



Our central focus is to enable all learners to fulfill their potential  
April 2018 'ma'wa'etlanx Time of Moving into the oolichan grounds

[www.niss.ca](http://www.niss.ca)

**N** ISS  
EWS

North Island  
Secondary School  
Box 100  
Port McNeill, BC  
V0N 2R0

Tel: 250-956-3394  
Fax: 250-956-2035

Email:  
[niss@sd85.bc.ca](mailto:niss@sd85.bc.ca)

Principal:  
Mr. Jay Dixon  
[jdixon@sd85.bc.ca](mailto:jdixon@sd85.bc.ca)

Acting Vice-Principal:  
Ms. Stacia Johnson  
[sjohnson@sd85.bc.ca](mailto:sjohnson@sd85.bc.ca)

## From the Principal and Vice Principal

### PRINCIPAL JAY DIXON

Gilakas'la

As sunshine hopefully begins to find the North Island, it means the school year end is rapidly approaching. All North Island Secondary School students have only ten weeks of school left. It continues to be important that they attend all of their classes and complete all assignments, right up to the last day of classes. They should take every opportunity to achieve the learning outcomes of each class, so that they will be well prepared for the next school year.

Please feel free to contact your son or daughter's teacher at any time for an update on their learning.

We look forward to seeing many of you on the evening of Thursday, May 3 for our Parent Teacher Interviews & BBQ. Enjoy the Spring season.

Mr. Jay Dixon

### VICE PRINCIPAL STACIA JOHNSON

Gilakas'la, Bonjour, Konnichi wa, Hello

Students have adjusted back into their regular routines after a restful Spring Break and Easter weekend. We are now into the home stretch of this school year and we have lots of exciting programs on the go. The female soccer teams are underway; the art program is producing a variety of amazing projects; the Outdoor Pursuits classes are engaged in trips around the North Island; Career Fairs are happening and so much more.

Coming up- we have a garden program that is just starting and final preparations for grad with scholarship applications and grad transitions due. If you are wanting to help out with the garden or grad, please let Stacia Johnson know via email at [sjohnson@sd85.bc.ca](mailto:sjohnson@sd85.bc.ca)

It is this time of year too that we focus on course selection. Students and parents are en-

couraged to look through all the courses that NISS has to offer and to create a plan for next year. Let us know if you have not seen or signed a course selection form for your student.

Keep up your good work ethic and attendance as we sail through into summer.

~Ms. Stacia Johnson

### ICBC ROAD SAFETY PRESENTATION

On May 15 Students will attend an ICBC assembly in which John Westhaver will share his story. To find out more information about his presentation, check out ICBC's website:

<http://www.icbc.com/road-safety/teaching/Pages/John-Westhaver.aspx>

### SATISFACTION SURVEY

Grades 4, 7, 10 & 12  
A reminder to parents to please complete your satisfaction survey, by April 30. Passwords were mailed out in February.

<https://www.awinfosys.com/SurveyFullI/central/main/access.asp>

## TOTEM POLE CEREMONY

Gilakas'la,

On behalf of the staff and students of North Island Secondary School and School District No. 85 Aboriginal Programs and Services, we would like to invite you to attend our totem pole ceremony on **Thursday, May 17, 2018** beginning at **11:00 a.m.** This special event will also serve to commemorate the signing of our new Aboriginal Education Enhancement Agreement.

North Island Secondary School is a regional high school in Port McNeill that has grown in its learning and support of First Nation's culture and traditions. Our 'Namwiyut "Family" Totem Pole project has had students and community members learning more of the Kwakwaka'wakw culture guided by Kwakwaka'wakw artist, Chief Don Svanvik. 'Namwiyut (family) is a strong theme at North Island Secondary School. During this ceremony, our students will be celebrating culture through ceremony, song, and dance.

Students from all the neighboring schools and community members are invited to attend and participate in our cultural pole raising ceremony in front of our school. A shuttle to the school from BC Ferries will be provided for those wishing to join us from the island communities. A free BBQ lunch will follow for all in attendance.

Our totem pole will symbolize community strength through building connections (family) between our youth, families, and communities.

We hope to see you there!

### GRADE 11 PARENTS

Grade 11 Parents We Need Your Help at Grad June 9

We are needing grade 11 parents to help set up and take down grad preparations for the 2018 grad festivities at North Island Secondary on June 9. If you are available to help out, please let Ms. Johnson know. She can be reached at [sjohnson@sd85.bc.ca](mailto:sjohnson@sd85.bc.ca)



## HOCKEY TABLE



Thank you to Ms. Leyenaar's parents who have kindly donated an air hockey table to the school.

### PAC

A huge thank you goes out to our Parent Advisory Committee for their recent donation for the following:

- Climbing wall equipment
- Calculators for Math 8
- Soup Program
- Girls Soccer Team
- Totem Pole BBQ

Next PAC meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 25 5:00pm

### COMMUNITY CLEANUP AND BBQ

Coinciding with Canada Pitch in Week, our entire student body will be once again participating in a spring community cleanup followed by a barbeque lunch. The event will take place on Friday, April 20. Together we can help to make the streets and trails of Port McNeill more beautiful.



## SENIOR SKILLS CLASS



Ashley Laird, Cole Matson, Eric Bernhardsen and Owain Jewell working on wiring a section of wall for Senior Skills class. The students must wire a receptacle, a separate receptacle with a switch and a light working off the switch.

## RETRO SUIT

Mr. Dixon looking great in a vintage suit that belonged to Mrs. Farrant's father.



## HOME ECONOMICS

Students working on regalia projects.



## DATES TO REMEMBER

**April 25**  
PAC Meeting 5:00

**April 27**  
Midterm Reports Mailed Home

**May 03**  
Parent Teacher Interviews  
4:00—6:30 p.m.

**May 04**  
Pro-D Day  
NO SCHOOL

**May 15**  
ICBC Assembly 1:15

**May 17**  
Totem Raising Celebration  
and BBQ

**May 21**  
Victoria Day  
NO SCHOOL

**June 09**  
School Leaving Ceremony

**June 25**  
English 12 exam

**June 26**  
Awards Day Assembly 2:00

**June 27**  
Communications 12 exam

**June 28**  
Last Day of Classes



## SCENT FREE POLICY

Please respect that all School District No. 85 facilities are scent free environments.

There are students and staff with allergies to scents. Employees, students and visitors are asked to refrain from using scented products.

Students affected by scented products should tell their teacher, who will approach the person wearing the scent and ask them to switch to an unscented product.

Employees affected by scented products should approach the person wearing the scent and ask them to switch to an unscented product.

To see the policy, go to: [sd85-websrv2012.sd85.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/5-35.pdf](https://sd85-websrv2012.sd85.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/5-35.pdf)

If the person wearing a scented product refuses to switch to an unscented product, refer to the Principal.

## ERIC KERNACHAN AWARD



Skylar Driscoll is the recipient of the Eric Kernachan Award. During the CVMHA Memorial Midget C Tournament, Skylar demonstrated great hockey skills. He was chosen for the award for being a fearless and determined player who was also fun to watch. He showed a lot of grit: when knocked down, he got right back up and continued to play. Way to go Skylar!

## Kwak'wala Language Camp.

Gilakas'la and Hello

A group of NISS students volunteered to take part in a three-day Kwak'wala Language camp. Local elders, cultural teachers and NISS staff helped to support students with connecting to language, land, history, self-identity and self-esteem. Embraced by such powerful messaging was also the opportunity to visit local historical and spiritual sites such as the U'mista center and the G'watni river.

Here is what some NISS students had to say:

"The culture camp made me feel empowered and I feel lucky that I have the chance to learn my language and history. I am proud to be who I am!" Lucy Wallace, Grade 11

"It was pretty fun and learned a bunch of new things" Darren Hunt, Grade 8

NISS staff and students would like to thank Andrea Cranmer, Vera Newman, Eva Dick, Nora Fred, and Stella Beans for making this camp possible and brining the message of ma-ya'xala.

Gilakas'la

Nina, Tamara, and the Culture Class

## LOST AND FOUND

There are a lot of lost jackets and hats at NISS waiting to be reunited with their owners. Drop by the office and check out the lost and found.

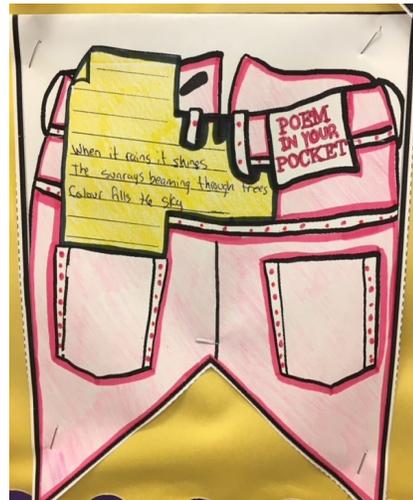
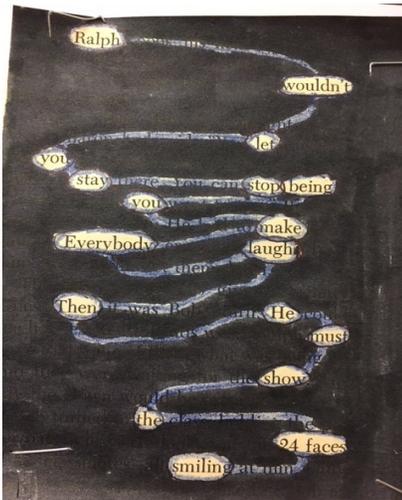
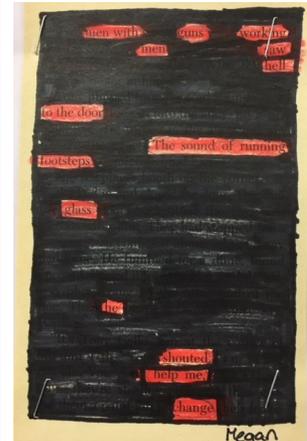
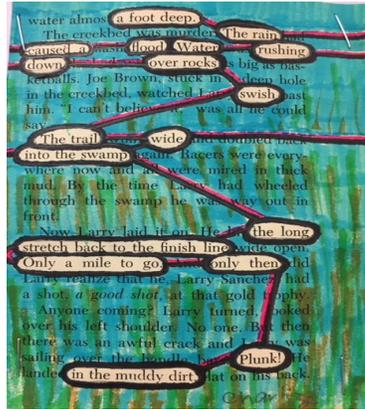


## CAREER FAIR

Students from grades 5 to 12 from throughout the North Island visited a career and education fair in Port Hardy on April 4. A booth promoting School District No. 85 programs was visited by many.



# April ... Poetry Appreciation



## English 9/10/11

# Silence

Clayton Harder (English 11)

Words fill an empty void, but  
Fade quickly after touching our ears.  
We choose to say whatever we can  
To avoid the dreaded silence because  
That's where our doubts and fears become  
Too much ...  
Ant hills become stark cliffs from which we fall  
Drops of water become large pools  
Drowning our screams!  
In our silence our hearts  
Become ticking metronomes,  
Pulsing in our heads.  
What starts as a tic, turns into an echoing drum  
Reverberating through our bodies.  
Take a deep breath, listen to the drum ...  
It can turn into a beautiful song!  
A song worth listening...  
Play it for all to hear!  
Let's start listening. Let's listen to our hearts.  
A song of truth... a song of openness ...it fills the void!  
Set your mind free of fears!  
Then the void won't be so terrifying.



## Autobiography in ten words ...

Born	Young	Born	Born	Crying
Dreams	Immature	Grew	A	Crawling
Doctors	Wild	Played	Dawson	Walking
Sports	Creative	Sports	Quiet	Playing
Soccer	Dreams	Learned	Grew	School
Moving	Undecided	Loved	Up	Sports
Countries	Part-time	Lived	A	Growing
Arab	Life	Laughed	One	Maturing
Stereotypes	Lived	Dreams	Decent	Working
Family	Complete	Achieved	Artist	Death
Mustafa K.	Jordan R.	Jessica WM	Nicole D.	Adam B.

# North Island Secondary School

