Stations:

CBC (Prince George, Prince Rupert)

CIRX The Goat (Vanderhoof / Prince George)

CFBV The Moose (Bulkley Valley)

CFTK Pure Country (Terrace)

Parents should ensure that their children explicitly understand that they should return home to warmth if there is substantial delay in the arrival of the school bus. Attempts to hitch-hike to school are not approved.

On days of low temperatures and/or severe wind chills, parents should carefully weigh the hazards involved in their children walking long distances to a bus or school, and make an appropriate decision with respect to attendance.

We appreciate your understanding in this matter.

Yours truly,

Wayne Woods

Manager of Transportation

Phone: (250) 567-9618