



May

Newsletter

May 6, 2019

Administrators' Message

Here we are again- 2 months left of this school year! Time really does fly! And just to make it even more fleeting, at this time of the year, we are starting to think about what next year will look like! There will be more information about that coming in the June newsletter - stay tuned!

Welcome to Kindergarten will be taking place on May 30, and will be a chance for all of next year's K students and their parents to come in for a visit to the school, meet some of our staff, get involved in some activities, and take home a cool gift bag! If you know anyone who has a K student next year who has not registered them yet, we would love to see them before June so we can invite them to our Welcome to Kindergarten day! We will be contacting families who have registered to let them know details as we get closer to the date.

Important Vehicle Reminders:

1. Do not park behind cars that are parked in front of the school for any reason.
2. Students are to be dropped off in front of the large mural in the bigger parking area. Enter on the mural side; exit on the other side.
3. Do not make U-turns in front of the school. This is hazardous to other vehicles and people on foot. If you need get to the other side of the road, please do so further down, in a safe spot.
4. Over the summer we have plans to have painting done in this area, as well as signage put up to help drivers remember.
5. Please keep the safety of our students foremost in your minds while driving in the school area.

Heritage Fair

Raft River held its 21st annual Heritage Fair on April 25th. Three classes participated with grade 3, 4 and 5 students from Mrs. Gormley's, Mrs. Allan's and Ms. Fraser's classes sharing their projects. For the first time students from Vavenby and Blue River also participated in the Fair and we had the largest number of judges in years. Novice, and Heritage Fair alumni students from CSS joined with experienced judges to evaluate the students' projects. There were a variety of projects presented. These included projects ranging from family centered boards, local pioneers, and local businesses, to boards with information on artifacts such as Chinese Ovens, and First Nations displays. Some of the students will move on to the Regional Heritage Fair in Kamloops on May 9th and 10th. We also had good attendance during the public

viewing. The displays were enjoyed and the effort put into many of these displays was evident. Congratulations to all students who participated and thank you to all the judges and those involved in assisting with the Fair.

Earth Day

The whole school celebrated Earth Day on April 24th, by spending the whole day outside doing fun activities and jobs to help the Earth and all its creatures. Community members and parents volunteered to help make the day even better! Some classes went on long walks to pick up litter. Cheryl Thomas sat on blankets under a tree and shared First Peoples' stories about connecting to the Earth. Julie Bonnamour took students on a guided forest walk on nearby trails. There was bottle and recycling sorts with Andrew from the recycling depot on hand to share valuable recycling information. Christine Westerveld and Corrie Colborne came and helped students edge and weed the Pollinator Garden which now looks like a park with all the daffodils blooming! The Kindergartens planted cosmos to grow in their classroom and transplant when the weather allows. The vegetable garden was weeded and the flower buckets were planted with pollinator attracting plants. Joline McLarty helped many students paint a giant Earth on the cement of the courtyard with chalk paint. Local artist Donna Grove helped students paint a mural on a garden tool shed and Shelby Murdoch lead outdoor Yoga sessions by the wetlands. The day ended in a sea of blue and green with students dancing on the field and Ms. Gormley waving her giant Earth Flag. It was a successful day of outdoor learning.



A big thank you to all of our volunteer helpers for taking the time from their busy schedules to help us offer these opportunities to our students. Also thanks to Mrs. Shook and Ms. Gormley for their organisation of this event!

Kamloops Classics Swim Meet

The brave students who signed up for the Swim Meet on April 17th performed very well. Overall, the school team of swimmers placed 8th out of 13 teams- not bad for a school in a town where there isn't a swimming pool! Many students were awarded ribbons and five lucky participants were offered an invite to the Kamloops Swim Meet summer program.

Bike Week is coming

Bike week will take place during the week of May 27th to 31st this year, with the RCMP Bike and Scooter Rodeo taking place on Monday, May 27th. Each student will receive a bike safety quiz at the bike rodeo. Once it's

filled out, it can be dropped off at the office (no later than noon, Friday May 31st) for a chance to win some great prizes!

This year the Bike to School Train will take place throughout the entire week leaving from Rotary Sports Park at 7:50am each morning. We are looking for volunteers to walk and bike with the train each morning- please contact Eleanor at [250-674-8881](tel:250-674-8881) if you are available to ride 1, 2, 3 or even all 5 days! The Gateway Grill has generously donated a gift certificate to give away to one lucky volunteer.

Monday through Friday teachers will go through a bike safety checklist with their students. The primary and intermediate classes with the most points at the end of the week will win a class pizza party!

Finally, please see the attached poster for more information and a quick bike safety checklist. If your bike needs repair, please call Todd Phillips at the Clearwater Bike Shop ASAP (don't leave it until the last minute!) His number is: [250-674-7266](tel:250-674-7266)

Track and Field

A huge thank you to Clearwater Secondary School for hosting the track meet for our intermediate students. Mrs. Giesbrecht and her students, as always, did a fantastic job of organising and running the events and the concession. Thanks also to Mrs. MacDonald and Mrs. Coates for volunteering their time to help make our track meet a success. As many of the first year Tykes wrote in their journals, "it was epic" and "I didn't think it was going to be as fun as it was." We have a bus load of sixty students who will participate in the Zones on May 2nd and from there top winners will qualify for Districts. For the Zone meet, a bus and driver are provided by the District Sports Council. Students who qualify for the long distance runs and District meet will be parent driven. Thank you to all who made our Track and Field season a wonderful learning opportunity of health and exercise for one and all.



Salmon Update

Mrs. Graffunder's class will be releasing due salmon fry at Dunn Creek Hatchery on May 14. The Stream to Sea Program for schools involves students from Kindergarten to Grade 12 throughout British Columbia. Students raise salmon eggs in classroom aquariums, and then transport and release the fry into nearby streams. The program is a project of Fisheries and Oceans Canada- Habitat & Enhancement Branch. Thank you to Tina Donald, Don Guitard, and Tyler Bowie for helping us out with the salmon tank this year and organizing the release!

Day of Suwewtwecw Report

The 6th annual day of Suwewtwecw at the beginning of April was a success. Raft River students took in some storytelling, crafting, games and language lessons. We wrapped up the learning with a lunchtime gathering in the gym to share food and company.

We were joined by Charli Fortier, Angie Rainer, and Jules Phillip from the Simpcw First Nation. Rose Macarthur also came and did storytelling with our younger students.

A big thank you to Cindy Wilgosh, Cheryl Thomas, Beverly Shymkiw, Marilyn Thompson, Vivian Allen, Georgina Leppky, Codi Jansen, and everyone else who helped out! Our staff and students also appreciated the donations from the Clearwater Food Bank and Gateway Grill.

Soccer Intramurals

Soccer season is upon us and Raft River's Grade 6 and Grade 7 students are through their first round of games in our school's intramural soccer league. This year France, Brazil, England and Canada are all competing in lunch time games to win the Raft River Intramural Soccer trophy from last year's winners Brazil. After 3 games each, England is currently sitting on top of the league, but with one whole round of games to come as well as playoffs, all teams still have it all to play for!

Book Fair

The Spring Scholastic Book Fair is happening May 13th to 16th at Raft River Elementary. All proceeds benefit the school library by allowing us to buy new books and learning resources. There will be a



Family Night on Tuesday, May 14th from 6-7pm with refreshments and door prizes. Join us for a fun night celebrating the joy of reading!

Upcoming Events

May 8	Staff vs. Student Soccer Game (noon)
May 9	District 1000m/1200 m Races
May 10	District Track Meet @ Hillside Stadium
May 13-16	Scholastic Book Fair
May 14	Salmon Release Day (Graffunder) Family Night at the Book Fair (6-7pm)
May 17	Non-Instructional Day (no school)
May 20	Victoria Day (no school)
May 27	Bike Rodeo
May 27-31	Community Bike Week
May 30	Welcome to Kindergarten (time TBA)