



5301 Williamson Rd,  
Nanaimo, BC V9V 1L1  
Phone: 1.250.729.8045  
Fax: 1.250.729.8058

Principal: Patrick Young  
Vice-Principal: DJ Thompson  
Head Secretary: Elena Knappett  
Website: [fn.schools.sd68.b.ca](http://fn.schools.sd68.b.ca)

### Principal's Message

October quickly passed on by, along with all the ghoulies, princesses and other costumed characters. While there was a different feel to Halloween this year due to COVID, we were able to keep our costume parade tradition alive. We did a costume parade around the outside of our school and the weather was beautiful.



*Eden and Jocelyn, our two MCs for the Remembrance Day Assembly.*

It is hard to believe we are already in the third week of November. We recently held our Remembrance Day Assembly online. Two of our grade 7s MC'd this important assembly; thank you, Eden and Jocelyn for a job well done. Divisions 1 and 2 shared a poem entitled "PEACE" and divisions 17 and 18 did a recital of Col. John McCrae's "In Flanders Fields". Remembrance Day is always a reminder to "Hold the Torch High" as we remember the work of our veterans who have dedicated their lives towards world peace, and it is a reminder that we each have a role to play in making both the school and the world a better place to work and live.

Thanks to everyone for a great start to November.

Sincerely,

*Patrick Young & DJ Thompson*

### Nut Aware School

Due to staff / student allergies, Frank J. Ney Elementary is a: **Nut Aware Site**. Please help keep our learning environment safe for all by keeping our site free of nuts and items containing nuts!

### Important Dates

*Following are some of our upcoming important dates. Please check out our ["Year At A Glance"](#) calendar under the "News & Calendar" section of our website. It already lists most of this year's events/dates and will be updated during the school year.*

Spirit Day: Movember Moustache & Crazy Hat	Friday, November 27
Last Day Before Winter Vacation	Friday, December 18
Schools re-open	Monday, January 4
Non-Instructional Day	Monday February 11
Non-Instructional Day	Tuesday, February 12
Valentines Day	Sunday, February 14
BC Family Day (Stat)	Monday, February 15

- PAC meetings are the 3rd Tuesday of the month @ 6 PM (Online during Phase 2.)

### Notification of Exposure (COVID)

As noted in recent emails, a Notification of COVID Exposure for our school was sent out on Sunday November 14th. The date of exposure was identified as November 12th. The exposure at our site was very limited. Our school site is considered safe for staff and students to continue with onsite learning.

*About the process:* In the event of a school exposure, a notification of exposure is sent out to the entire community. A second notification

goes out to people that Island Health have determined need to self-isolate due to contact. If you do not receive a second notification from Island Health, you are not deemed a close contact and are not required to self-isolate.

*About Homework if keeping students at home:*  
Some of our families have opted to keep their students home following this notification which has led to inquiries around schoolwork for students who are not in attendance.

The Ministry of Education currently requires school districts to provide continuity of learning for those students who are directed to self-isolate/quarantine by their local Health Authority. Currently, it is not an expectation that schoolwork be provided for students whose parents/guardians choose to keep them home. Since our teachers are continuing with in-class instruction, there are not teacher-led remote learning opportunities for Frank J. Ney students who are opting to stay at home. Individual teachers may provide an update about what the class is learning and, where possible, provide some learning links to help support students that are choosing to stay at home for an extended absence, but teachers will not be providing daily work packages, etc.

### Winter Concert



Our “Winter Concert” is always a highlight of the school year. Our COVID safety guidelines, however, have restrictions on singing and the use of wind instruments. As well, any videos shared need to adhere to our privacy guidelines. We have considered ways to possibly create an online concert but have come to terms that a “traditional classroom or group” themed concert won’t be doable this year.

### Inclement Weather

It is that time of year again, when the school district would like to remind parents about school closure procedures. The most common reasons that schools might be closed are dangerous road conditions due to a heavy snowfall or ice.

If you are wondering if schools are open on a particular day, listen to local radio stations (WAVE 102.3 FM and WOLF 106.9 FM) in the mornings.

As well, notification of school closures may be communicated: (a) on our school district’s mobile phone app, (b) on the school district website,



[www.sd68.bc.ca](http://www.sd68.bc.ca), and (c) on Twitter and Facebook. If there is no announcement on the website or social media, please be sure to listen to local radio stations.

We would like to remind parents that it is their right to make the final decision as to whether it is safe for their children to travel to school on any given day. While the district strives to make the best decision possible for students across the district, there may be circumstances in your neighbourhood that lead you to decide to keep your children home, even though schools are open.

### Dressing for the Weather

Our unpredictable fall weather has arrived. Please send your child to school prepared for the uncertain weather. Boots, gloves, warm jackets are a necessity at this time of year, even though the weather may seem mild and rain-free in the



morning. Layered clothing is always a good choice as students can remove or add clothing as necessary. We do plan to have many outside days.

A reminder that due to COVID protocols, we are asking that students bring their personal items (including clothing) to and from school each day.

### Lost and Found

Our lost and found is overflowing. Several days per week (weather pending), we are placing the



lost and found bin outside on the picnic table by the front door so that parents can reclaim some of their child's misplaced items. Please keep an eye out for the bin.

Please note that prior to the winter break, we will be donating any unclaimed items.

### Absence from School

If your child is going to be away from school for any reason, please let the school know as soon as possible. You can let the school know by calling and speaking with the secretary, by leaving a message on the answering machine (250-729-8045), or by emailing the secretary at [info.FN@sd68.bc.ca](mailto:info.FN@sd68.bc.ca).

Our shared goal is to keep the school as safe as possible, especially during our current COVID pandemic. If your child has a cough or fever, or other flu symptoms, please keep them safely at home. Thanks for already being proactive in this regard.

### Emergency Kits

A reminder (a) for our new families and (b) for a few existing families who were contacted about emergency kits that expired: Please bring in

Emergency Kits for your children. They will be stored in our Emergency Kiosk and be used in the event of an emergency that sees the school needing to be evacuated for a long period of time. Contact the school if you need a list of what to include.

### Safety in the Parking Lot

Our school parking lot is a very busy place. It is important to know that we have a school bus that does drop off and pick up every day. Please help us ensure every child stays safe and reduce congestion by respecting the intended flow of traffic. Our parking lot and Williamson Road can be extremely congested. Please be PATIENT, COURTEOUS DRIVERS, and respect all our signs. Also, remind your children to cross the street safely. Thank you!

### Spirit Day:

#### November Moustache & Crazy Hat

It is time for our students to show their November ... err ... Movember spirit. We will be holding a



"Movember Moustache & Crazy Hat" day on Friday, November 27. Students can look their stylin' best by wearing a moustache (on faces or masks) and finishing off their look with a crazy hat. Time to style and profile, and to put that school spirit on display! We will be taking photos of classes to showcase your awesomeness.

