



Tillicum Community School

October 2023

3155 Albina Street, Victoria, B.C., V9A 1Z6

Phone: 250-386-1408 Fax: 250-380-2805

Website: <https://tillicum.sd61.bc.ca> @TillicumTBirds

Attendance email: attendance20@sd61.bc.ca



Dear Parents & Guardians,



October is here, and at **Tillicum** the school continues to be an amazing environment for teaching and learning. By combining high expectations for behaviour and commitment to our learning, we have set the wheels in motion for an outstanding school year. Thanks so much to the **Tillicum** staff for their commitment to our program and to the dedication shown toward the wonderful children in their care. We are thrilled with the respectful manner in which our students have conducted themselves. Students have set goals for themselves, and they have shown respect for our code of conduct - an important cornerstone of our school.

*The vision of **Tillicum** is to provide a safe, caring school community where strengths are honoured and learning is exciting. **Tillicum** students will acquire and demonstrate academic, social and behavioural skills that will allow them to contribute as moral citizens in a culturally diverse, technological world. We are committed to this vision at **Tillicum**! We want our school to be a place where students truly feel that they belong, a place that is exciting for all learners. At **Tillicum**, we value that our school is respectful, safe, and full of great learning opportunities and experiences.*



Attendance Email

It's as simple as it sounds... just send an email to our attendance email address if your student will be away (attendance20@sd61.bc.ca). **Tillicum's** attendance email is one of several ways you can let us know of a student absence. Phone calls and answering machine messages will still work...250-386-1408 ext 2.

Safety at Tillicum



Another one of our priorities at **Tillicum** is the safety of all the students and staff while in and around the building. To that end, we regularly practice fire drills, ensuring the entire school population is able to exit the building quickly and quietly. On Thursday, October 12th, **Tillicum** will have the Saanich Fire Department here to assist us with a fire drill. We will also be taking part in the BC Provincial Earthquake ShakeOut Earthquake drill. The earthquake drill will be on Tuesday, October 17th and will be an opportunity to review and practice our earthquake emergency plans. We hope that students and families have discussed earthquake preparedness for their homes. On

Tuesday, November 21st 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**.

Another aspect of SAFETY for us is bicycle safety and parking lot safety. We have stressed the importance of bicycle safety with students – choosing SAFE riding routes to and from school, **wearing a helmet**, etc. We have also reminded students that all of the bicycles in our bike racks during the school day should be locked, and are out of bounds to all students. Regarding student drop off on Orillia Street, we wish to remind parents to stay clear of the bus zone and residential driveways. Pick up and drop off on Albina Street is also very busy (parents are reminded to please not park in the Staff Parking lot as it is reserved for staff), and we want to remind everyone that SAFETY is of huge importance – please do your part to be safe!

Dressing for the Weather

The wet, sometimes windy, west coast winter weather will soon be here. 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.



Music

We are very excited to once again see the return of Senior Choir this school year. Senior Choir is open to all students in Grade 3,4 and 5. Practices are every **Thursday @ Lunch Recess**. No experience is necessary, so come out and sing with us! We are looking forward to our next performance at the Remembrance Day assembly. A big thank you to all of the staff stepping up to provide this opportunity for our students.

Athletics and Healthy Living at Tillicum

Athletics and healthy living are important for everyone, particularly for elementary school students! We are committed to providing opportunities for kids to be involved at our school athletically and we promote healthy living. Thanks to **Ms. Nadeau** for coaching our *Disc Golf team* this year and a big thank you to **Ms. Kushnir** for coaching our Cross-Country team this year! The students at **Tillicum** have also been encouraged to be part of our *soccer program*, which is always a HUGE success. Thank you to **Mrs. Easton** for coaching soccer this year! Fingers are crossed that we can move forward with our jamboree at the end of October.



Spirit Day - Orange and Black Day

On October 31st, we will be having our annual Orange and Black Day. In the past, we have asked students to leave their costumes at home. This year students will be able to come to school in a costume provided they are still able to use the stairs and washroom independently. Please be mindful that costumes may be damaged during the day and that all costumes must be appropriate for school. We believe this will be extremely successful in allowing students the opportunity to dress up a little and have some fun on Halloween. We encourage those not dressing up to wear black and/or orange clothing.

Halloween Dance

This year our PAC and several staff members will be putting on a Halloween Dance. The dance will be in the gym, Thursday, October 26th from 6:00-7:30pm. All students attending **must be accompanied by an adult**. Costumes are allowed.

Library

Mark your calendars! The fun and excitement of a Scholastic Book Fair is coming to Tillicum school! So save the date! Our **Book Fair** will take place on **October 18 & 19** in our gym during parent-teacher conferences. Watch for posters around school and for a newsletter explaining the **Book Fair!**

If you can't make it to the physical fair you can visit it virtually and shop. The selection will differ somewhat from the physical fair, but all items will be delivered free of charge to our school within five days of the book fair's completion.



Visit the site now to preview some of the titles that will be available.

<https://virtualbookfairs.scholastic.ca/pages/5153099>

All profits from the fair will be used to purchase new books for our library.

Happy reading!

Watch for an email from time to time indicating any overdue books. We know it is hard to keep track of all the items kids have in their possession. Please let us know if you are having problems locating items and we will work together to find a solution.

Parent-Teacher Interviews

Wednesday, October 18 & Thursday, October 19 are Parent-Teacher Interviews (see calendar below). **11:50 AM dismissal on Wednesday, Oct 18 only (Thursday is regular dismissal)**. Each classroom teacher will be communicating with parents, informing them of the format, and how to sign up for an interview. More information will be sent to you in the next few weeks.



Bike to School Week(s): October 16 - 27

Tillicum School is registered to participate in the upcoming Bike to School Week from October 16 - 27! All students and staff are invited to ride their bikes, scooters, skateboards, etc. to school each day. All forms of non-motorized transportation are eligible! Students are welcome to lock their bikes to the school bike racks. If the racks become full, students are allowed to lock their bikes to the adjacent chain link fence.



Cops for Cancer – Tour de Rock



Tillicum is proud to once again host the Tour de Rock! The Tour will be here on Thursday, October 5th from 10:12am-10:27am. **We are encouraging everyone to WEAR BLUE.** The Tour de Rock is an exciting annual event where Police officers and emergency services personnel cycle 14 days and 1200 km down Vancouver Island raising money for childhood cancer research and sending children on Vancouver Island with cancer to Camp Goodtimes. The Canadian Cancer Society will once again hold its annual Cops for Cancer Raffle. Tickets and more information can be found here: <https://rafflebox.ca/raffle/ccs-bc/142>

Our office door is also open to discuss any concerns or questions you may have about our school or the programs/services we offer. Thank you for your continued support and involvement in your child's education.

Jeff Duyndam & Rhonda Leduc
Principal Vice-Principal





Tillicum Community School Calendar

October 2023



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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 <i>National Truth & Reconciliation Day</i> <i>School is not in session</i>	3	4	5 WEAR BLUE <i>Tour de Rock at Tillicum (10:12-10:27)</i> 	6	7 <i>PAC Apple Order Deadline</i>
8	9 <i>Thanksgiving</i> <i>School is not in session</i>	10	11 <i>Individual Picture Day</i> <i>Class Photo Day</i> <i>PAC meeting</i> <i>6:30 PM - Teams</i>	12 <i>Fire Drill</i>	13	14
15	16 <i>Bike to School Week 1</i>	17 <i>Earthquake Drill</i> <i>Food For Fun Portal Closes (11am)</i>	18 EARLY CLOSURE 11:50 AM <i>Parent-Teacher Conferences</i> <i>Scholastic Book Fair</i>	19 <i>Apple Pick up</i> Regular Dismissal 2:37 PM <i>Parent-Teacher Conferences</i> <i>Scholastic Book Fair</i>	20 <i>Pro-D Day</i> <i>School is not in session</i>	21 <i>PAC Bottle Drive</i> <i>9-3pm</i>
22	23 <i>Bike to School Week 2</i>	24	25	26 <i>Halloween Dance</i> <i>Gym 6-7:30pm</i> <i>All students need to be accompanied by an adult.</i>	27 <i>Food For Fun</i>	28
29	30	31 <i>Orange & Black Day</i> <i>Costumes OK</i> <i>Assembly</i> <i>1:45</i> 	Early November: <i>Remembrance Day - No School Nov 13</i>			