



Mill Bay Nature School Weekly Newsletter

October 21-25

Mill Bay Nature School 2024/2025

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Principal's Message



I hope everyone enjoyed the short week this week. We had a busy week this week at Mill Bay. We practiced our first earthquake drill along with the rest of the province in B.C.'s Great Shake-out event. Our oldest crew walked to Kerry park today and enjoyed exploring the changing of the seasons, while our younger groups learned all about seeds, how to harvest them, and how to prepare them for winter sleep. I wish you all a relaxing weekend cozied up out of the rain.

Alison







New Staff



I would like to welcome Ms. Emily Roberson-Heggs as our newest staff member. She will be our Librarian each Monday. We are excited to have her bring the love of books, stories and reading to our students.

Extra Clothing



Well our first atmospheric river is upon us. I want to say thank you to everyone who helped their children come prepared today to be outside and enjoying this fall weather. The students loved playing in

the puddles, making mud cakes and staying warm and dry in their rain gear. We did have some cold hands and heads a little but today, so some lights gloves and toques would be great to start sending in the back packs along with a couple of pairs of socks after a rainy adventure.

INCLEMENT WEATHER INFORMATION



FROM THE OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

October 18, 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians:

With the winter season fast approaching, it is time to share the School District's procedures regarding inclement weather. There may be times when bus routes will not be operating as usual, or where schools in the district are closed.

BUS CANCELLATIONS

The most likely reason for cancellation of bus service will be for severe winter weather conditions, in which case one or more bus routes in the district may be cancelled. It will be determined by approximately 5:45 a.m. whether to cancel one or more bus routes. This is done in consultation with transportation staff who carefully assess local road conditions after severe weather warnings or events.

It is especially important that you take note of what route(s) your child(ren) ride on.

BUS OPERATIONS DURING INCLEMENT WEATHER

During inclement weather events, there are roadways that are part of regular routing that are initially less maintained. Some of these roadways may be considered unsafe to drive for district school buses. If this determination is made, following the careful assessment by transportation staff, communication will go out to district ridership. The messaging will include affected routes, and if applicable, will also outline alternate safe pick-up locations for affected routes. Communications will be provided through My Ride K-12 and will be posted to the district [Facebook](#) page.

If bus routes are running more than 15 minutes behind schedule, drivers will notify the transportation office. The transportation team will then advise the Principals and VicePrincipals of affected schools. Information regarding bus routes running more than 15 minutes behind schedule will also be found on My Ride K-12 and the district [Facebook](#) page.

It is recommended to download the My Ride K-12 app for timely updates.

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SCHOOL CLOSURES

The closure of schools in the district may occur when we are experiencing severe winter weather conditions, or when it is simply unsafe to drive. Again, it will be determined by approximately 5:45 a.m. whether to close schools in the district after assessing the situation.

WHERE TO FIND BUS ROUTE AND SCHOOL CANCELLATION NOTIFICATIONS

Any notice of official school closures due to weather will be posted to the district [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) accounts.

We will notify local radio and TV media outlets prior to 6 a.m. with information regarding bus or route cancellations and school closures. News announcements usually begin after 6 a.m. Media partners will **not** be notified about individual route changes.

The following local radio stations will be contacted about inclement weather notifications:

- The Q! (100.3 FM)
- The Zone (91.3 FM)
- CBC (90.5 FM)
- SUN-FM (89.7 FM)
- CFX (1070 AM)

The following TV stations will also be contacted:

- CTV Vancouver Island
- Global BC
- CHEK News

The school district website (www.sd79.bc.ca) will also be updated with a banner informing you of any closures.

In all cases, the safety of students will be the priority. Parents are equally encouraged to keep safety in mind when determining whether to take your child(ren) to school in the event the district is open during winter weather conditions. It is your prerogative to keep them at home if you feel it is the safest choice.

When able, students and families should come to the school grounds in suitable winter footwear, use designated walkways, and only park in designated drop off locations.

Let us work together to ensure winter weather days can be safe for everyone.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Gray". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "R" and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Robyn Gray

Superintendent

Cowichan Valley School District

VOLUNTEER



Popcorn Day on Thursday, October 24th. Popcorn is by donation. Volunteer's are needed to help make and hand out popcorn.

Staff Appreciation Lunch, October 31. Volunteers are still needed for this day.

Please email the PAC if you are able to help out on either of these days. eagleclan.mbns@gmail.com

Cowichan Valley School District Strategic Plan Feedback



It's the last week to get your feedback in. Thank you to everyone who has taken the time to fill this form out.

The Cowichan Valley School District is asking for Parent/Caregiver feedback on the 2025-2030 Strategic Plan goals. Below is a link to 3 engagement questions to give insight and voice from the Parents/Caregivers.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=02sGLFxjPkyK6RzKdeIbS5iPj1Umlg5Jm6FEC-nzjzVUQldSUzhBVUxTODJSNUM5RjIFREkxOFg1WC4u>

Important Dates



Wednesday, October 23: 2-hour early dismissal (Students are dismissed at 12:13)

Friday, October 25: Pro D day: No school for students

Thursday, October 31: Halloween

Friday, November 8: Remembrance Day assembly

Monday, November 11: Remembrance Day

Friday, November 22: First Term report cards go home to families.

Contact Us



Alison Leslie

Principal

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Ann-Marie Braithwaite

Head Secretary

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Visit our website for calendar and other happenings around the school:

<https://naureschool.sd79.bc.ca/>