



# Tillicum Community School

## June 2025

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### ***Hello Tillicum students, families, and staff,***

This is the last newsletter of the school year – what a year we have had at ***Tillicum***! Where has this year gone? There are a number of important events happening this month. Each class will be informing parents about special events specific to their division. **We have a school-wide event planned for Thursday, June 19<sup>th</sup> - our Cadboro-Gyro Beach Day.** Information will come home shortly with respect to details for the day. Lunch is not provided. **Our grade 5 ceremony will happen Wednesday, June 25<sup>th</sup> with parents invited to arrive at 10:30 AM.** Thursday, June 26<sup>th</sup> is the final school day of the year and the Summary of Learning (report card) will be available on Parent Connect at 3pm on June 26<sup>th</sup>.

We wish to express our congratulations to our grade 5 students as they are completing their time at ***Tillicum*** School. Most of our grade 5 students are on their way to Colquitz, and we have some students that will be attending Arbutus, Cedar Hill, Lansdowne, Shoreline, and Rockheights as well. Thanks so much to all of you for your leadership and overall outstanding contributions to our school! All the best! We look forward to welcoming a whole new class of Kindergarten students in September!

Thanks go out to all of our amazing ***Tillicum*** staff for their tremendous commitment and dedication to our students this year! We wish to extend appreciation to our staff who will be moving on to other positions in the school district, and to those staff who will be retiring.

Thanks to our ***Tillicum PAC*** and to all of our ***Tillicum*** parents – it has been great working together with you in support of our kids! Take time this summer to relax, enjoy the outdoors, and find balance in life. Spend quality time with friends and loved ones, enjoy some great books, and exercise, and we will see you in September! School opens on **Tuesday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025**. All students will meet on the Orillia Street blacktop, and ***Tillicum*** will be in session from 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM on the first day.

### **HAPPY RETIREMENT**

As the school year comes to a close, we prepare to say goodbye to a cherished member of our ***Tillicum*** School community. Mr. Ben Koning, our dedicated and much-loved librarian, is retiring after many years of exceptional service. Throughout his time at ***Tillicum***, Mr. Koning has inspired a love of reading, learning, and curiosity in countless students. His unwavering commitment to education and his warm, welcoming presence in the library have left a lasting mark on our school. We are deeply grateful for all he has given to our community. Please join us in celebrating Mr. Koning and wishing him a joyful, well-earned retirement. He will be truly missed!



***Parents of students currently in grades K-4: If your child will NOT be attending Tillicum in September of 2025, please call the office to inform us of this important information.***

## **Elementary School Schedule for 2025-2026**

ALL ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS in SD61 will start at **8:45am** and end at **2:37pm**.

START	8:45 AM
Recess	10:15 AM – 10:30 AM
Lunch Eating Period	11:50 AM – 12:10 PM
Lunch Recess	12:10 PM – 12:35 PM
END	2:37 PM

## **Grade 5 Recognition Assembly**

**Wednesday, June 25<sup>th</sup> - 10:45 AM in the gym**

All families of our grade 5 students are invited to attend this special assembly as we bid farewell! Please be in touch with your child's teacher to let them know if you will be attending and how many people will be in your party.

## **Parent Appreciation Coffee & Cookies**



We very much value the willingness of parents and guardians to help us achieve our goals at ***Tillicum***. The members of the ***Tillicum PAC*** are a group of parents that do so much to help our programs succeed. Additionally, families and friends of ***Tillicum*** students find ways in their busy schedules to help us out with our field trips, sports team outings, reading to and with children in classes, and numerous other activities. We would like to say THANK YOU to the many parents, grandparents, and guardians who have volunteered their time this year! On **Wednesday, June 18<sup>th</sup>** we invite you to join us when you drop your child off before school. Stop by for a coffee and cookie to start your day! This is a small token of our appreciation to our wonderful volunteers!

## **Lost and Found**

Please take the time to check the Lost and Found. Items will be spread out in the hallway near the gym in the lower hallway during the last week of school. Small items will be spread out on a table across from Kate's office.



## **Summer Book Exchange**



***Tillicum*** staff are working to build two "***Tillicum*** Book Exchange" boxes to be placed on the school grounds for a Student Summer Reading Program. These boxes are intended to allow students to have access to books over the summer. We would greatly appreciate receiving any books families are willing to donate. If you have gently used books at home (picture books or chapter books) that your children no longer need, please bring them to school. Our staff will sort through these books and use them to fill the book boxes throughout the summer. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mrs. Nault at [lnault@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:lnault@sd61.bc.ca). Thank you so much for your support, the Summer Reading Council.

## Summer Reading Club

The BC Summer Reading Club (BC SRC) is a free, self-paced reading program for ages 14 and under. Starting Friday, June 20, 2025, kids can visit any of our 12 Greater Victoria Public Library (GVPL) branches to pick up a reading record, get their first sticker, and start tracking their reading. After every seven days of reading, they are invited back to any GVPL branch to collect their weekly sticker and prize. There are seven weeks of prizes available until Saturday, September 6, 2025, while supplies last:

1. Bookmark
2. Eraser
3. Temporary tattoo
4. Ballot for a chance to win a pass to a local attraction
5. Greater Victoria Active Communities Recreation Centre Passes
6. Book
7. Medal and Certificate of Completion

## Getting Ready for Summer Means Returning Library Books

The **Tillicum** School Library is asking for all student library books to be returned by June 6th. We need to do a complete library inventory this year and a bit of reorganization to accommodate all our wonderful new books purchased this year courtesy of the Times Colonist Literacy Grant, our Scholastic Book Fair Fundraising and PAC funding. If you already know your child has lost a library book, please let Ms. Lori ([tillicum@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:tillicum@sd61.bc.ca)) know via email as soon as possible. . Thanks for your help on this. After June 6<sup>th</sup> please start taking advantage of the wonderful books available at the public library.

## Rainbow Club

Thank you for all of your support for Rainbow Week. Students and staff were very colourfully dressed all week, and we had many inclusive chalk messages across our blacktops. Thank you again for your support in making our school feel more inclusive and welcoming for ALL of our students and their families.

## Bike to School Week: June 2 to June 6

**Tillicum** School is registered to participate in the upcoming Bike to School Week from June 2 to June 6! All students and staff are invited to ride their bikes, scooters, skateboards, etc. to school each day that week. 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. We're looking forward to a great week of riding to school!



We have had a very successful year full of wonderful events including: cultural and fine arts activities, sporting activities, fun and celebratory days, and a great deal of hard work! Our students are to be commended for their diligence, and we are all very proud of their accomplishments. The staff at **Tillicum** would like to thank all of our families for their continued support of the learning that takes place in and around our wonderful school. We appreciate everything you have done for your children.

Many thanks to our fabulous PAC executive, who seem tireless in their endeavours to make **Tillicum** a better place to be. We would also like to acknowledge the amazing community partners who support us in a variety of ways. Finally, thank you to the **Tillicum** staff for their unending dedication to the progress of every child here at **Tillicum** Community School.

As we work together, we know without a doubt how lucky we are to work in such a caring, thoughtful, hardworking, and child-focused community. We wish you all a relaxing and safe summer!

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





# Tillicum Community School Calendar

## June 2025



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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 <i>Bike to School Week</i>	3	4 <i>Fire Drill</i>	5	6 <i>PAC: Food For Fun</i>	7
8	9	10	11 <i>PAC meeting 6:30 PM - Library</i>	12 <i>Extra Recess Home Reading for 5000 Nights!</i>	13	14
15 <i>Father's Day</i>	16	17 <b><i>Fun Day</i></b>	18 <i>Parent Appreciation Coffee &amp; Cookies 8:30am-9am</i>	19 <i>Juneteenth</i> <b><i>Beach Day @ Gyro</i></b>	20	21 <i>National Indigenous Peoples Day</i>
22	23	24 <i>Grade 5 Field Trip</i>	25 <b><i>Grade 5 Celebration 10:45 AM</i></b>	26 <b><i>Last Day of School Summary of Learning Posted (Parent Connect) 3 PM</i></b>	27 <i>Administrative Day No Students</i>	28
29	30	<b><i>September:</i></b> <i>First day of school - Tuesday, September 2 (9-11:30 AM)</i>  <i>Gr. 1-5: First day of regular hours - Wednesday, September 3 (8:45-2:37 PM)</i>				