



ÉCOLE PUNTLEDGE PARK ELEMENTARY

401 Willemar Avenue, Courtenay, B.C. V9N 3L3

Ph: (250)334-4495 Fax: (250)897-0487

School Website: <http://sd71.bc.ca/sd71/school/puntledge/school/index.htm>

Principal: Mr. Allan Douglas

Vice-Principal: Mrs. Andrea Rowland

September 13, 2004

Dear Parents;

I hope you had a nice summer vacation. The excellent weather made the Comox Valley the ideal place to be this summer.

We are off to a great start at school. Classes settled in really quickly and things are going well. A special welcome to our new students and families...we hope you are settling into your new school, home and community. Welcome.

Our first PAC (parent advisory meeting) is on Monday, September 20 from 7:00-9:00 p.m. in our library. We have an active and excellent parent group. All parents are welcome...so...come out and get involved. We still need a PAC chair for this year...anyone interested? Please call the office at 334-4495.

Our Open House is on Thursday, September 30 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. This is a great time to tour the school, classrooms and to meet the teachers. The Open House is a family event...everyone is welcome.

In closing, it is great to be back at school. There is a "warm" feeling in the building and we are off and running.

Yours truly,
Allan Douglas

CLASS SIZES:

All classes are governed by the collective agreement and provincial average. The following are the **maximum** class sizes.

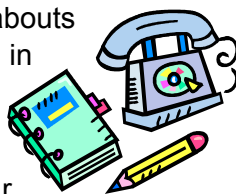
- K - 22 students
- K/1 - 22 students
- Grade 1, 2, 3 - 24 students
- Grade 3/4 - 24 students
- Grade 4 - 31 students
- Grade 5 - 31 students
- Grade 6 - 31 students
- Multi-aged primary grouping - 22 students
- Multi-aged intermediate grouping - 31 students

SCHOOL HOURS AND SUPERVISION~

- 8:25 - supervision begins
- 8:30 - doors open and students enter the school
- 8:40 - the first bell rings
- 8:45 - O'Canada plays (signaling the start of the school day)
- 10:15 to 10:30 - recess break
- 12:00 to 12:25 - playtime
- 12:25 to 12:45 - students eating time
- 2:30 - after school bell rings
- 2:30 to 2:45 - supervision **

**** as there are no buses, the after school supervision ends at 2:45**

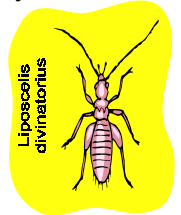
WHEREABOUTS PROGRAM~ If your child is going to be absent, please call the **NEW WHEREABOUTS LINE** at **334-4495, Ext. #2**. The old whereabouts phone number is no longer in service. This line is available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Please leave a message so we know why your child is not at school. The Whereabouts



Program is our way of tracking students who do not show up at school and we do not want to see anyone go missing. Thank you.

We also need parent volunteers to help out with this program – it means committing to one morning a week (approximately 30-45 minutes and making the necessary telephone calls). If you can help out, please call the school at 334-4495.

LICE CHECKS ~ Throughout the year volunteers are needed for head lice checks - training will be provided. Our first check is Friday, Sept. 17th, if you are available, please call Anna LeEVERS at 338-9486 as soon as possible.



ROLLERBLADES/SCOOTERS/SKATEBOARDS

AND BICYCLES ~ In an effort to reduce the traffic in our parking lot we would encourage students to travel to and from school on one of these forms of transportation. Please remember the safety rules of the road (we should not see or have reports of our students riding down the center of the road) and always wear the appropriate safety gear (the law requires all bicycle riders to wear a helmet). The school district policy no longer permits students to use skateboards or rollerblades at break time on the playground (the liability is too huge). We explained the new policy to our students at our first assembly.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED ~ We are looking for volunteers for the **lunch program** for Mondays and Thursdays. It entails coming to the school in the morning and making about 20 lunches, and takes about 30-45 minutes. This is an excellent program that provides a great service

to the students. If you can help, please call the school at 334-8445.

WELCOME TO NEW, RETURNING OR REASSIGNED STAFF!!

Susan Leslie	Aboriginal K (.5) PM (5 day)
Marie Brucker ~	F.I. K (.5) PM (5 day)
Fil Simister	~ F.I. Gr. 1
Judith Cicon	~ F.I. K-(.5)AM (5 day)
Elizabeth Goodger	~ F.I. Gr.1/2
Joanne Crawford	~ F.I. Gr. 2/3
Julia Staicu	~ F.I. Gr. 4/5
Nathalie Claveau	~ F.I. Gr. 3/4
Martin Hartig	~ F.I. Gr. 5/6
Tracey Croonen	~ K (.5) (4 day)
Mary Weiler / Ann Robertson	~ K/1
Laura Greenlaw / Ann Robertson	~ Gr. 1
Andrea Rowland / Tracey Croonen	~ Gr. 2/3
Dave Ashwell	~ Gr. 2
Debbie Nelson	~ Gr. 2/3
Rae Ann Denny	~ Gr. 3
Melanie Zimmer	~ Gr. 4/5
Julie Campbell / Kjeryn Mollerup	~ Gr. 4
Ellen Klassen / Kjeryn Mollerup	~ Gr. 4/5
Lisa Scheck	~ Gr. 6
Al Johnson	~ Gr. 6
Barb Robertson	~ L.A.
Dominique McGrady	~ L.A.
Susanna Kaljur	~ Counsellor
Barb Connors	~ Speech
Susan Archibald	~ Music (.5)
Jen Brown	~ Music (.2)
Val Klassen	~ Secretary
Lori Village	~ Secretary / Lunch Supervisor
Vicki Potts	~ Clerk-Librarian
Lee Clippingdale	~ Behaviour Aide
Kathryn MacKinnon	~ Resource Room T.A.
Cathy Thomas	~ T.A.
Mickey Colburn	~ T.A.
Phyllis Turner	~ T.A.
Debbie Williams	~ T.A.
Luisa Pereira	~ T.A.
Deborah Nolan	~ T.A.
Tami Compton	~ First Nations T.A.
Suzanne Camp	~ First Nations T.A.
Lois Russell	~ E.S.D. Teacher
Kim Scheltgen	~ Lunch Supervisor
Tricia Farnsworth	~ Lunch Supervisor
Allan Reid	~ Janitor
Marg Hunter	~ Custodian
Sandra Fuller	~ Janitor

PARENT EDUCATION OFFERING ~

For parents who wish their kids came with instructions;

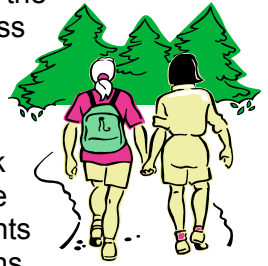
Do you find yourself struggling with these challenges...

- Kids who fuss & whine
- Kids who won't go to bed and stay there
- Kids who fight and argue with each other
- Kids who won't do their chores or homework.

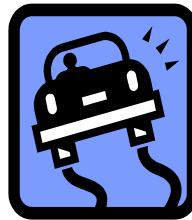
Then come and join our school based parent support group to share ideas and learn strategies to become a more effective parent. We can all learn from each other. The group will run Monday mornings at PPES. Our counselor, Susanna Kaljur will facilitate. Please register by leaving your name, ages of children and contact number with the school, at 334-4495, Ext. 111.

TELEPHONE BOOK RECYCLING ~ We will be collecting telephone books . . . please send in your old books as the school receives .20¢ for each book.

FIELD TRIPS ~ From time to time during the year teachers appreciate the opportunity to lead their class in exploring the trails, woodland paths and surrounding community of Ecole Puntledge Park Elementary. This could be for identification of trees, plants and rocks, to admire gardens, for cross country runs, or just a walk to get some fresh air after several days cooped up in the classroom during stormy weather. Often these walks are impromptu due to our changeable weather and so a permission slip to leave the school grounds isn't always appropriate. Please consider our request and notify the school if you do not want your child to participate in these outings.



PARENT DRIVERS ~ NEW POLICY ~



In order to meet the new requirements established by the Board of School Trustees in the revised Student Travel Policy, we may only approve drivers based on all of the previous conditions (liability insurance, driver's license, etc.) **plus** a driver's abstract is also stipulated.

According to our information you can request a Driver's Abstract by calling 1-800-950-1498 and providing your driver's license number. You may ask them to forward it directly to Puntledge Park School's fax at 897-0487. Prior to transporting students this must be on file along with a copy of your current driver's license and insurance indicating the required minimum of \$1,000,000 third party liability coverage. An abstract is good for one school year and must include information for the preceding five-year period. Each driver's abstract will be reviewed in order to determine suitability as a volunteer driver. Criteria will include (but may not be limited to):

- contraventions involving alcohol or drugs
- prohibitions or suspensions
- criminal offenses
- patterns of other infractions

SCHOOL INSURANCE ~ Did you know that your School District does not insure expenses for student injuries that happen on school grounds or during school activities? You are responsible for these expenses as a parent or guardian. However, the School District provides the opportunity for families to voluntarily purchase private accident insurance through the IAP Kids Plus accident program underwritten by Industrial-Alliance Pacific Life Insurance (IAP Life).

Plan features:

- ~ provides coverage **365 days a year**, 24 hours a day, in or out of school
- ~ covers expenses that are limited or **not** insured under private or group insurance plans

or MSP; such as, private tutors, lump sum payment for fractures and dislocations, counselling and much more.

~ covers injury related **Dental** (including future expenses) -- over \$540,000 in Dental related claims were paid in 2002!

~ one **low cost** annual premium

For more information or to apply on-line visit: www.iapkidsplus.com

TOUR DE ROCK ~ The Tour de Rock began in Victoria in 1998 when police officers cycled from Port Hardy to Victoria to raise money for children with cancer. The funds go to Camp AGood-times@for kids with cancer. We want all of the students, staff and parents at Puntledge Park to get involved in the fun. We are hoping to raise a lot of money for the camp. You can help by sending a donation and attending our "Tour de Rock@assembly on Wednesday, September 22 (11:55 to 12:20) when we welcome the A@our@to our school.



Now, here are some incentives to help with the donations:

- The students who have their parent's permission and who collect a minimum of \$10.00 will have their heads shaved on Monday, September 20th at lunch.
- Canadian Tire has donated a bicycle and helmet
- Tour de Rock donated 1 shirt and 2 ball caps for the draw

Tickets are on sale for these prizes, this Wednesday, September 15th for \$1.00 each. So, join in the fun and help make the ATour de Rock@a real success!!!

Hot Lunch ~ We will be having a hot dog sale to help raise money for the Tour de Rock on Wednesday, Sept. 15th.

Sept. 15 – Hot Dogs

- Hot Dogs - \$2.00
- Rice Krispie Square - .50¢
- Banana - .50¢ & Juice - .50¢



Sept. 23 - Little Caesars Pizza

- Pepperoni, Ham & pineapple, plain cheese or veggie - \$2.75
- Fruit-to-go - .50¢ & juice - .50¢

TERRY FOX RUN ~ The annual Terry Fox Run will be on Friday, October 8th at 11:30 a.m. Donations are to the Terry Fox Foundation for cancer research and can be dropped off to your classroom teacher between now and October 8th.

Mrs. Scheck is looking for volunteers to act as road marshals during our run. If you are able to help, please contact the school. Thank you for your continued help and support.



BEAVERS, CUBS, SCOUTS, VENTURERS ~

Scouting is an activity for all members of the family.

- Beavers (5-7) Scouts (11-14)
- Cubs (8-10) Venturers (14-17)

Registration nights –

Group	Date/Time	Reg. Location	Contact
Black Creek	Sept. 14-6:30	Miracle Beach El	Gerald 337-8468
Comox	Sept 14-6:30	Village Park	Chris 339-2424
Courtenay	Sept 9 –6:30	St. George's United Church	Gord 334-3137
Tsolum	Sept 8-6:30	Merville Hall	Arnie 337-8107



Join the adventure! Adult volunteers needed. Lend your time and talents to enhance the Scouting experience for young people in our communities.

LOST AND FOUND ~ We had an incredible amount of items in our Lost and Found last year. Please remember to label all your child's belongings so we can return them to their rightful owner.



SCHOOL CLOSURES/SNOW POLICY ~ On occasion there may be a need to close one, several or all schools due to the weather and/or health/safety concerns. Heavy snowfall may cause hazardous road conditions which may jeopardize the safety of students going to and from school.

If this should happen, please:

1. Listen to the local radio stations for information about bus service and school closures. Please **DO NOT** call the school.
2. Make arrangements for the care of your children if schools are closed, or if students need to be sent home early. Parents who are unable to make alternative arrangements must advise the school in writing.
3. Remember that conditions vary widely across the district. Parents have the choice of retaining their children at home even though schools may be open.

FORMAL RELEASE FOR STUDENT WRITING, ARTWORK AND IMAGES ~

In order to comply with Canadian copyright law, the Comox Valley School District is requesting that all parents/guardians who object to having their child's artwork, written work or photographic images displayed or reproduced in any format register their objection with their child(ren's) school(s). It is understood that by **not** registering such objection, the school, district, and/or other agencies may utilize children's work or image for non-profit informational purposes only.



MAGAZINE CAMPAIGN ~ Our main fundraiser begins September 21, 2004. Many students benefited from incentives, additional activities and educational resource materials. This would not have been possible without your patronage. This year volunteers request that you remember to renew or take out your subscriptions through the magazine campaign. Magazine subscriptions also make a nice gift!

STUDENT PHOTOS ~ Student photos will be taken on September 28th by Oceanside Photo.

SEPTEMBER

2004

2004

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5	6 	7 ~ First day of Classes	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 ~ Hot Dogs Sale for Cops for Cancer \$2.00	16	17 ~ School-wide Lice check	18
19	20 PAC MEETING 7:00 p.m. Library	21 ~ Magazine Sales Campaign	22 ~ Tour de Rock Assembly 11:55-12:20	23 ~ Hot Lunch LittleCaesars Pizza \$2.75	24 ~ Pro-D Day NO SCHOOL	25
26	27	28 ~ Student Photographs	29	30 ~ OPEN HOUSE 6:30-7:30 p.m.	1 October	2



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER DRAW ~ The monthly newsletter is our way of communicating with the parents and guardians of our students. It will normally go home with the youngest member in the family or you can get it on-line@ by going to our website: <http://sd71.bc.ca/sd71/school/puntledge/school/news/news.htm>

Please complete the tear off and return it to school to be entered into the monthly draw. The monthly winner of our newsletter draw will receive a \$5.00 gift certificate courtesy of White Spot. Thank you.



Student's Name _____ Division _____

Parent's Signature _____

Don't forget our literacy goal:

Some Hints for How to Read to your child:

- Encourage variety: fiction and non fiction, funny and scary, classical and "pop"
- Check your mindset: sharing books should be fun and relaxing for all
- Encourage your child to expand his/her choices
- Re-read favourites
- Read books that are below and above your child's independent reading level