



NORTH ISLAND SECONDARY SCHOOL

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OUR CENTRAL FOCUS IS TO ENABLE ALL LEARNERS TO FULFILL THEIR POTENTIAL

November 2014

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Our semester is going by quickly. As the weather begins to get cooler we are happy to have our new heating system in full operation keeping the school nice and warm this winter. This cooler weather also brings us to the half-way point of the semester which means report cards will be mailed home at the end of next week. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact your child's teacher or visit us on December 4th for parent teacher interviews in the gym.

Finally, on another note an assembly in honour of Remembrance Day was held on Friday, November 7th, in the school gymnasium. The student leadership group is to be commended for their presentation! Thank you to Mrs. Beatty who played the trumpet, and Denzel Wilson who allowed his poem to be read. Also well done Joe Lloyd with reading a poem written by Ms. Casson. I would like to thank all NISS students for the high level of respect they demonstrated during the presentation.

Mr. J. Dixon, Principal

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

*Thursday, December 4th
6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.*

Parent Teacher interviews will be held on Thursday, December 4th from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the gymnasium. We encourage you to meet with your child's teacher. Appointments are not necessary. Classes will be dismissed at 1:50 p.m. that day using a Friday schedule rotation of 1,2,3,4 from 8:50 a.m. to 1:50 p.m. Report cards will be mailed out on November 28th.

2013-2014 AWARDS DAY CEREMONY

The Awards Day Ceremony for last school year will be held on Friday, December 19th at 12:30 p.m. We would like to recognize Furney Distributing, Orca Sand and Gravel and Lemare for their generous donations to our Awards Day.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Students and staff will be treated to a pancake breakfast on Friday, December 19th.

PARKING LOT SAFETY

New lines designating the bus zone have been painted in the parking lot at NISS. Student safety is of utmost importance and we ask that parents please follow the lines when picking up and dropping off students.

SCHOOL VISITORS

Parents and guardians are reminded that they are required to check in at the office when visiting the school. All visitors to the school will be issued "Visitor" badges to wear while in the school.

SCHOOL CLOSURES

If the weather or power outages cause the Superintendent of Schools to determine that district schools must be closed, parents and students can get information about the closures from the following sources:

School District #85 website - www.sd85.bc.ca

The Port Radio - 1240 AM

North Island Gazette -

www.northislandgazette.com

A Channel Victoria News television

Global BC television

CBC Radio 1 Victoria:

Port Hardy - 95.5 FM

Woss - 92.7 FM

Port McNeill, Alert Bay, Sointula - 105.1 FM

Port Alice - 1170 AM

COLD AND FLU SEASON

Flu season is an ongoing concern and parents are reminded to please keep your son or daughter at home if they are sick.

LEST WE FORGET

History 12 students, along with other members of the NISS student body, organized the Remembrance Day ceremony, held on November 7th. A big thank you to Kaitlyn Lasota, Mikayla Walton, Michael Wickstrom, Julia Dymont, Maddie Tremblay and Joe Lloyd for participating in the ceremony. We would also like to recognize Mrs. Casson for writing the poem that Joe read and Denzel Wilson for writing the poem that Maddie read. Many thanks to Mrs. Bonnie West, from the Port McNeill Legion for being our guest speaker.



LEARNING COMMONS

The Learning Commons is currently being repainted. The new colour scheme goes well with the vertical blinds that were installed during the summer.

Several new books have been purchased for "The Reading Room". Be sure to check out the "New Books" shelf for titles by Gayle Forman, James Dashner, Rainbow Rowell, John Green and E. Lockhart. If you have suggestions for new books or magazines you would like to see in the Learning Commons, please let us know.

STUDENTS COUNCIL

Another very successful Student Council sponsored event happened October 27th to October 30th. Leading up to the Friday, Halloween Day, students showed their NISS spirit by dressing up according to the designated daily themes. Monday was Pajama Day. Next was Scarf/Hat Tuesday. Wednesday was Plaid Day which was followed by Twin Day Thursday. All this dressing up led up to the most awaited day ... Halloween Friday! Students who participated earned points for the grades. Prizes were also awarded to the Cutest, Spookiest, Most Creative, Funniest, Best Couple Costume, and Best Over-All.

There were amazing costumes on Halloween Day. Even staff members got into the spirit! Leading up to Halloween Friday, students guessed the number of seeds our huge pumpkin (displayed at the lobby) had. Halloween games were played during the assembly. Safety talks from our local RCMP and Fire Department highlighted the afternoon gathering in the gym. Thank you NISS Student Council!



DRAMA DEPARTMENT

NISS Drama students are preparing for a Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre presentation on Friday, January 23rd. Tickets will be available for purchase in December.

GUITAR CLASS

The students in Ms. Beatty's Guitar class will be presenting their final performance on Thursday, January 29th at 7:00 p.m. in the theatre.

PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE NEWS

The next NISS PAC meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 3rd at 4:00 p.m. in the Learning Commons.

SCENT FREE

North Island Secondary School is a scent free environment. Employees, students, volunteers and visitors are asked to refrain from using scented products in accordance with SD #85 Board Policy.

HOT LUNCH AT CONCESSION

Would you like to see the NISS Concession open to provide a hot lunch for students? In order for this to happen, we desperately need parents, grandparents or community members to volunteer at the concession. For further information, please contact Pita at 250-949-9449.

Volunteers are also needed for the morning breakfast program. Please contact Ms. Sweeney for more information.

GRAD 2014

The next student grad meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 16th in the Drama Room at 11:45.

The next meeting for grads and their parents will be held on Monday, December 1st in the Learning Commons at 6:00 p.m. Grad fundraising will be the topic.

POST SECONDARY FIELD TRIP

Senior NISS students will have the opportunity to travel down island to tour five post-secondary institutions from December 1st to 3rd. This trip is being offered to Grade 11 and 12 students who are focused on attending a post-secondary school after graduation. Permission slips are available in the school office. Please contact Mr. Pendergast if you require further information.

NORTH ISLAND COLLEGE PROGRAMS AT NISS

The North Island College Coastal Forest Resource and Aquaculture Technician Level 1 programs have commenced at North Island Secondary School. All North Island College students will be wearing NIC identification badges while on school property and will follow school protocol. Some NISS classes will be participating in North Island College's exciting training experiences and lectures.

INDEPENDENT STUDIES



Brandon Saunders, working hard on a cedar fence for the courtyard at NISS. As part of his Independent Studies in Carpentry, Brandon is working on a cedar fence and picnic tables which will create an “outdoor classroom” space for student use when the sun comes out.

OUTDOOR PURSUITS

The outdoor pursuits class has been busy these last few weeks. Learning the ins and outs of geocaching, monitoring and predicting weather patterns, wilderness first aid and what to pack in a simple day hiking pack. As this term draws to a close, and this first ever cohort departs, they have hopefully gained useful and practical skills to begin pursuing their outdoor adventures whatever they may be.



SCIENCE AND MATH DEPARTMENT

The junior science students have just finished looking at the human body and some of the systems that make up our complex machine. Following the human body, students will begin to examine the kinetic molecular theory and its everyday application to fluids. Here we have a few students using some extra time to examine a kidney during one of our science labs.



POETRY SLAM AND ART NIGHT

Thursday, December 11th
7:00 P.M. TO 9:00 P.M.

Come to NISS on the evening of December 11th to enjoy all that we have been doing at the school. There will be art work (for sale), coffee, snacks and a raffle. Stay and enjoy the poetry slam and music.

The doors open 6:30 p.m. and admission is by donation, with all proceeds going to the new kiln fund for the art room.

Students must submit their poems to Miss McArthur (Art Room) by December 4th.

Poetry slam rules: poems cannot exceed 3 minutes, no costumes, no music, no props.

CALL FOR MUSICIANS - please see Ms. McArthur to audition to play between poetry readings.

CONNECTIONS

Connections students toured Western Forest Products Englewood operation in Woss on October 23rd.



DATES TO REMEMBER

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| Nov 21 | End of Term 1 |
| Nov 28 | Reports mailed home |
| Dec 4 | Parent Teacher Interviews |
| Dec 11 | Poetry Slam and Art Night |
| Dec 19 | Pancake Breakfast |
| Dec 19 | 2013-2014 Awards Day Ceremony |
| Dec 19 | Last day of classes |
| Jan 5 | School Based In-Service Day (no classes) |
| Jan 6 | Classes Resume |

