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Principal's Message



We hope everyone is having a very enjoyable month of February.

Wednesday, February 24th is the official Pink Shirt Day. Pink Shirt Day is a reminder that it takes a community to stand up to unhealthy and hurtful

behaviours such as name calling, bullying and prejudice. It is a message we need to think about and practice every day. At Frank J. Ney, “We Believe in Kindness”. We ask our students to be mindful of how their actions impact others. As mentioned last month, our goal is for all of our Firebirds to help themselves and others to stay in the “green zone” – happy, calm, focused and ready to learn. Treating and speaking to others kindly is an important part of this process

February also marks the beginning of the second half of the school year. Students are strongly encouraged to invest time setting educational and personal goals to help ensure their greatest success.

All the best during the second half of the school year!

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.

Valentines Day	Sunday, February 14
BC Family Day (Stat)	Monday, February 15
PAC Meeting (on Skype)	Tuesday, February 16 (@ 6 PM)
Book Fair (Virtual)	February 22 - 26
Pink Shirt Day - official	Wednesday, February 24
Spring Break Begins	Saturday, March 13
Daylight Savings Time Begins	Sunday, March 14
Spring Break Ends	Sunday, March 28
Class Photos & Whole School Photo	Thursday, April 1, 2021

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

Report Cards



Our first report cards were distributed electronically on Wednesday, February 10. Please look for them in your email’s inbox.

We are very proud of the progress our young Firebirds have made this year. Please set aside some time to review the report card with your child and to set goals for the second half of the school year.

Pink Shirt Day

Remember to wear your pink shirts on February 24th to help spread the message of “Kindness” and “Anti-bullying”.

If you are curious about the history of Pink Shirt day and what inspired two Canadian teens to spread this important message, information may be found here:

<https://www.cbc.ca/kidscbc2/the-feed/what-is-pink-shirt-day>

Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA)

The Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA) for our grade 4 and 7 students will begin on February 16th.

Virtual Book Fair (Feb. 22 to 26)

The fun and excitement of a Scholastic Book Fair is coming to our school! To adapt to our changing needs, Scholastic has developed a **Virtual Book Fair** to provide an opportunity for our students and families to experience the joy of reading together.



Our Scholastic Virtual Book Fair will take place on **February 22nd - 26th**.

When it's time to shop, visit our school's Virtual Book Fair site using this link:

<https://virtualbookfairs.scholastic.ca/pages/5154767>

Before our Fair begins, click the above [link](#) to:

- SAVE it to your browser
- WATCH videos of popular new titles
- PREVIEW our Featured Books

Happy reading!

Let's Play – Complimentary Family Backpack

PacificCARE CCRR Program is offering families a **Complimentary Family Activity Backpack** with “Let's Play: Activities for Families”- a

companion book to the Ministry of Education's BC Early Learning Framework.

Included in the backpack are:

- Activities with supplies to support and explore the companion book
- Information to connect with PacificCARE for access to resources and workshops.

To schedule pick up or for further assistance, please call or email: 1-888-480-2273

mailbox@pacific-care.bc.ca

PAC Fundraiser

Our PAC has an ongoing fundraiser:

- *Cobbs Bakery*: if buying items from Cobb's Bakery, please mention “Frank J. Ney” and a portion of your purchase will be donated to our school's PAC.

Thanks to all of our parent volunteers who help to support our school and activities for our amazing Firebirds.

Virtual Family Math Fair

A reminder: The first UBC Virtual Family Math Fair will be held on Saturday, February 20 from 10:00am -12:00 noon. It is an opportunity to join UBC Faculty of Education professors, graduate students, teachers, and teacher candidates in hands-on math activities that will inspire curiosity and FUN for the WHOLE FAMILY! All activities will be facilitated through Zoom sessions. Some activities will require use of materials that are typically found around the home (e.g., paper, ruler, string, cardboard, tape, scissors, coloured pencils ...). The event is free but registration is required. (Click on this [Link](#) to register.)

Once registered, UBC will send out: the Family Math Fair program about 2 weeks before the event; a list of materials you'll need for activities; and Zoom links will be sent about 1 week before the event. Registration is limited so please register early.

Inclement Weather

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, 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.

Bus Information: Snow-related

Two important reminders to our families and students who use the bus:

- Sledding equipment (sleds, toboggans, crazy carpets, etc.) are not allowed on school busses. Students arriving at the bus stop with such items will be required to leave them behind.
- On a snowy or icy day, the bus may not be able to safely access the bus stop at Breonna Dr. and Schooner Way. On these days, students are expected to go to the bus stop at Broadway Road and Parkway Drive for pick-up at 8:14 AM.

Dressing for the Weather



Our cold weather has arrived. Please send your child to school prepared for the uncertain weather. Layered clothing is always a good choice as students can remove or add clothing as necessary. We do plan to have many outside days. We all know the "one weakness of our mighty Firebirds is wet feet! Being too cold comes a close second."

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

Kindergarten Registration

The online process to register your child in Nanaimo Ladysmith Public Schools began in January.

The following information will help determine if this process will apply to you. If your answer is yes to the following question, you will register using the district's online registration form:

- Do you have a child that will be turning five years old on or before December 31, 2021?

Before you begin, you will need the following:

1. A valid email address.
2. Photo or scan showing proof of citizenship (ie. Birth certificate)
3. Photo or scan showing proof of Canadian residency (ie. mortgage or bank statement, utility bill, driver's license, etc.)

Online registration is now open.

For more information please visit the district [website](http://www.sd68.bc.ca) or by emailing ereg@sd68.bc.ca.

IT'S NOT ABOUT
BEING THE BEST

IT'S ABOUT
BEING BETTER
THAN YOU WERE
YESTERDAY

February