



ALEXANDER ELEMENTARY

November 2025 Newsletter

Cowichan Monthly Teaching

Stsielhstuhw tu S-ul'hween
(Honour the Elders)

We gratefully acknowledge that we are learning together on the traditional territory of the Coast Salish People

Alexander Families,

November is in full swing, and learners are settling into classes and the year ahead of them. Smun'eem have made great strides in their learning, in advocating for their needs and for being great Wolf PACK members who are Positive, Accepting, Cooperative and Kind.

Next month we look forward to celebrating and sharing the learning with families as the first written learning update will be sent home on December 5th. Please encourage your learner to share their progress with you and do not hesitate to reach out if you would like to discuss this update with the classroom teacher. We are here to help!

At this time of the year, we begin our whole school preparations as we come together to celebrate the winter months and the sounds of the season. We look forward to welcoming families to our school for our annual Winter Concert on December 18th at 1pm.

Looking forward to sharing this season and the celebrations of learning with you all,

Huy tseep q'u

Darren Hart – Principal

Brenda Lee – Vice Principal

Please check out our Facebook page for weekly updates:

<https://www.facebook.com/alexanderelementaryschool/>



Save the Date – December 18th

On December 18th we will be hosting our Winter Concert beginning at 1pm. Please come and join us in celebrating the season and listening to the singing talents of the Alexander Wolf PACK.

DATES TO REMEMBER

November 11th – Remembrance Day (No School)
November 27th – 2-hour early dismissal
November 28th – Non-Instructional Day (No School)
December 18th – Winter Concert 1 PM
December 19th – Last day of classes (Winter Break)
January 5th – First day back after Winter Break

An Important Note Regarding End of Day Student Pickup

There have been some recent concerns raised by our bus drivers around vehicles blocking our bus lanes and making it very difficult for our drivers at the end of the day. We are asking parents if there are no spaces available in our parking lot to please park on the nearby streets and walk to pick up their smun'eem.

Huy tseep q'u for your support with this as we work to get all our smun'eem home safely.

Attendance Matters – Information for Parents

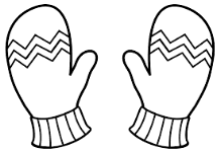
We all know that attending school is critical to students' success in their classes. But did you know that helping your children attend school does much, much more? By attending school regularly, your children are learning to plan and follow routines, which can help students feel more secure, confident, and competent. Getting into the practice of arriving at school on-time is building lifelong skills. It helps develop good habits that children and teens can use throughout their education, into their careers, and throughout their lives. Making an effort to arrive at school on-time each day improves students' organizational skills. It helps students think about:

- How they can prepare ahead (such as getting organized the night before)
- How important it is to go to bed on time, so they can get up in the morning feeling ready for the day
- Time management - paying attention to the clock and planning how long it will take to complete their morning routine

What can parents do?

- Talk to your child about the importance of regular attendance and arriving on time
- Set a reasonable bed time and check to make sure everyone is getting up in time each morning
- Help your child plan to have things ready ahead (such as organizing back packs and lunches the night before)

Our lives get busy and it is sometimes hard to stay on top of everything we have to do. But helping your children learn how to attend school regularly and on time will have positive and lasting benefits.



Winter Gear & Lost and Found



As the temperatures begin to drop, smun'eem and families should begin dressing for the change in weather. Many mornings start off cool and do not warm up until well into the day. Living on the west coast means that smun'eem should dress accordingly and plan for outside lunch recess most days.

Our Lost Found is once again filling up. Please remind your smun'eem to check our box for missing items. Families, please consider helping our learners by writing their names on their clothing tag. At our Winter concert (Dec 18th) we will once again display the Lost and Found for all families to discover what they did not know was lost!



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.

Please note:

Schools may also be closed due to weather events after the school day has started. In these situations, parents and guardians will need to make arrangements for their children if buses are unable to operate.

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.



Supporting Alexander's Water Only Initiative

After seven amazing and successful years of celebrating "Water Only," we are continuing to carry on with this whole school healthy initiative! We ask all families to help our learners by saving juice boxes, energy drinks, and soda pops for at home. Huy steep q'u for all of your support!

School Schedule

Supervision Begins at 8:20 Daily

8:20 Kitchen Opens for Breakfast

8:45 – Classes Begin

11:02 – 11:47 – Outside Play

11:47 – 12:05 – Lunch Eating Time

2:28 – Dismissal

Supervision Ends at 2:45 pm

***** Please ensure that your child is signed in at the office if they arrive after the bell to ensure attendance is recorded *****