



# Tillicum Community School

**November 2024**

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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 at 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 Tuesday, November 19<sup>th</sup> 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 for this year is planned for the morning of Friday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, 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 Tuesdays at Lunch. Senior choir is busy getting ready for their performance as part of the Remembrance Assembly on Friday, November 8<sup>th</sup>.

### **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.

### ***Athletics***

Our Cross-Country team had a fantastic season consistently placing among the top 5 teams in the city! Thank you to Mr. Carlson and all of our coaching staff for making this possible! We are also so proud of our Gr 4/5 **Tillicum** Soccer Team. They practice every Tuesday and Thursday at lunch and had a fabulous time at the Greater Victoria Soccer Jamboree, October 30<sup>th</sup> at Hampton Park. Thank you to Mrs. Easton for coaching and organizing the Jamboree.

### ***Hero's Hockey***

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

- Early Childhood Educator
- Educational Assistant-General
- 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](mailto:hrs@sd61.bc.ca)



### ***Eye See, Eye Learn***

Eye See ... Eye Learn® provides kindergarten students from participating school districts 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://healthyschools.sd61.bc.ca/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 in and around ***Tillicum***!

***Jeff Duyndam & Karen Higginbotham***  
***Principal Vice-Principal***



# Tillicum Community School Calendar

## November 2024



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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3  Daylight Savings Time ENDS	4	5	6 PAC meeting 6:30 PM - Teams	7	8 Remembrance Day Assembly 10:45  PAC Hilltop Orders Due	9
10	11 Remembrance Day - Lest We Forget  School is not in session 	12	13 Fire Drill	14 Photo Retake Day	15	16 PAC Winter Market 10-3
17	18	19 Lockdown Drill with Saanich Police	20	21	22 Pro-D Day  School is not in session	23
24	25 "Feed the Need" Granola Bar Drive STARTS	26	27 PAC Poinsettias Pick-up (Hilltop)	28	29	30 <b>Early December:</b> Dec 1 - Purdy's Orders Due  Dec 2 - PJ Day & Pancake Breakfast