



Our central focus is to enable all learners to fulfill their potential  
November 2018 gwaxsam (Dog Salmon time)

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

# N ISS NEWS

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## From the Principal and Vice Principal

### PRINCIPAL JAY DIXON

Our semester is going by quickly. We are at the half-way point of the semester which means report cards will be mailed home very soon. Our teaching and support staff professionals at NISS are constantly finding ways to support students in their learning. Student success and student safety are always in the forefront of our agenda each day as we strive to maintain a caring, inclusive educational community.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact your child's teacher to make an appointment or visit us on **November 22 from 5:00 PM to 6:30 PM** for parent teacher interviews and a BBQ in the multipurpose room.

Finally this month, an assembly in honour of Remembrance Day was held on Friday, November 9. We would like to thank all North Island Secondary School students for the high level of respect they demonstrated during the presentation.

Mr. Jay Dixon  
Principal

### VICE PRINCIPAL STACIA JOHNSON

Gilakas'la, Bonjour,  
Konnchi wa, Hello!

With the first interim and report card having been sent out, it is a perfect time for staff, students and parents to reflect on learning so far this semester and to focus on "where to next" with the goal of success for ALL.

We celebrate the efforts being made by teachers in classrooms while they are implementing the new curriculum. We are excited to see so many hands-on classroom activities taking place. Some of the recent hands-on activities that students have been involved in include: tools design, writing on Google Docs, math games on-line, French games, outdoor survival techniques, and cooking using locally sourced foods.

In light of the new cannabis legalization in Canada, we have to emphasize that marijuana and any products related to it are not allowed on school property. Schools have the duty to ensure a safe environment free from intoxicating substances. Please view the following website for more information:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/public-safety/cannabis>

Our next update for progress will come out in November. If you have any concerns about how your son or daughter is doing, don't hesitate to contact the teachers or myself:  
[sjohnson@sd85.bc](mailto:sjohnson@sd85.bc)

### TELEPHONE SYSTEM

Like all new systems, there are glitches and gremlins. Please bear with us while the system installment is completed. Our internal school phones are in the process of being connected to the outside lines. Emailing teachers is the best way to contact teachers at this time.

Email addresses are listed on our website at [www.niss.ca](http://www.niss.ca)

<http://northislandsecondary.edublogs.org/faculty-2/>

If there is a power outage, we do not have a working phone system during the outage.



## DATES TO REMEMBER

### November 19

Report Cards mailed

### November 22

Parent-Teacher Interviews  
BBQ at 5:00 PM  
Early dismissal for students

### November 23

Pro D Day

### November 23

Safer Schools Parent Night  
Sunset School Learning  
Commons 6:30 to 8:30 PM

### December 12, 2018

PAC meeting at 4:30 PM in  
Learning Commons

### December 21, 2018

Last day of classes before  
Winter Break

### January 7, 2019

In Service Day  
No school for students

### January 8, 2019

First day of classes after the  
Winter Break

## SCENT FREE ZONE

A reminder that NISS is a scent free zone. Students and visitors to the school, please refrain from using scented products while on NISS Property.

## ALLERGIES

We have students and staff with serious allergies to the following products:

**PEANUTS**

**MINT**

**WALNUTS**

## BALLOONS

Due to allergies in the school, balloons are not allowed in the school.

## TEXTBOOKS & LIBRARY BOOKS

Many textbooks and library books are missing from last year. Please have a good look around your child's room and if you spot any textbooks, please return them as soon as possible.

## NISS ALUMNI FEATURE

Ms. Kennedy has been busy catching up with former students and providing us with people for our NISS Alumni feature. Thank you, Ms. Kennedy

## SAFER SCHOOLS PARENT NIGHT

Friday, November 23, 2018

Come listen to our guest speaker shed light on the subject of Mental Health and how it relates to Safer Schools. Sponsored by SD85 District Parent Advisory Council

<http://northislandsecondary.edublogs.org/>

## NEW TEACHERS AT NISS

We would like to introduce our new teachers who joined us in September and October.

### Mr. Dereck Mejias

Kindly allow me to introduce myself. My name is Dereck Mejias and I am happy to be here. My last school was the Zeballos Elementary and Secondary School where I worked as a Science and Math teacher and was Co-Chairperson of School District 84's Joint Health and Safety Committee.

I have been teaching math and science for many years, and also lectured Bachelor Degree courses in Health, Safety and Environment at a college in Trinidad and Tobago. I presently teach Apprenticeship and Workplace Math, Science 10, Science and Technology 11 and Biology 11 at NISS.



### Mrs. Ellen Poirier

My name is Mrs. Poirier and I currently teach math and science. I studied primarily mathematics and music at the University of Alberta at their francophone campus in Edmonton. I am originally from Port McNeill, however I spent most of my youth in the Comox Valley. I am thrilled to be back and to be able to teach at NISS!



### Ms. Aimee Martin

Hello, my name is Aimee Martin. This year at NISS, I am teaching Social Studies 8, Social Studies 10 and Career Life Education 10. I previously worked at Sunset Elementary School teaching Grade 6/7. I have lived in Port McNeill for the past 4 years. Before that I was living in Nanaimo where I attended Vancouver Island University.



## PARENT ACTION RESOURCES.

In this segment of our newsletters, we would like to provide parents with action ideas to help encourage their children's development in several areas such as social & emotional well-being, health, academic achievement and overall success in their lives. If you would like to explore these topics further, go to [discovermdi.ca/resources](http://discovermdi.ca/resources)  
Our first segment is:

### Physical Health & Well-Being

Talk to your kids about their health and well-being. Let them know that their health and well-being includes not just how they are feeling physically, but also how they're feeling emotionally and socially. Check in frequently to find out how your child feels about his or her health

Model a healthy body image for your child. Children often adopt similar attitudes towards their own bodies as those demonstrated by their parents, and are likely to engage in body-changing behaviours if they see their parents doing so.

Create a set bedtime routine with a regular bed and wake time. Do quiet activities to prepare the body for sleep like having a bath, gentle stretching, or listening to relaxing music, guided visualization or an audio book. Avoid screen time and homework 2 hours before bed. Remove screens and media devices from bedrooms.

## NISS ALUMNI—MOLLY BROWN

**Career** – Multi media journalist, Campaign Specialist  
Global News and Radio

**Hometown (while attending NISS)** – Port McNeill

**Current hometown** – Toronto, ON

**Year I graduated from NISS** - 2009

**Post-Secondary education/training** – Broadcast  
Journalism, Sheridan College

**How I ended up in my career** – I was fortunate to secure an internship with Global News while attending college, this internship resulted in a paid position with the company once I graduated.

**What I enjoy most about my chosen career** – I have always had a passion for news and a love for storytelling. My chosen career allows me to write and report on things that are important to people.

**Advice to NISS students** – Why not you? Your wildest dreams are attainable through hard work and dedication.

**Any other accomplishments/information** – I have had the opportunity to create content for some amazing brands and am working towards leveraging my skills to make a living while travelling. I was able to travel to Iceland on an influencer trip in 2016 and will soon be travelling with the same company to Bali in October.



## GENEALOGY PROJECT

As part of his Independent Studies in Culture class, Brennan Sawyer has been working on his family tree. With research data from U'mista Cultural Centre and many questions answered by his family, Brennan has started to draw out the many branches of his family tree. Mrs. Farrant, who also does genealogy research, was excited to see this project in progress.

Jessica Stauffer and Daysha McKinney were quite interested in Brennan's project.



## STUDENT MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

Mr. Muirhead's Tourism class conducted a student municipal election in the school. The election was set up through [Student Vote](http://StudentVote) which is the flagship program of [CIVIX](http://CIVIX), Canada's leading civic education charity. The slate of candidates the students voted for were from the Port McNeill Municipal election.

To see how close the results were to the official municipal election, please go to the following link.

[http://studentvote.ca/results/home/municipal\\_results\\_by\\_district/27/398](http://studentvote.ca/results/home/municipal_results_by_district/27/398)

## NISS INTERACT ROTARY GROUP



Seventy five "Care Packages" were put together by NISS Rotary Interact members. The Salvation Army in Pt. Hardy will distribute the kits to guests as needed. Each kit contains the following: a pair of socks, a toothbrush and toothpaste, hand sanitizer, soap, shampoo and a granola bar.

Dr. Bostrum and Harbourside Pharmachoice donated the toothbrushes and toothpaste and hand sanitizer, the Sointula Co-op donated the granola bars, NISS volunteers donated the soap and shampoo, Interact students purchased the socks.

Mr. Michael Winter received the packages on behalf of the Salvation Army.

### DISTRICT CROSS COUNTRY MEET IN SOINTULA

Mr. Korven took four students to the District Cross Country Meet on Oct. 24.

Open Boys Age Group - Andrew Rydalch— 2nd

Open girls age group,

Nikayla Foster—5th

Brooklynn Watson—6th

Merissa Walkus Wallace—9th



## FIRE AXE

Wesley Hopkins has finished his fire axe. He cut the head out of one inch steel, then ground, shaped and polished it.

The handle, he hewed out of an ash 2"by 4", with a hand plane and spoke shave. Impressive work Wesley.



## BURL TABLE

Carson Strang has become quite proficient on the wood lathe as he turned these legs, for a burl table he is making. Great work!

## HONOUR ROLL LUNCH

Students from Semester 2 of the 2017-2018 school year who were on the Honour Roll received lunch as acknowledgement and celebration of their achievement. Pizza and ice cream sandwiches were on the menu.



## VICE PRINCIPAL'S LIST

Students who were on the Vice Principal's list for Semester 2 of the 2017-2018 school year were treated to ice cream sandwiches.

## WORDS TO LIVE BY

Throughout the school, we have posted Kwak'wala words that relate to different rooms in the building. We would like to share with you some Kwak'wala words to live by.

### **Maya'xala** (My-yah-hah-lah)

- Respect Self, Respect Others, Respect Environment

### **Nanwakola** (Nun-Wah-Koh-lah)

- come together to make right decisions

### **Hutlilas** (Who-thlee-lah-lahs)

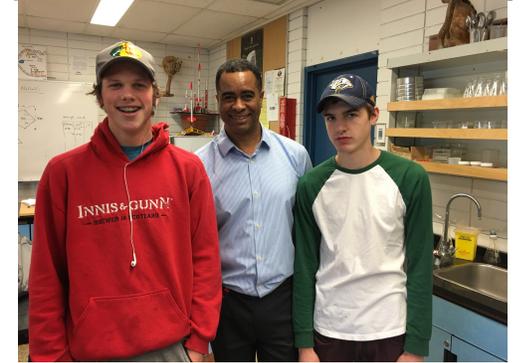
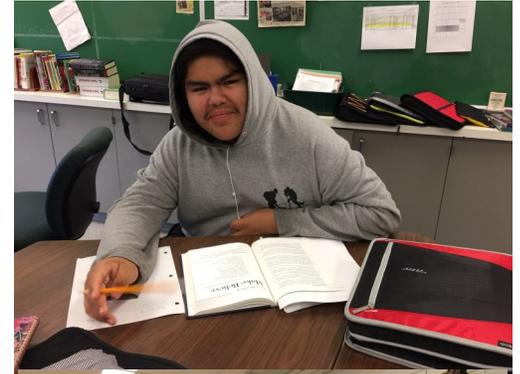
- listen

### **Salt'idas** (Sul-tee-dahs)

- calm down, calm your spirit

### **Dala xa ik noke'** (Dah-thlah-hah eek-no-kay)

- Carry a good heart



## ROTARY CLUB OF PORT MCNEILL

After our meeting this morning we headed to North Island Senior Secondary School to award Jay Dixon with a **Paul Harris Fellow** award for his work with Rotary, the Community and with youth through his work as an educator. Seen here is Jay with Craig Gillis, Rotary District 5020 Governor, Assistant District Governor Chuck Lok and Port McNeill Rotary President, Rick Restell.



## NISS ATRIUM GARDEN

Garden planning is well under way at NISS. We were fortunate to receive a grant from Literacy Now to support our work around land, literacy and language.

We have a team of staff, students and community working on plans for the future "heart of the school".

If you are interested in lending a hand, please feel free to drop by our monthly meetings. It is the first Monday of every month at lunch in room 318.

## PE DEPARTMENT NEWS

The P.E. department has three teams at the moment; Junior and Senior Girls Soccer and Senior Boys Basketball. We also have a girls' volleyball team practicing on Wednesday. The gym is open at lunch on Monday to Thursday, from 12:30-1:05pm, for intramurals, or free play. Come somewhere fun to participate, or watch fun activities.

Also, if you have any good quality exercise equipment you wish to donate to NISS, please e-mail me at [cmork@sd85.bc.ca](mailto:cmork@sd85.bc.ca) (include a picture if you can). Please, if any person is interested in coaching or helping out, the gym is always looking for volunteers. There does need to be a criminal records check, but it is pretty quick and painless. Just go to the local RCMP detachment and tell them you need a criminal record check for coaching at NISS.

With the bad weather with us, students often get wet feet during P.E., so can you please remind gym students to bring extra socks to change into. We do go outside, and hikes will occur unless it is raining hard. We all love living in the North Island but it is wet, so please remind students to dress appropriately.

Casey Mork and Barry Korven



Funniest

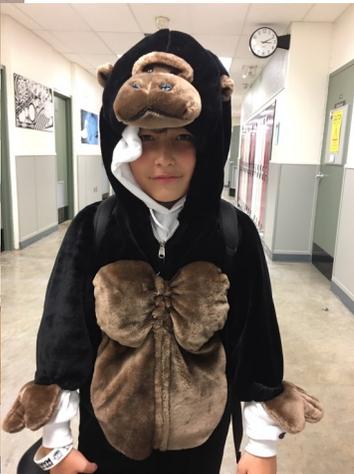
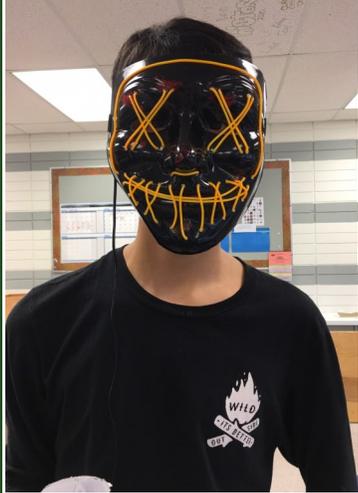
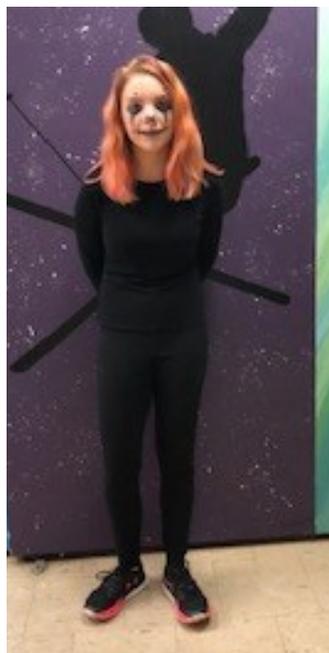


Happy Halloween



Best Overall





# Thank you from students and staff at NISS

## THANK YOU!

Thank you to **Applewood Ford** for hosting a Connections tour this month.

If you own a small business and would be willing to share with a small group of students the types of career options that connect to your business, please contact Mr. Dixon

## THANK YOU

Thank you to our **PAC**. They have made several donations to our school. The Textiles class received a Serger sewing machine. Two microwaves were placed in the Multi-Purpose as well as a donation to our Soup and Breakfast program. They contributed funds for rink rental for our skating PE program. Again, Thank you so much for your support for our students.

## THANK YOU

The Textiles program students would like to say thank-you to the **PAC** for supporting them with a new Serger this year. We look forward to using it and it will allow us to put a more professional finish on knit garments and simplify the process of making leggings. The differential feed will also support gathered fabrics for items such as skirts.



## THANK YOU

Thank you to the **Port McNeill Rotary** club for their generous donation to our Soup/Breakfast program. Thank you so much for your support for our students.



## THANK YOU

We want to say a big thank you to **PAC**, for paying for skating, again this year. All students who participate in skating must wear a helmet on the ice, hockey, bicycle, or skiing helmets are great. This is a safety issue and we are all just interested in student safety.



## THANK YOU

Tasos Baroutis enjoying an evening of climbing with his son.

Tasos made a generous donation to the climbing wall which has been greatly appreciated.

The climbing wall is available to the public on **Wednesday— 6:00 to 8:00 PM.**



# GILAKAS'LA



## ALERT BAY PARENT/STUDENT/STAFF DINNER

Several members of NISS staff traveled to Alert Bay to meet with parents and students in an informal atmosphere of dinner. We appreciate all those who participated. Special thanks to **Dani Tribe, Shop Rite Alert Bay, Namgis First Nations** and every one that contributed to our evening. Approximately 150 people joined us for a great evening hosted by our Culture Class.



## REMEMBRANCE ASSEMBLY

Our Remembrance Assembly on Nov. 9, 2018 was directed by our students. Naomi Triebwasser was the Master of Ceremonies. Maya Haque read a poem she wrote. Jessica Wadhams Mountain and Nicole Dawson

acknowledged the contributions of our First Nations veterans. Stephanie Lacasse read the poem, Flanders Fields, written by Canadian John McCrae. Guest speaker was Mr. Clifford Slack, Royal Canadian Legion North Vancouver Island Zone Commander. A member of our local RCMP detachment also attended. Naomi spoke about the **Kwak'wala Words to Live By** that we have listed on page 5. Wesley Hopkins was in charge of the



## NISS JUNIOR RANGERS

Junior Rangers who attend NISS were invited to participate in Sunset Elementary's Remembrance Ceremony. Junior Rangers also participated in the Town's Remembrance Ceremony.



## TOURISM 12

A visit from Stephen Alfred of Sea Wolf Adventures, to give a talk to Tourism 12. Sea Wolf Adventures, based out of Port McNeill, connects travellers to destinations in the Broughton Archipelago and surrounding areas for personal travel, charters, freight and local First Nations cultural tours.



## BIOLOGY 12

Megan Griffith and Stephanie Lacasse working on a biochemistry lab in Mr. Muirhead's Biology 12 class.



## AFTER SCHOOL FITNESS CLUB

After school fitness club playing a bit of indoor soccer. All students are welcome Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:00 to 6:00 PM

