

# NEWS LETTER

MAY 2026



TILLICUM ELEMENTARY

## Greetings from the Admin Team

It's hard to believe that May has arrived—the year is certainly flying by! April was filled with many wonderful celebrations, including Earth Week, Poem in Your Pocket Day, and our Student-Led Conferences. It has been truly impressive to see the growth our students have made in their learning. As we enter the final stretch of the school year, please don't hesitate to connect with us if needed. We are looking forward to a busy and rewarding final two months.

Warmly,

Aaron and Karen

## Track & Field

Our Grade 3–5 athletes continue to train for the Zone D Track Meet on Wednesday, May 27.

Please ensure your child comes to school on the 27th prepared with appropriate athletic wear: shorts, a light shirt, and running shoes. (No spikes, aqua shoes, or boots, please.)

Practice Schedule:

100m: Burnside Field (Monday, Wednesday, Friday at recess)

Relays: Maddock Field

800m: Maddock Field (Tuesday and Thursday at recess)

Regular attendance at practices is required in order to participate in the track meet. Thank you for your support in helping students come prepared and ready to participate.



## Biodiversity Day, May 22

Many classes will be visiting Cuthbert Holmes Park on May 22 to take part in Saanich Biodiversity Day.

This special day celebrates local ecosystems, wildlife, and the importance of protecting biodiversity in our community. Students will have the opportunity to explore nature and deepen their understanding of the environment around

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3155 ALBINA ST, PHONE: 250-386-1408



## NEWSLETTER – TILLICUM

### Drum Awakening & Cultural Learning



On April 30, students participated in an Indigenous Drum Awakening Ceremony, where our new drums were honored as living beings through the use of sacred medicines, natural elements, and song. Following this, the drums will be formally gifted to the school by our PAC at the May assembly. This important moment marks their place in our school community and their role in ongoing cultural and learning experiences.

Additionally, some students will travel to Bamberton on May 6 for a clam harvesting field trip. Students will learn about traditional harvesting practices and the significance of clam gardens as a food source for local Nations. The harvest will be shared with the Songhees Nation and Esquimalt Nation, and will contribute to our Indigenous Peoples' Day learning in June.



**ATTENDANCE** – Please report absences at [attendance20@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:attendance20@sd61.bc.ca). or phone 250-386-1408 ext. 2.

### Library Update

We're excited to share that new furniture has been ordered for our school library! The updated space will include flexible seating and cozy areas designed to create a welcoming and engaging environment for all students. While the furniture has not yet arrived, we are looking forward to transforming the library into an even more vibrant learning hub in the near future.

Bridget Hearsey  
School Librarian (Torquay & Tillicum Elementary)  
Email: [bhearsey@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:bhearsey@sd61.bc.ca)

### Looking Ahead to June

June is always an exciting and busy time at Tillicum, with many classes planning special activities and outings. Teachers will communicate details directly with families. We are also pleased to share that our annual year-end celebration will take place at Cadboro-Gyro Beach Park on Wednesday, June 16, 2026.

This school-wide event is an opportunity to celebrate the year together, enjoy the outdoors, and spend time as a community.

- Students in the Nutritional Snack Program will be provided with food
- All other students are asked to bring a bag lunch

More detailed information will be sent home soon. A big thank you to our Tillicum PAC for funding the buses that make this special event possible!