



Our central focus is to enable all learners to fulfill their potential
September 2018 'lixam (Wide Faced Moon)

www.niss.ca

N ISS NEWS

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

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

Email:
niss@sd85.bc.ca

Principal:
Mr. Jay Dixon
jdixon@sd85.bc.ca

Vice-Principal:
Ms. Stacia Johnson
sjohnson@sd85.bc.ca

From the Principal

PRINCIPAL JAY DIXON

On behalf of the staff of North Island Secondary School, I would like to welcome everyone to the 2018 – 2019 school year. I hope that everyone has enjoyed their summer holiday and have quickly settled back into school routines.

During the first weeks of September, students should have brought home important information for their parents, including the student handbook, timetables, letters, permission forms, and any course information forms. We urge parents to review the student handbook and code of conduct with their children as it contains vital information about academics, extra-curricular opportunities, student safety, and expectations.

In the first weeks, students are also given course outlines which will provide you with much useful information about course content, assessment, and general expectations.

It is my pleasure to welcome back our Connections Worker, Ms. Ida Miller. We are also fortunate to welcome Mr. Dereck Mejias on October 4

to our teaching team. Mr. Mejias brings much experience as a Math and Science teacher to our school. We would also like to welcome Ms. Poirier as our new Math 9, & 11 and Science 10 teacher. As well, Ms. Martin will be joining us as a Socials Studies teacher.

We are all excited to embark into BC's new curriculum for grade 10 classes and the many learning opportunities that we have planned this school year.

Our teaching and support staff professionals at NISS are ready again this year to support students in their learning. Student success and student safety are always in the forefront of our agenda as we strive to maintain a caring, inclusive educational community. Our parents have a vital role to play in encouraging and supporting their children as they navigate the high school years. Parental involvement in a child's education does make a positive difference in student success; we value your input, suggestions, support, and we look forward to working with you to provide the optimum school experience for your child.

Communication with and

from parents is key. Monthly newsletters which are either emailed or mailed are also available on the NISS website. Please note the important school calendar dates listed in each newsletter. If you would like to find out more about school activities and become more closely involved with the school, you are welcome to attend the monthly PAC meetings held in the Learning Commons.

Mr. Jay Dixon
Principal

NISS SHOP OPEN HOUSE

Parents who are interested in seeing what our Metal, Auto and Woodworking shops look like may come to the Open House on **Sept. 19 at 7:00 PM**. Meet Mr. Bramham and tour through our facilities.

TELEPHONE SYSTEM

Like all new systems, there are glitches and gremlins. Please bear with us while the system installment is completed. If you phone the school, please hit **0** to immediately contact the office. Emailing teachers is the best way to contact teachers at this time. Email addresses are listed on our website at www.niss.ca

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

DATES TO REMEMBER

September 19

NISS Shop Open House
7:00 PM

September 20

Parent Meet the Teachers
6:30—7:30 PM

September 24

Cops for Cancer "Ride By"
Morning time

September 26

PAC Meeting
Learning Commons 4:30 PM

September 27

School Photo Day

September 28

Back to School BBQ lunch
11:05 AM

October 1

Orange Shirt Day

October 8

Thanksgiving Day

October 19

Pro D Day

November 12

Remembrance Day

November 23

Pro D Day

FROM THE VICE PRINCIPAL

VICE PRINCIPAL STACIA JOHNSON

Gilakas'la, Bonjour,
Konichi wa, Hello!

I am excited to be returning to NISS for my second year as Vice Principal. I enjoyed getting to know students and their families last year.

We are always looking to provide the highest quality of education at NISS and are happy to announce the arrival of three new teachers to the NISS staff: Dereck Mejias, Aimee Martin and Ellen Poirier. These teachers have backgrounds in Social Studies, Physics, Biology, Math, French and Music.

An area of focus this year for the school is providing more place based learning opportunities. We are keen to work on our central court yard to develop the heart of our school. We would like to see this place become the hub of learning. We want to bring our learning to life and invite you to join us with ideas and support. We will have placed based garden meetings on the first Monday of each month at lunch.

I look forward to a successful year for ALL.

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

SCHOOL PHOTOS

Information flyers will be sent on **Friday, Sept. 14**. Order picture packages online before picture day at www.mylifetouch.ca

Picture Day ID: Q0928433Q9
Payment can be made online or students pay the photographer directly on picture day

PAC MEMBERS

New PAC members are needed for the 2018/2019 school year.

PAC is looking for parent volunteers. With the new school year, some PAC members will no longer be participating as their children graduate. Parent representation is encouraged and welcomed at NISS. Follow this link to read more on what a PAC is and does: http://www.sd85.bc.ca/?page_id=5866

If you are able to volunteer for a monthly meeting and/or school activities, please contact the school at (250) 956-3394 .

STUDENT INFORMATION

NISS uses an automated email system to send out attendance notices and important school information. Please ensure that we have your current email, mailing address and phone numbers on file so that we may communicate effectively.

Parents may email teachers directly regarding students. Staff contact information is available on our website at:

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

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.



MEET THE TEACHERS

Come and meet your child's teacher in a meet and greet session on **Sept. 20 at 6:30 to 7:30 PM** in the Learning Commons.



IDLE FREE ZONE

A reminder to all student and parent drivers to follow the idle free zone rules while on NISS property.

ORANGE SHIRT DAY

October 1

In recognition of the harm the residential school system did to children's sense of self-esteem and well being and as our commitment to ensure that everyone around us matters, **Monday, Oct. 1** will be Orange Shirt Day. For more information, please go to <http://www.orangeshirtday.org/>

ADMINISTERING MEDICINES TO STUDENTS

In order to maintain a uniform, safe and efficient way of dispensing medication at school, if your child requires medication and you have not filled out the required form, **Medication and/or Treatment Data**, completed by your doctor, sign it yourself and return it to the school as soon as possible. This procedure complies with school board policy regarding medications to be taken at school. This form refers to medication that must be taken on a regular or emergency basis. If you have any questions, please call the school principal.

Where applicable, the child should be encouraged to wear a Medical Alert Bracelet.

Link to form: <http://sd85-websrv2012.sd85.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/5-20-Oct-15.pdf>

NISS GUITARS

Our music program is looking for used guitars. If you have one hiding in a cupboard and not being used, please consider donating it to our music department. Our students will greatly appreciate the donation.

NISS CODE OF CONDUCT

Each student was issued an information sheet regarding the expectations and standards at NISS. If this information didn't arrive home, please follow the link below to find the information.

<http://northislandsecondary.edublogs.org/code-of-conduct-2/>

NISS VISITORS

Any visitor to NISS whether you are a parent, a relative or a community member, please stop at the office first and sign in. Safety for our students is a high priority and we need to know who is in the building in case of an emergency.

SCHOOL ABSENCES

If your child is going to be away from school, please ensure you phone or email the school at (250) 956-3394 or niss@sd85.bc.ca. Students leaving the school for appointments or leaving to go home sick, must have a parent call or email the school to allow us to release the student. This is for the safety of students.

WHERE DID THEY GO?

Have you ever wondered where our students who leave us at the end of Grade 12 end up?

What kind of careers have they followed?

What are their accomplishments?

Some have left the community and others have stayed.

We hope to bring you some of their stories over the coming months.

Please check out our first NISS Alumni story on the following pages.

THANK YOU TO!:

Thank you to Black Bear Resort for the donation of an area carpet for one of our cozy corners in the Learning Commons. Four couches were also donated.

Thank you to Shirley Ackland for the donation of a guitar and stand to our NISS music program.

NISS CULTURE CLASS

Gila'kasla

We hope you all had an uplifting and relaxing summer. We would like to take a moment to introduce to you this year's team of cultural facilitators, Ida Miller and Nina Mitchell. We are very excited to have the opportunity to promote culture at the school. We were very excited to see the smiling faces of all the students continued commitment and support to strengthen culture at NISS. We are so proud of their efforts last year and even more excited for the future of culture at NISS. Our first full day in Culture class gave us deeper insight as to what "culture" means to our students. We all sat around our drum log and each gave a word or so to describe "culture."

What culture means to us:

Language, following the guidance of elders, the big house, regalia, art songs dancing T'lina, Salmon, carving, stories, family, potlatches, traditional medicine, jewelry, harmony and identity.

At present, we are proud our students shared knowledge within the class. It shows their commitment in bringing all aspects of culture to our district and community. However, as a group we also recognize our need for help from local elders and experts to come and share their knowledge with us. Please contact Ida Miller or Nina Mitchell for further details on how you can help make a big difference on the success of culture at NISS.

Gila'kasla

Ida Miller and Nina Mitchell

VANCOUVER REGIONAL LIBRARY CARDS

This fall, teens over 13 years old at North Island Secondary School are encouraged to sign up for their own Vancouver Island Regional Library (VIRL) Adult Card.

Signing up for a library card is the first step towards academic achievement and lifelong learning. Libraries offer fun and trusted informational resources to help you pursue your passions and succeed in school.

The Vancouver Island Regional Library has some wonderful resources for you and your child. You can check out eBooks and eAudiobooks from databases like OverDrive, Hoopla, or TumbleBooks and explore comics, graphic novels and manga from our online ComicsPlus database. Did you know you can stream movies and music with popular databases like Kanopy, Freegal and Naxos Music Libraries? We also have many educational databases like National Geographic Virtual Library, Mango Languages, Academic Search Elite, Encyclopedia of British Columbia and many more to help with school work or personal passion projects. There are no fines for any of our online databases and signing up for a library card is free! We look forward to seeing you in the library or virtually! Feel free to visit the website anytime. www.virl.bc.ca. For more information, please email Ms. Johnson at sjohnson@sd85.bc.ca or phone-Vancouver Island Regional Library information line at 1-877-415-VIRL (8475).

HONOUR ROLL—SEMESTER 2 2017/2018

Congratulations to all students for your hard work and dedication in making the honour roll. There will be a luncheon for students on Thursday, October 11, 2018 to celebrate your achievements.

To be on the honour roll, students must achieve at least a 73% average, must be taking at least three NISS courses, and will not be eligible if a mark less than 60% is received.

Grade 8

Alfred, Giselle
Bono, Ethan
Browne, Manning
Cote, Sydney
Evans, Skyler
Fletcher, Lyra
Foster, Nikayla
Hoenen, Connor
Hunt, Ethan
Johnson, Owen
Lambert, Summer
Legacy, Braxton
Llewellyn, Kaisuan
Manke, Evan
Mardell, Tristan
McGinn, Trinity
Neely, Brooke
Nelson-Smith, Alex
Sandoval, Eric
Slack, Alexis
Spafford, Taylor
Stuckless, Luca
Van Gorkom, Adrian
Wighton, Evan

Grade 9

Barnes, Danielle
Barrett, Ella
Chateauvert, Kennedy
Christianson, Abigale
Cox, Mackenzie
Douglas, Oceana
Earle, Pierson
Ewen, Emma
Frost, Xandryn
Grant, Joey
Holland, Samantha
Kettana, Fatima
Lam, Quang
MacGregor, Laci
Noel, Chelsea
Noel, Chloe
Payne, Torianne
Sieggers, Paul
Speck, Jack
Walker, Ashlyn

Grade 10

Canovas, Gwen
Guldager, Macey
Hill, Rebecca
Ivens, Ethan
Jewell, Owain
Lahti, Tristan
Laird, Ashley
Miller, Avary
Pepper, Dylan
Roberts, Abigail
Stuckless, Callista
Townsend, Alan
Wan, Wenfu
Weyer, Niall
Williams, Silken

Grade 11

Alfred, Stephen
Benwell, Adam
Boyer-Oyler, Kachina
Carter, Hannah
Dawson, Nicole
Donaghy, Mica
Estlin, Micah
Foldy, Mandy
Griffith, Megan
Harder, Clayton
Haskins, Michael
Holland, Jasmine
Kettana, Mustafa
Lacasse, Stephanie
Lasota, Avarii
Lloyd, Jesse
Lloyd, Reece
Riehl, Jordan
Tapp, Crystal
Tiberghien, Hailey
Van Gorkom, Braedon
Van Will, Madison
Wilson, Kaitlyn

Grade 12

Benoit, Shantel
Chapman, Lexi
Hilts, Courtney
Hunt Cranmer,
Gwanti'lakw
Lash-Burrows, Dexter
Lash-Burrows, Molly
Pearce, Tanisha
Svanvik, Kieran



VICE PRINCIPAL LIST—SEMESTER 2 2017/2018

Congratulations to all students for your hard work and dedication in making the honour roll. There will be a celebration for students on Tuesday, October 16, 2018 to celebrate your achievements.

To be on the vice principal list, students must have received all “G’s” or “E’s” as effort marks in each of their NISS courses

Grade 8

Alfred, Giselle
Bono, Ethan
Cote, Sydney
Fletcher, Lyra
Foster, Nikayla
Lambert, Summer
Legacy, Braxton
Neely, Brooke
Nelson-Smith, Alex
Spafford, Taylor
Stuckless, Luca
Van Gorkom,
Adrian
Vanderheide, Lily

Grade 9

Barnes, Danielle
Barrett, Ella
Christianson,
Abigale
Cox, Mackenzie
Douglas, Oceana
Ewen, Emma
Frost, Xandryn
Kettana, Fatima
MacGregor, Laci
McCormick, Mia
Noel, Chelsea
Payne, Torianne
Siegers, Paul
Walker, Ashlyn

Grade 10

Canovas, Gwen
Guldager, Macey
Laird, Ashley
Miller, Avary
Mjolsness, Emily
Weyer, Niall

Grade 11

Foldy, Mandy
Griffith, Megan
Holland, Jasmine
Lacasse, Stephanie
Lasota, Avarii
Nelson, Liam
Tiberghien, Hailey
Van Gorkom, Braedon
Van Will, Madison
Wilson, Kaitlyn

Grade 12

Barrett, Emily
Benoit, Shantel
Briscoe, Allison
Campbell, Kirsten
Gunter, Danika
Hilts, Courtney
Kernachan, Anna
Laming, Tyanna
Lash-Burrows, Dexter
Lash-Burrows, Molly
Lightheart, Tabeni
Murgatroyd, Mackenzie
Smith, Spencer
Soper, Katlynn
Svanvik, Kieran



Decoda Literacy Solutions Article

Empowering Young People for the Jobs of Tomorrow



Through Future Launch, [RBC](#) has generously donated \$25,000 to the Fostering Literacy program. Thanks to RBC, 32 high school students in BC will be paid to tutor children who struggle with reading. For many it is their first practical work experience.

Meet **Destiny Speck**: Fostering Literacy Tutor

A year ago, Destiny wasn't sure what career to pursue.

Today, the 16-year-old North Island Secondary School student is entering Grade 11 with aspirations of becoming a child psychologist. She credits her decision to her experience working as a reading tutor through the [Fostering Literacy Program](#). Destiny applied for the job to earn more work experience. She was hired as a reading tutor or 'coach' for the Mount Waddington Family Literacy Society's Fostering Literacy program at Cheslakees Early Learning Centre in Port McNeill. "Since day one, I really enjoyed working at Cheslakees. It barely felt like work because I love it," said Destiny. "That's when I figured out that I would love to work with kids in my future. I looked into many jobs dealing with kids and I came across psychology and I knew I'd love to help kids," she added.

Tutoring gave Destiny insight into the learning process of children. "I learned how to engage with each kid because they all learn differently. Some enjoy being shown how to spell a word while others like to write it out themselves. I learned how to make sure they all learned to the best of their ability," she said.

"I always wanted to make their learning process fun by reading a book with them, then playing a game. Whether it was matching a picture to the word or playing an alphabet game, I found that they seemed to enjoy learning more by doing it that way," she added.

Destiny found her job rewarding. She said "It always made me feel good when they'd get excited to see me. And I felt I was making a difference when we'd go over a certain book and over time they started reading it on their own without any assistance."

Destiny lives in Alert Bay on Cormorant Island. Her 'Namgis First Nation culture has also influenced her direction. "In my culture, everyone is there for each other. I grew up loving to help others," she said.

She also realized she had some prior tutoring experience. "I used to make a pretend school for my little brother when he was three and I was nine years old. I'd go over the alphabet, how to spell his name and how to read. I realized I even loved to work with kids back then," she said.

In remote areas like North Vancouver Island, there are fewer resources than in the city and fewer jobs for high school students. It's even harder for students like Destiny, who take a ferry to school every day. Programs like Fostering Literacy provide a needed service at the schools that have a lifetime impact, as well as work experience and income for teens.

Destiny says, "I'd love to be a tutor again this year. I think the program is great! It's amazing watching each and every one of them develop with learning in their own unique way. The kids benefit by having a one-on-one learning experience for reading, and I was given job experience and was able to decide what I want to do in my future in the process."

<https://www.decoda.ca/stories/empowering-young-people-for-the-jobs-of-tomorrow/>

Joining Destiny in her Foster Literacy Tutor program was **Macy Guldager** and **Callista Stuckless**. All three students dedicated their time with the Mount Waddington Family Literacy Society's Fostering Literacy program at Cheslakees Early Learning Centre in Port McNeill

Introducing Crystal Zwicker Johnson



Career

Boeing 787 (Dreamliner) Pilot with Air Canada

Hometown (while attending NISS).

Hyde Creek

Current hometown.

Panorama Ridge (Vancouver)

Year you graduated from NISS

2002

Post-Secondary education/training.

Commercial Aviation Diploma at UBC Okanagan.

How you ended up in your career.

Did my private pilots license in Campbell River while I was still in high school. Went to university to do my commercial multi engine instrument rating. Did my float plane rating in Victoria and I was offered a job doing marketing for the company and a little bit of float flying on the side. Secured a contract flying beavers on floats in northern Ontario. I flew there for three years while working in an aircraft maintenance shop during the winter months. I then renewed my instrument rating and got a job flying cargo for Carson Air in Vancouver on a Metroliner for two years. I transferred within the company to Kelowna to fly the BC air ambulance on a King Air 350 for another two years. Meanwhile I was applying to Air Canada since I was 18. In 2010 I was hired at Air Canada fulfilling a lifelong dream of mine to fly overseas. I have since been at Air Canada for eight wonderful years and have another 26 pensionable years ahead of me. I have flown the Boeing 767 and the Boeing 787 during this time.

What you enjoy most about your chosen career.

Aviation is extremely tough in the beginning. You work in remote areas, long hours, not many days off for a minuscule amount of money. A lot of colleagues weren't able to make it to the airlines, but with hard work, perseverance and the help of family it has given me the opportunity to get paid to see the world. I now have a great schedule, make good money and have travel passes to take my family on vacation, not to mention have a great pension to look forward to. (Learn about a pension - I had no idea how important it was in high school)

Advice to NISS students.

Oh I have lots! Lol. If you want something go do it yourself, don't expect others to help you. Learn how to be self sufficient at an early age. Never be afraid to speak up, but don't be a complainer. Find a job that pays the bills, then look for one you love, but remember not everyone is going to love their job. It's a job and a choice to love it! A job with a pension is the way to go! Save money! Invest early even if it's only a little bit, compound interest is your friend. Take pride in cleaning your house! Smile and always be friendly to people. You get what you negotiate, it's what you deserve. You'll never know until you ask. LOVE YOURSELF!

NORTH ISLAND SECONDARY SCHOOL

“Our central focus is to enable all learners to fulfill their potential”

PO Box 100
Port McNeill, BC V0N 2R0
Telephone: (250) 956-3394
Fax: (250) 956-2035

Email: niss@sd85.bc.ca
<http://niss.ca>

Principal:
Mr. J. Dixon
Vice Principal:
Ms. S. Johnson

In the Event of an Emergency NISS 2018-2019

The care of your children during an emergency is very important to us and the following are our emergency procedures. These emergency procedures are practiced at school in order to have your child become familiar with them should an event happen.

Power Outage:

As you know, we occasionally experience power outages. The decision to close schools is generally not made until the duration of the power outage is communicated to us. If a decision is made to close the school, all parents will be contacted and arrangements made for student pick up.

Fire and Earthquake:

Should either of these events occur, our classes will exit the building in a safe manner. Attendance will be taken and unaccounted for students will be tracked down. Students will remain with their class until they can be picked up by a parent.

Lockdown:

Should the school be required to go into lockdown, we have procedures to follow to keep your child safe. In this event, do not attempt to contact your child via cell phone. Cell phone use during a lockdown is banned for all since a ringing cell can alert an intruder to students' whereabouts. When the RCMP give the all clear, parents will be contacted and arrangements will be made to release your children into your care.

For more information on emergency response procedures please see section 2-280 of our policy manual available online at <http://www.sd85.bc.ca/>.