



Tillicum Community School

November 2021

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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 safe, caring, and 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 and lunch 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.

We continue to have 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 of home reading! To celebrate, our students have decided they would like an extra recess! Thank you for helping us reach our goal!



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 Thursday, November 25th 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 plan at **Tillicum**.

Upcoming Special Event at Tillicum

The **Tillicum** Remembrance Day assembly will of course not be happening as it has in previous years. This year our staff have planned to honour Remembrance Day by having each class deliver their wreaths to a school-built cenotaph throughout the morning culminating with a piper circling the building. Our choir will also be performing at several locations around the building allowing for all of our staff and students to take part in this important day while respecting all of our health and safety protocols.



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

Library

Our Scholastic Book Fair was a great success! Thank you to all families, teachers, and students who participated, supporting our school library while enhancing home libraries. Your investment in your reader helped our library earn valuable funds for new books. We have already purchased \$2000 worth of books from the book fair profits and have several hundred dollars more left to spend with Scholastic. Stay tuned for the possibility of another fair in the spring.

Nutritional Snack Program

We are excited to now offer an online payment option for the Nutritional Snack Program! If you have already registered your child with School CashOnline you will see it as a new payment option before the start of each month.

If you choose to use the online payment option, you **do not need** to return the paper slip to the school. If you prefer cash or cheque payments, please continue to return the slips and envelopes that your student brings home, being sure to include your child's name and teacher or division.

We encourage you to contribute your fair share so we can continue the snack program here at Tillicum Community School.

Athletics

Our Tillicum Grade 4/5 Soccer team has had a wonderful season from September until the end of October. This year we were able to end with fantastic soccer Jamboree. A total of eight schools from our catchment community came together for an afternoon tournament at Hampton fields. Mrs. Easton and our entire school community are proud of these students for representing our school so well.

Hero's Hockey

Eleven 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.



1000X5

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

Have you found the PINK bin outside the office? Please donate **children's books** you aren't using anymore. Help all children enter the early literacy club!

We are hiring!

The Greater Victoria School District is looking for qualified individuals to join our team in the following key roles:

- Accounts Clerk-Schools (Spareboard)
- Custodian 1 / Janitor / Cleaner
- Educational Assistant-General (Spareboard)
- On Call Clerical Support



If you, or someone you know, is interested in learning more about the positions we offer, please visit our website here: <https://www.sd61.bc.ca/our-district/employment/>
You can submit your resume, cover letter, and qualifications to: hrs@sd61.bc.ca

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! 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. 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 around ***Tillicum***!

Jeff Duyndam & Rhonda Leduc
Principal Vice-Principal



Tillicum Community School Calendar

November 2021



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
7 <i>Daylight Savings Time Ends - Clocks "Fall Back" 1 hr</i>	8	9	10 <i>Remembrance Day at School PAC meeting 6:30 PM - Zoom</i>	11 <i>Remembrance Day School is not in session</i>	12 <i>Pro-D Day School is not in session</i>	13
14	15	16 <i>Fire Drill</i>	17 <i>Picture Retake Day</i>	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 <i>Lockdown Drill with Saanich Police</i>	26 <i>PAC Fundraiser Poinsettia Pickups</i>	27
28	29	30	Early December: <i>Dec 17 - Report Cards Home</i>			