



Tillicum Community School

November 2019

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Dear Parents & Guardians,



November is here! Everyone is working hard at **Tillicum** and we are not far from Winter Break. Students have been actively engaged in their academic programs. Teachers and support staff are doing what they do best at **Tillicum** – providing a caring, engaging learning environment for our students to succeed. November brings shorter days, rain, wind and cooler temperatures. Students will continue to enjoy outdoor recess and lunchtime play opportunities. Please ensure that your child has a warm, waterproof jacket and boots, as we will continue to go outside for recess.

This time of year also raises concerns over the transmission of flu and colds. Frequent hand washing, and teaching of proper coughing and sneezing practices continue to be emphasized at **Tillicum**. Thank you for your support by keeping your child home if they are sick where they can rest and recover most quickly. We also appreciate the many phone calls and emails from parents informing us of their child's absence. It is not only an important part of student safety; it is also helpful to us in managing the spread of illness in the school.

As darkness falls earlier with each day, it is important that students are aware of safe routes home and that all drivers exercise extreme caution in our student drop off and pick up zones. PLEASE do not drop your child off in the middle of the street. The staff parking lot and fire lanes are **NOT** for student drop off or pick up. Parents are reminded to use the designated areas for drop-off and pick-up. Please plan accordingly and park and walk to school with your child as necessary. We thank you for continuing to support our safe drop off and pick up routines.

You may have noticed our Home Reading "Thermometer" in the main hallway. Your support with daily home reading is appreciated and goes a long way in promoting the life-long skill of reading with our students. Collectively, students at **Tillicum** have completed over 2000 nights of home reading. We all look forward to celebrating our goal for this term of 5000 nights with an extra afternoon recess!



Citizenship at Tillicum

The rate of change in our world with respect to technology is extraordinary. At **Tillicum**, we continue to educate and set high expectations with our students with respect to *citizenship in general*, as well as *digital citizenship*. With the privilege of having an iPad or Chromebook, we have the responsibility of using these devices appropriately. Students at

Tillicum have the opportunity to use technology in our school and we have clear expectations for their use. iPads and Chromebooks can be used in class under the direction of a teacher or educational assistant. We are delighted to be using several iPad and Chromebook carts in our school, which is allowing for creativity and showing our learning in a variety of ways. Certainly, the future will likely see more examples of technology in and out of our classrooms at **Tillicum**.

Lockdown DRILL at Tillicum



On November 26th we will be having a lockdown DRILL organized by Saanich Police. Schools practice lockdown drills in order to prepare for the unlikely event that we would have to go into lockdown due to a potential threat to our safety. We keep these drills low key, but wanted to share with parents that this practice drill is part of our safety plans at **Tillicum**.

Upcoming Special Event at Tillicum

The **Tillicum** Remembrance Day assembly for this year is planned for the morning of Friday, November 8th, at 10:45 AM. We will be calling a meeting in early November for any students who would like to be involved in our school's traditional Flag Procession for our Remembrance Day assembly. This invitation is open to those students currently involved in Scouts, Cubs, Beavers, Guides, Brownies, Sparks and those children who have a family member currently serving in the armed services. If your child is involved in one of the organizations above, please talk about this with them. This is a long held tradition and we would love to have your child join us.



All students in the school will receive a poppy for this assembly. If you would like to make a donation to the poppy fund, funds will be collected in the office.

Music News



The school halls are alive with the sound of music. Senior Choir (Gr. 3-5) is in full swing, practicing on Wednesdays at Lunch. Junior Choir (Gr. 1-2) has just started on Thursdays at lunch. Senior choir is busy getting ready for their debut performance as part of the Remembrance Assembly on Friday, November 8th.

All **Tillicum** students are beginning to practice to be part of our winter concert- "Time Travel Through the Holidays." Mark your calendars as this performance will happen – Wednesday, December 18th @ 6:00pm & Thursday, December 19th @ 1:15pm.

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 100 books (\$1000 value) for the library and have an additional \$1600 left over for more book purchases. These new books will be catalogued and made available for circulation in the next few weeks.



Athletics

We are so proud of our Gr 4/5 **Tillicum** Soccer Team. They practice every Tuesday and Thursday at lunch and are excited for their upcoming Greater Victoria Soccer Jamboree, November 7th at Hampton Park. Thank you to Mrs. Easton for coaching.

Tillicum Thundersharks Swim Team has begun the 2019-20 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. Thank you to Ms. Kushnir for coaching.

Hero's Hockey

11 lucky Grade 4 & 5 students have been selected to attend a wonderful program on Thursdays at Pearkes called Hero's Hockey. Each Thursday after school, Mrs. Easton takes this group of students for dry land and hockey practice with Victoria Police Volunteers. For more information visit <https://heroshockey.com>. Thank you to Mrs. Easton and Mrs. Dennis for their support of this program.

WE Club – Student Leadership

Grade 5 WE Club has had a very successful We SCARE HUNGER campaign. Thank you for your donations of non-perishable items. Each classroom filled a box with these items for donation to Saanich Neighbourhood Place. Thank you to Mrs. Easton, Mrs. Crystal, and Mrs. Chase for running our student leadership program.



1000X5

1000 Books by Age Five
Children's Book Recycling Project Greater Victoria

WOW!!

163,000 books in 7.5 years to babies and preschoolers!
1,882 books donated by families at our school!

Have you found the PINK bin outside the office?

Please donate books you aren't using anymore. Help all children enter the early literacy club!

International Home Stay

The Greater Victoria School District's **International Student Program** is seeking caring families to provide homestay accommodation to international students studying in the District's middle and secondary schools. It is a great opportunity for an intercultural exchange of ideas, food, and life.

We offer the following to our host families:

- Orientation, On-going support, Homestay manual
- Remuneration of \$975 per month
- Short and long term students

To find out more about our homestay program or apply please visit our **website:** www.studyinvictoria.com/homestay or contact Lukas Hahn (Homestay Manager) **email:** lhahn@sd61.bc.ca **Tel:** 250-592-6871

We are hiring!

The Greater Victoria School District is looking for passionate and qualified individuals to join our team as Educational Assistants. For more information about the position, description, and qualifications click here: [Education Assistant: General](#). If you are interested, please submit a cover letter, resume, qualifications, and references to: hrr@sd61.bc.ca. If you know someone who may be interested, please share this email and/or message. We look forward to hearing from people who wish to be part of our learning community.



Eye See, Eye Learn

Eye See ... Eye Learn® provides kindergarten students from a participating school district with a comprehensive eye exam that is fully covered by MSP, with no additional cost to the family. If needed, kindergarten students will receive one pair of eyeglasses free of charge. <https://bc.doctorsofoptometry.ca/patients/children/eye-see-eye-learn/>

Thank you Tillicum PAC and Tillicum Staff!

The reality of running a busy elementary school has set in here at ***Tillicum***. The school is buzzing with activity – academic, athletic, musical, and social! The young learner is an interesting one – there is never a dull moment! At any time at ***Tillicum***, you can feel the energy and see the activity in the building. Academics are a priority for our students, as are a variety of learning opportunities. Through student leadership activities – including assemblies, WE Council, athletics, lunch monitoring, the computer lab and library, music, choir, as well as other fascinating activities and clubs, student opportunities to explore new, exciting things are definitely here! Being well organized at home with established reading routines and good communication with parents helps our students enjoy an enriching elementary school experience while being the best they can be academically. A big THANK YOU goes out to our ***Tillicum*** PAC for their hard work and generous financial support shown to enhance our school programs. Thank you also to all of our parents for continuing to support the work we do at ***Tillicum***.

See you in and around ***Tillicum***!

Jeff Duyndam & Sue Ottenbreit
Principal Vice-Principal



Tillicum Community School Calendar

November 2019



For events specific to each Division, please speak with your child's teacher.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6 <i>Recognition Assembly 2:10pm</i>	7	8 <i>Remembrance Day Assembly - 10:45am</i>	9
10	11 <i>Remembrance Day School is not in session</i>	12 <i>Fire Drill - 9:50am</i>	13 <i>Picture Retake Day PAC Meeting 6:30 PM - Library</i>	14	15	16 <i>PAC Christmas Market - Gym 10am - 3pm</i>
17	18	19 <i>Jesse Miller Presentations Gr 3/4 - 1:00pm Gr 4/5 - 1:50pm</i>	20 <i>Recognition Assembly 2:10pm</i>	21	22 <i>Pro-D Day School is not in session</i>	23
24	25 <i>Kindergarten Vision Screening - All day</i>	26 <i>Kindergarten Vision Screening - AM Lockdown Drill with Saanich Police</i>	27	28	29 <i>Food For Fun</i>	Early December: <i>Dec 4: Pancake Break- fast, Recognition As- sembly Dec 10: PAC Gift Sale</i>