Friday, April 5, 2019

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome back! We hope our families had a wonderful break.

A few highlights and pieces of information for this coming week (and other):

**Spring Weather and Outdoor Opportunities –**

It’s been wonderful to see and hear the signs of spring. We are enjoying the sunshine and many outdoor observations and activities. Our classes are finding further opportunities to explore our outside environment. You may hear from your child’s teacher about trips and learning at the beach, in the forest and other spaces. Students are also enjoying a variety of playground activities and games with some new outdoor equipment.

**Learning Celebrations –**

As part of the Communicating Student Learning (Reporting) pilot this school year, teachers are hosting a second Learning Celebration on Thursday, April 11. All families are invited to view and share in the Learning Celebration from 12-1pm or 5-7pm in their child(rens) classes. Other opportunities for that day are communicated from the classroom teacher. Early dismissal is at 11:45am, and buses will run accordingly.

Also, on this day, for our Grade 5 students and families, there is an Open House for future Journey Dragons. Please see their description below. We encourage families to join the Saseenos Learning Celebration on this day and then, if desired, join the Open House at Journey. We understand, the main meeting is at 7pm in their gym, and touring the school will take about 15 minutes – maybe just prior to the meeting may be an option.

**JOURNEY OPEN HOUSE –**Grade 5 students and parents please come to Journey for our Open House on Thursday April 11th from 5-7. This evening will give you look into middle school life and learning at Journey. We will have a Grade 5 Parent Information Meeting from 7-7:30 in the gym. We look forward to seeing all of our Future Journey Dragons and parents at the Open House!

**Hockey Academy Registration** – is open. Please visit the district website for more information and for registration<http://www.sd62.bc.ca/academies/>

**Parking and Traffic update –**

Update from our work with the district office, facilities, the Ministry of Transportation and RCMP:

-notice about painting in school parking lot:

School Parking Lot - Closed on PRO-D Day- Friday, April 12 (Painting)

On Friday, April 12, the School District painters will be freshening up the paint in our school parking lot. Early that morning, District staff will be setting up barriers and sweeping the parking lot which will be followed by painting.

All of the above will be subject to good weather.

-head of facilities has met with one of our consultants to review the property and see if there are options beyond line painting that we might be able to consider.  They will be providing some recommendations and advise on the best pathway forward for the district.

- 2 parking stalls closest to the bus zone, are designated for student drop off/pick up with signs indicating this. These have been installed.

-accessible signage is also being made and placed for Saseenos

-it has been confirmed with the Ministry of Transport that installing the ‘no overnight parking’ signs provided the opportunity for RCMP to enforce. We have called the detachment about the vehicles parked before spring break, and we will continue to do so as needed.

**Playground / Swings Etiquette**

**Our students provided input regarding the use of the swings:**

The scheduled Swing Days (recess and lunch) are:

Grades 4 and 5 – Monday and Wednesday

K-Grade 3 on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday

The times before school and after school are ‘open’ times.

Swing Etiquette

1. Keeping off the wood chips if you are not on the swings
2. If a young child requires assistance on the swing that is ‘okay’
3. Using the swings in a safe manner
4. Not hanging on or climbing on the side metal bars of the swing set

The swings are for the enjoyment of our students and we want to ensure students are safe and playing safely. Students are reminded to follow the instructions of our supervisors.

**Literacy Week –**

We are excited to announce Literacy Week at Saseenos - April 23-26, 2019! There will be a variety of activities throughout the week, and a culminating activity with a pancake breakfast. A big thank you to our Lions Club in hosting our breakfast again this year. Sharing a meal is a wonderful opportunity to come together! Please watch for details coming out soon.

**Parent Workshops –**

1. Parenting in the Digital Age:

**“We have booked a presentation for all Sooke Parents about Parenting in the Digital Age.**

**This will cover how much is too much screen time, risks and rewards of technology, and strategies for parenting. There will also be time for questions. This will be at EMCS in the Auditorium on Tuesday, April 30th 6-8pm.**

**Let’s fill up the auditorium, Sooke!!”**

1. A Parent’s Guide to Elementary Math:

**“Sooke District Curriculum and Learning Department is presenting a hands-on session with the re-designed Math curriculum. Monday, May 13 at 6-7pm at the Sooke Board Office.”**

**Dates to note in April:**

Monday, Apr 8 - Ready, Set, Learn – Reading Event 6pm

Tuesday, Apr 9 - ArtStarts performance – Hula Hoop Circus

Wednesday, April 10- Hot Lunch Day – hot dogs (orders close on Sunday night (April 7)

Thursday, Apr 11 - early dismissal; Learning Celebrations

Friday, Apr 12 - NID/ProD

Wednesday, Apr 17 – Cross Country; SPEAC meeting (Saseenos)

Thursday, Apr 18 - PAC meeting

Friday, Apr 19 - Good Friday; school not in session

Monday, Apr 22 - Easter Monday; school not in session

Tuesday, Apr 23 to Friday, Apr 26 – Literacy Week

Wednesday, Apr 24 - Cross Country

Monday, Apr 29 – Art Reach Workshops

On behalf of the Saseenos Team, have a wonderful spring break!

Cheers,

Mrs. Margo Cullen Musselwhite and

Mr. Ajmare Sundher

**Safe Arrival** – If your child is going to be away from school, please call 250-642-5658.