



# In the Hawks Nest

At Hans Helgesen Elementary

January 4, 2023

We would like to acknowledge the traditional territories of the Coast Salish, specifically Sc'ianew Beecher Bay Nation on which the school is built. We thank them for sharing this beautiful land. Hych'ka – "Thank You"

## Welcome Back:

We would like to wish all families a very Happy New Year! We hope that everyone had a lovely break, time to reconnect with family and friends and time to do the things you love! Welcome to 2023 and all the exciting things we have to look forward to over the coming months!

## Kindergarten Registration for September 2023:

Kindergarten Registration is just around the corner. French Immersion and Nature Kindergarten registration is January 9 - 13th. Regular Kindergarten registration is January 23 - 27th. Please visit the link for more details. <https://www.sd62.bc.ca/kindergarten>

## Nature Kindergarten Registration:

If you have a child starting Kindergarten in September 2023 and are interested in registering for our District's Nature Kindergarten Program, please be sure to attend a Parent Information Session. Parents **must** attend one of the information sessions in order to be able to register for this program. The Nature Kindergarten Application Forms will **only** be available at the in-person sessions. The District will be offering two sessions, both are the same. You only need to attend one of the sessions to be eligible to register.

**Thursday, January 5<sup>th</sup> from 6 to 7 PM at Saseenos**

**Saturday, January 7<sup>th</sup> from 10:30 to 11:30 AM at Sangster**

## Dawn is retiring!:

Dawn, our custodian, is retiring this month! We want to thank her immensely for all her hard work and dedication to keeping our school clean and ready for us each day! She has been at Hans Helgesen since May 2016 and has worked in our District since 1992. We wish her well in all her future adventures. She is very excited about expanding her garden and spending more time outside doing all the outdoor activities that she loves! Enjoy your retirement Dawn! We will miss you!

### **Structural Engineer Consultation Needed:**

We are looking for a qualified structural engineer to advise us. Last year our students with support from staff created a beautiful, very large rainbow mural to be hung outside our front doors in our entrance breezeway. The artwork is so heavy that it requires a structural engineer to help us plan the best mounting system. We are reaching out to our parent community to see if anyone has these qualifications and is willing to donate some consultation time to our school and facilities staff. If you are a structural engineer or you know a structural engineer who would be willing to lend us their expertise, please email Mrs. Schwartz directly at [sschwartz@sd62.bc.ca](mailto:sschwartz@sd62.bc.ca) to set up a meeting time. With sincere appreciation for spreading the word on this need!

### **School Bells:**

8:20 - Warning Bell

8:25 - Class Begins

10:10 - 10:25 - Recess

11:41 - 12:41 - Lunch

2:38 - Dismissal Bell

### **Parking Lot:**

A friendly reminder that our staff set up the parking lot by 8:05 every morning ready to welcome our students. Supervision begins at 8:00 am on the school grounds. We would like to encourage families to use the full window from 8:00 - 8:20 to drop-off. Our parking lot staff will be leaving the parking lot by 8:25 so that they can return to classrooms to support students as they start their day. We will continue to leave the parking lot cones so that if you are running a bit behind the 8:20 drop-off time, the drive-through drop-off area will still be available. We thank all parents in advance for helping us keep our students safe and the traffic flowing.

### **Hans Helgesen Website:**

Our website continues to be updated regularly to reflect current information for this school year. Newsletters have also been added for easy reference. We will continue to keep the website up-to-date with new information. We have included a calendar with important dates to remember as well.

### **Messages from the PAC:**

#### **Bottle Drive:**

The PAC will be hosting a bottle drive on **Saturday, January 7th** in the lower parking lot from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm. Please bring any empty bottles, cans, milk cartons or jugs. All proceeds will go directly to support activities and events for our children.

### **Holiday Gift Bags:**

If you have a collection of holiday gift bags that you would like to recycle, the PAC would love to take them off your hands. We are thinking ahead to next year's Attic Treasures. Having a large selection of holiday gift bags for children to wrap their gifts in would be easier and faster for our shoppers. If you would like to donate your gently used gift bags of all sizes, please drop them off at the school. There is a large box sitting in the hallway just inside the school front doors to collect the bags. Thank you in advance for your donation!

### **Important Dates to Remember**

- January 10 & 11 - Role Model Sharon Jay - Storytelling
- January 13 - Pizza Day
- January 18 - Grizzlies Hockey Team Visit
- January 20 - Pizza Day
- January 23 - 27 - Literacy Week
- January 26 - Pancake Breakfast