

Walking Together in the warm land of the Cowichan Valley

# Mill Bay Nature School

## Q'shintul

We acknowledge that for thousands of years the Malahat, Lake Cowichan, Quw'utsun, Halalt, Penelakut, Stz'uminus, & Lyackson Peoples have walked gently on the unceded territories where we now live, work, learn, and play. We seek a new relationship with the first peoples here, one based in honour and respect, and we thank them for their hospitality.

3175 Cobble Hill Rd, Mill Bay, B.C. V0R 2P3

October 7, 2019

Dear Parents,

The Foundational Skills Assessment (FSA) is a required province-wide assessment of the academic skills of B.C. students in grades 4 & 7. The assessment provides a snapshot of how well our students are learning the foundational skills of reading comprehension, writing and numeracy.

The main purpose of the assessment is to help the province, school districts, and schools evaluate how well students are achieving basic skills, and to make plans to support and improve student achievement. Our district uses the data to allocate resources to schools for students needing additional support. The FSA is designed by BC educators and is linked to the provincial curriculum and provincial performance standards. The FSA will be administered in the province from September 30 to November 8th. *Mill Bay Nature School intends to work on it the week of November 4.*

The FSA takes approximately 4 1/2 hours to complete. The reading and numeracy components consist of multiple choice questions and written answers. The writing section has one writing task. The written sections for reading and writing components will be scored in SD 79 by local educators. Results will be shared with schools and schools will share individual results with parents. *The individual results are not considered as part of our childrens' report cards.*

All students are required to write the FSA (unless the School Based Team has excused a students based on Ministry criteria). *If you are thinking about excluding your child, please contact me by Friday, Oct. 11.*

Here is a link with more information: [https://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/assessment/fsa/translations/questions\\_answers/09\\_english\\_qa.pdf](https://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/assessment/fsa/translations/questions_answers/09_english_qa.pdf)

Sincerely,

Kim Ondrik

Head Learner

Mill Bay Nature School

School District 79

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