



DISCOVERY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

NOVEMBER 2024 Newsletter

Ms. Dani Morrow, Principal
Ms. Emily Nickason, Vice Principal
Ms. Tanya Leech, Head Secretary

At Discovery, we are grateful to learn on Coast Salish land, play on Coast Salish land, and work on Coast Salish land. We acknowledge the Coast Salish people who were on this land before us. We are grateful.

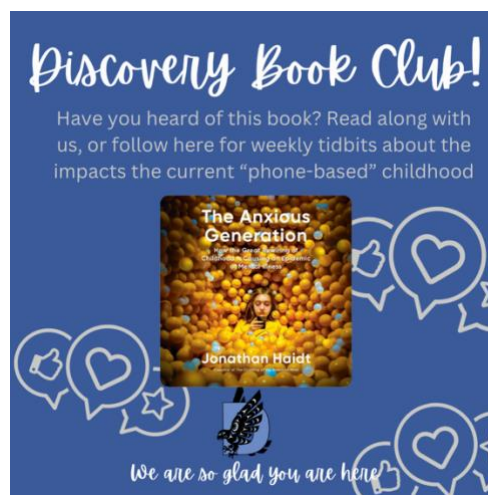
HAPPY NOVEMBER!



In the spirit of Truth and Reconciliation, and our ongoing commitment to honor and celebrate the history of our land, and the First Peoples' Principals of Learning, we are grateful to have received a logo re-refresh from Stuart Pagaduan, who is a local Cowichan artist, and former SD79 Cultural Advisor. Our eagle now reflects our connection to this Coast Salish land, and includes our commitment to celebrating Community, Accountability, Resilience, and Empathy. We are grateful!

DISCOVERY BOOK CLUB! FOLLOW ALONG!

The recently published book, "The Anxious Generation" by Jonathan Haidt is a fantastic read. It is filled with important (and sometimes alarming) information about the impacts of social media and cell phones in the hands of adolescents and teenagers. This is timely, given the Ministry of Education and Child Care's recent restrictions of cellphones in schools. We have a few copies of this book for parents to borrow, if you are interested. As well, we will be including information from this book in a new, weekly installment on our social media (yes, I see the irony here!). Join our Discovery Book Club! Or just follow along for the ride.



At Discovery, We C.A.R.E.

October was been filled with C.A.R.E!! Our CARE bulletin board is filling up faster than we could have ever



hoped! Here are some of the ways that Discovery students have been showing Community, Accountability, Resilience, and Empathy:

- *helping to look for a missing soccer ball (community!)
- *recognizing when a mistake has been made (accountability!)
- *continuing to write, even when the word was challenging (resilience!)
- *comforting a friend who was feeling sad (empathy!)

DAILY REMINDERS

Last year, we began posting daily reminders and notices on our Social Media Pages. If you use [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#), please follow us for regular updates and cool photos!



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!



Upcoming Dates to Remember

- Monday, November 11 - No School (Remembrance Day)
- Wednesday, November 20 - 2 hour Early Dismissal
- Thursday, November 21 - Photo Retakes
- Friday, November 22 - No School (Non Instructional Day)

[Full Calendar for 2024-2025](#)

PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL INFORMATION



Our wonderful PAC continues to be hard at work, raising funds for our school! If you have any questions about the information below, please contact discoverypac@gmail.com

Next PAC Meeting:

The next PAC meeting will take on WEDNESDAY, November 13th at 6:45pm, via Zoom

Meeting ID: 972 1650 7905

Password: 2204

<https://zoom.us/j/97216507905?pwd=FoXv7kBsp2Pu9NCSjDI6rsCzotnZRv.1>

Stay Connected:

Please join our Facebook group [Discovery Elementary PAC](#) for school information, hot lunch reminders, fundraisers and more!

Raffle Baskets:

Our annual Raffle Basket fundraiser is here! We ask each class to help create a Gift Basket to be raffled off. Proceeds go toward classroom supplies, field trips, special days, etc. Each basket has its own theme, as outlined below. Ideas/suggestions are notes, but please use your imagination.

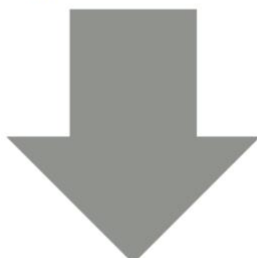
If you are able, we are asking family to donate an item(s) (either purchased or donated) to their class that fits with the class basket theme for this year. You may also send money towards the purchase of items, if you wish. We will pick up all the items from classrooms on Monday, November 18th.

The Baskets will be on display at the Shawnigan Lake Community Center Craft Fair on Saturday, November 30th, and the Discovery Winter Concert on Thursday, December 19th. We will keep you posted on any other opportunities we may have to purchased tickets.

Raffle tickets will be available to purchase for \$1 each, or \$10 for fifteen tickets, or \$20 for forty tickets. Winners will be announced when the draw takes place at 10am on December 20th

THEME	Divisions	Teachers
A Gardener's Dream <i>(ideas: sees, small tools, gloves, etc)</i>	1 & 2	Ruttan/Malvena
Camping and Beach <i>(ideas: hot chocolate, marshmallows, roasting sticks, beach balls, sand tools, solo cups, etc)</i>	3 & 4	Nilsson/Colbourne/ Nickason/Hall
Family Night - Treats & Games <i>(ideas: cards, crib board, candy, mugs, popcorn, games)</i>	5 & 6	Atwell/Millar
Coffee & Tea Lovers <i>(ideas: coffee, tea, dipping cookies, etc)</i>	7 & 8	Rosenbeck/Belton McQuhahe/Hall
Everything Chocolate <i>(ideas: gift cars for local artisans, chocolate jujubes, chocolate bars, etc)</i>	9 & 10	Mallory/Carlson/ Roehl(Price)
I Love Arts & Crafts <i>(ideas: coloured paper, felts, stencils, etc)</i>	11 & 12	Law/Salmon/Richards
Pet Lovers <i>(ideas: poop bags, portable water bowl, catnip, toys, etc)</i>	13 & 14	Halpeny/Cross
Spa Day <i>(ideas: bath bombs, Epsom salts, bubble bath, ear plugs, etc)</i>	15 & 16	Morrison/Symes
Sports Basket <i>(ideas: indoor bowling, badminton, frisbee, etc)</i>	17	Richter

Keep Reading



Hot Lunch:

Hot Lunch ordering for the 2024/2025 school year is now open! If you already have an account from last year go to www.munchalunch.com/login and you will be required to update your child’s class.

If you do not already have an account follow the instructions below to register:

- Go to www.munchalunch.com/schools/discovery/
- Select “Register here”
- Create your account
- Add your child/children
- Select order lunch at the top navigation bar



At any point in the ordering process you can press “jump to last menu” to check out. All orders must be submitted 15 days prior to the hot lunch day; the PAC will not be able to accept any late orders. Please note your order needs to be paid within 2 hours of you placing it to go through. The first ordering deadline is October 6th! If cost is a barrier for your family, please reach out to the PAC, Ms.Morrow or a staff member you are comfortable with.

ONGOING FUNDRAISERS



COUNTRY GROCER RECEIPTS

SAVE YOUR COUNTRY GROCER RECEIPTS AND DROP THEM OFF AT THE OFFICE OR SEND THEM TO SCHOOL WITH YOUR CHILD.



CO-OP NUMBER

#78530
CAN BE USED AT CO OP OR THE SHAWNIGAN GARAGE



MABLES LABELS

SELECT "DISCOVERY ELEMENTARY PAC" AT CHECK OUT



BOTTLE RETURNS

BOTTLES CAN BE SORTED AND DROPPED OFF AT EITHER THE COBBLE HILL OR DUNCAN BOTTLE DEPOT UNDER "DISCOVERY PAC" ALTERNATIVELY LADYSMITH BOTTLE DEPOT ACCEPTS UNSORTED BOTTLES.

★

DISTRICT INFORMATION

Lost & Found at Transportation

Student belongings such as gym strip, lunch bags, hats, mitts, iPods, cell phones, etc., etc., etc. are left on busses daily. Our bus drivers clean and sweep their buses after each run and may keep items on the bus for a day or two in hopes that the owner claims it. However, students often do not realize that they have lost or misplaced an item and not all items are claimed.

All belongings are brought into the Duncan bus garage and held for 2 months, after 2 months the items are donated. If you have lost something please come to the Transportation office and have a look through the collection. We are located at 2557 Beverly St, Duncan, our office hours are 8:30 am until 4:30 pm.

Inclement Weather

With the winter season fast approaching, it is time to share the School District's procedures regarding inclement weather. There may be times when bus routes will not be operating as usual, or where schools in the district are closed.

BUS CANCELLATIONS

The most likely reason for cancellation of bus service will be for severe winter weather conditions, in which case one or more bus routes in the district may be cancelled. It will be determined by approximately 5:45 a.m. whether to cancel one or more bus routes. This is done in consultation with transportation staff who carefully assess local road conditions after severe weather warnings or events.

It is especially important that you take note of what route(s) your child(ren) ride on.

BUS OPERATIONS DURING INCLEMENT WEATHER

During inclement weather events, there are roadways that are part of regular routing that are initially less maintained. Some of these roadways may be considered unsafe to drive for district school buses. If this determination is made, following the careful assessment by transportation staff, communication will go out to district ridership. The messaging will include affected routes, and if applicable, will also outline alternate safe pick-up locations for affected routes. Communications will be provided through My Ride K-12 and will be posted to the district [Facebook](#) page. If bus routes are running more than 15 minutes behind schedule, drivers will notify the transportation office. The transportation team will then advise the Principals and Vice-Principals of affected schools. Information regarding bus routes running more than 15 minutes behind schedule will also be found on My Ride K-12 and the district [Facebook](#) page. It is recommended to download the My Ride K-12 app for timely updates.

SCHOOL CLOSURES

The closure of schools in the district may occur when we are experiencing severe winter weather conditions, or when it is simply unsafe to drive. Again, it will be determined by approximately 5:45 a.m. whether to close schools in the district after assessing the situation.

WHERE TO FIND BUS ROUTE AND SCHOOL CANCELLATION NOTIFICATIONS

Any notice of official school closures due to weather will be posted to the district [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) accounts. We will notify local radio and TV media outlets prior to 6 a.m. with information regarding bus or route cancellations and school closures. News announcements usually begin after 6 a.m. Media partners will not be notified about individual route changes.

The following local radio stations will be contacted about inclement weather notifications:

- The Q! (100.3 FM)
- The Zone (91.3 FM)
- CBC (90.5 FM)
- SUN-FM (89.7 FM)
- CFX (1070 AM)

The school district website (www.sd79.bc.ca) will also be updated with a banner informing you of any closures. In all cases, the safety of students will be the priority. Parents are equally encouraged to keep safety in mind when determining whether to take your child(ren) to school in the event the district is open during winter weather conditions. It is your prerogative to keep them at home if you feel it is the safest choice. When able, students and families should come to the school grounds in suitable winter footwear, use designated walkways, and only park in designated drop off locations.

Homestay Families

The District is looking for homestay families for international secondary students. If you are interested, please reach out to blanglois@sd79.bc.ca



**BE MY
HOME
AWAY FROM
HOME**

**HOMESTAYS NEEDED FOR HIGH SCHOOL
INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS**

If you are an active family interested in hosting an international student from Europe and around the world contact us!
Brenda 250-510-1436 / blanglois@sd79.bc.ca