



Tillicum Community School

December 2018

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Hello Tillicum families,



On behalf of the entire **Tillicum** staff, we wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and Happy New Year! Students and staff have worked hard and everyone is ready for a break! Take time to enjoy one another at this special time of year.



I truly appreciate the dedication of staff and the support of families as we continue focusing on literacy and numeracy skills for students. **Tillicum** students make strong efforts in classrooms and show commitment to being the best learners they can be. Clear, regular communication with classroom teachers, whether you drop into the school, phone, email, use the home school agenda or FreshGrade, is very helpful in ensuring that our students' needs are being met and successes are achieved.

At this time of year, especially, Ms. Palermo deserves a special thank you for the extra time she spends with the senior choir. We are always proud of their excellent performances! I would also like to acknowledge the time staff give to art and set design and the extra efforts they put into the staging and production of the grade 5 drama. We are looking forward to another fantastic concert in the coming weeks!

Our office and custodial staff contribute greatly to the success of our students as well. I would like to acknowledge their contributions to the culture of our school and the success of our students. Thank you!



The contributions of our PAC are also very much appreciated. We are extremely fortunate to have such a dedicated, energetic team of volunteers willing to work so very hard to bring many opportunities and activities to our students to enrich their educational experience. Food for fun, the gift sale, and Christmas Market are but a few of the PAC sponsored events that contribute so much to the culture of our school and community.

It takes incredible team effort and support to make **Tillicum** School the great place that it is! Finally, I would like to extend my warmest wishes for a safe, relaxing, and rejuvenating holiday season to all of you.

Congratulations and Thank You - Teresa Lawson-Marra



Tillicum Community School wishes to sincerely thank Ms. Teresa Lawson-Marra for all of her outstanding service to **Tillicum** Community School. We wish Ms. Lawson-Marra a wonderful retirement! She has served our school well and has had a wonderful impact on the learning of **Tillicum** students. You will be missed, Teresa. All the best to you in your retirement!

Pancake Breakfast for Students at Tillicum

On Wednesday December 5th Coast Capital Savings will be providing a pancake breakfast to all of our students and staff. We will also mark this day by making it pajama day! In an effort to "go green", **students have been asked to bring their own plate, cutlery, napkin, and bag, for the event.** We are determined as a school to REDUCE and ELIMINATE unnecessary garbage. Thank you for also providing a bag for the plate and cutlery to go home in.



Lost & Found



Lost and Found articles will be displayed in the lower hallway during the last week of school before the winter break. Please take time to claim any lost items before December 21. All unclaimed items will be donated to charity.

Sports News

Tillicum Thunderbirds Basketball Team will be practicing on Tuesday's at lunch in the gym beginning in December. They will be working on skills and team play in preparation for the Spectrum Family Jamboree that will be coming in the New Year.

Tillicum Thundersharks Swim Team has begun the 2018-19 Swim Year. We have started our Wednesday afternoon training sessions at Commonwealth Pool. Our first chance to show off our skills will be at The Stand Up and Race Meet in January. This is an important event for new and novice swimmers in preparation for the Elementary/Middle School Preliminary and City Final meets in February.

Music News



Tillicum staff and students are gearing up for Holiday Concert Season. Senior Choir families should make note of the following dates. Please join us in the audience at either of the Municipal Hall Concerts as they are free and open to the public. December 1st 6:30 PM - Saanich Municipal Hall
December 3rd 1 PM - The Empress
December 4th 12 PM - Victoria City Hall

All students at **Tillicum** will be performing in our Winter Show "Snow Biz" Dec. 19 (6 PM) and Dec 20 (1:15 PM)! Looking forward to celebrating the season with all of you!

Library News - Thank you for supporting the book fair

As a result of your generous support of the book fair, we were able to purchase 172 books (\$1400 value) for the library and have an additional \$1000 left over for more book purchases. These new books will be catalogued and made available for circulation in the next few weeks.

Dressing for the Weather

The wet, sometimes windy, west coast winter weather is upon us. It is therefore important that students are dressed appropriately for these conditions. We would appreciate your support in ensuring that your child arrives at school on rainy days with warm, water resistant/waterproof clothing: a jacket/poncho (preferably with a hood) and closed shoes (rain boots, if possible.) Unless it is **raining heavily**, our students do go out for recess, exercise activities, or neighbourhood walks. Some field trips also involve students being outdoors, even when the weather is wet. Proper clothing will help keep your child warm and dry throughout the day.



HAVE YOUR SAY: Catchment Boundary Review

Catchment boundaries are the geographical areas that determine which students are eligible to attend a specific school. The Greater Victoria School District is seeking public input on important considerations when re-evaluating catchment boundaries.

Due to increasing enrolment and limited space in some of its schools, the District must align registration with schools' capacities. Some schools are full and enrolment projections indicate an additional 1,800 students may enroll in the District over the next 10 years. To accommodate the growing student population, the District must balance registration across the District with the space available at each school. As part of the Catchment Boundary Review, The Greater Victoria School District is asking parents to participate in an online survey to provide valuable feedback to the Board of Education. The online survey is available at www.sd61.bc.ca until Friday, November 30, 2018.

Thank you Tillicum Students and Staff!



The entire ***Tillicum*** learning community is to be congratulated for the generous contributions made this holiday season. We have been collecting non-perishable food items for **Saanich Neighbourhood Place** and were very pleased to present over 920 items to them. At ***Tillicum***, being socially responsible citizens is a goal that we take seriously. It has been heartwarming to experience the care ***Tillicum*** has for its community. Well done everyone.

Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and happy holidays, everyone! Have a safe, wonderful holiday and see you January 7th, 2019!

Jeff Duyndam & Sue Ottenbreit
Principal Vice-Principal

