

# NEWSLETTER

NECHAKO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
61 Nightingale Street,  
Kitimat, BC V8C 1M9  
Phone: 250-632-2912  
www.nechako.cmsd.bc.ca



WELCOME  
BACK  
*\*Photo Day\**  
Thursday, Oct. 4

September 2018

## ~ From the Principal's Desk ~

Dear Parents,

On behalf of the staff at Nechako Elementary School, I am happy to welcome you to the 2018-19 school year! We are looking forward to a productive partnership with you to ensure our children can achieve their highest potential. We recognize that in order to be successful in school, our children need support from both the home and school. We know a strong partnership with you will make a great difference in your child's education. As partners, we share the responsibility for our children's success and want you to know that we will do our very best to carry out our responsibilities. We ask that you guide and support your child's learning by ensuring that he/she:

- 1) Attends school daily and arrives on time, ready for the day's learning experience
- 2) Reads daily to develop a love for reading and to improve literacy skills
- 3) Shares school experiences with you so that you are aware of his/her school life
- 4) Informs you if he/she needs additional support in any area or subject
- 5) Knows that you expect him/her to succeed in school

Please consider joining our school PAC as our students can greatly benefit from your involvement and contributions to the school's program and its operations.

If you have any questions about school Code of Conduct, feel free to contact me. Please feel free to review the Nechako Parent Handbook which can be picked up at the office or as available on the school website at [www.nechako.cmsd.bc.ca](http://www.nechako.cmsd.bc.ca). The handbook contains policies and procedures including our Code of Conduct. It is very important that you and your child are fully informed regarding standards related to appropriate behavior for a safe and productive school year.

The wonderful Nechako staff and I feel privileged to be a part of this school family !!

We are looking forward to what promises to be a wonderful school year! At this time of the year, there is great anticipation of what is to come. We appreciate your support as your child enters the classroom, learns, and grows through the year. Let's all commit to have a good school year, setting everyone, students, as well as teachers, up for success.

We want to make strong connections with students, and help them develop and grow into responsible and respectful human beings. Our Motto at Nechako is: **"Together We Succeed"**. Together, teachers, students, and parents/guardians make a strong Nechako School.

David Mills  
Principal



Kitimat's First All-Inclusive Play Space.  
More photos and Descriptions in the October Newsletter.



~ 'New' and 'Old' Staff ~

- Kindergarten – Ms. C. Cunningham
- Grade K/1 – Mrs. J. Wakita
- Grade 1 – Mrs. V. Combden
- Grade 2 – Mrs. A. Gillis – New to Nechako
- Grade 2/3 – Mrs. M. Rigoni
- Grade 3 – Mr. T. Wilkinson
- Grade 4 – Ms. T. Swaddling – New to Nechako
- Grade 4 – Ms. C. Seaby – New to Nechako
- Grade 5 – Mrs. M. Eguia
- Grade 5/6 – Mrs. J. Barbosa
- Grade 6 – Mrs. A. Silvestre
- Library – Mrs. M. Frather
- Resource – Mrs. L. Stannus
- Resource – Ms. C. Boguski
- Phys. Ed. – Ms. C. Boguski
- LINK – Mrs. C. Rusconi

~ School Involvement ~

It is of great importance that teachers and parents work together in making a child's school year a happy and successful one; therefore, it is hoped that you will be able to spend some time during the school year helping in the classroom or at home. Please discuss, with your child's teacher, ways that will work within your schedule.

~ Hello Nechako Families ~

We hope you are ready for another great school year! We'd like to offer a special welcome to any parents new to our school, including our Kindergarten parents.

As a Parent Advisory Council, PAC, we are always looking for new members. Our school PAC organizes subway lunch orders, gardening club as well as special fundraisers.

We provide funds that go towards special concerts and workshops, field trips, transportation and so much more!

If you have ideas to make our school better, or just want to have a say and know what is going on, please feel welcome to attend our first PAC meeting. We will have our next meeting on Tuesday, October 9 at 6:30 pm in the school staff room.

**\*\* Everyone's voice is welcome and every vote counts \*\***

Parent Advisory Council

October 9

6:30 pm

School Staff Room

We hope to see you there !!

PAC meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month.

We also have a facebook page, 'Nechako School PAC.'

Please request to join for the latest PAC news and updates.

Please cut out and return to the teacher.

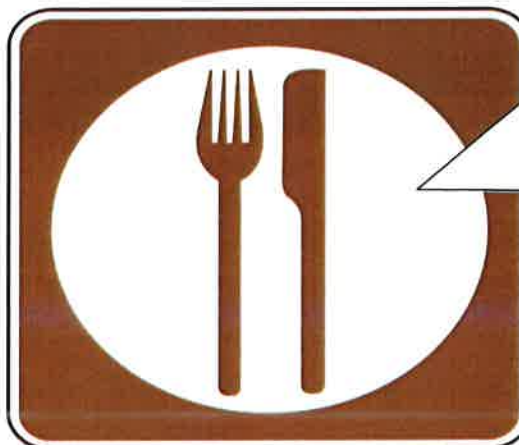
Yes, I have read the September 2018 Newsletter.

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Signature of Parent/Guardian.

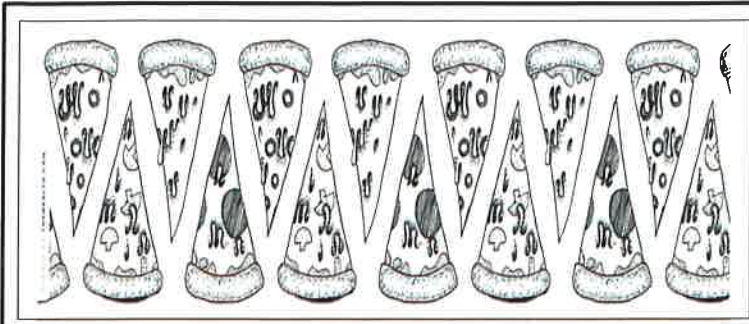
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Name of Student(s).

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Name of Teacher(s).

The class with the most returns for 3 months (not consecutive) wins a Pizza Party.



Please provide plastic cutlery for your child's snacks and/or lunch.



**Pizza starts  
Tuesday, October 9.  
Subway will start  
later in October.**

**Sunday, September 30<sup>th</sup>  
~ Orange Shirt Day ~**

The purpose of this day is to acknowledge the 150,000 school aged First Nations, Inuit and Metis children who were forcibly removed from their families and land in order for them to attend residential schools from 1830 to 1995.

These schools were established by the Canadian government and designed to control and transform Aboriginal people. In these schools Aboriginal children were forbidden to practice their culture or speak their language. Instead, they had to learn the European culture and language. For some who attended these schools their experience was a positive one. Unfortunately, for most the experience was tragic. These children were isolated from their families for years, and made to feel inferior for being Aboriginal. The effects are still felt within First Nations communities today.

Phyllis Jack, who sparked the Orange Shirt campaign, is from the Dog Creek band near Williams Lake. Phyllis wore an orange shirt to her first day at Residential School. It was taken away from her and she never saw it again. The color orange has always reminded Phyllis of how her feelings didn't matter, how no one cared, and how she was made to feel like she was worth nothing.

September 30<sup>th</sup> has been declared Orange Shirt Day in recognition of the harm the residential school system had on children's sense of self-esteem and well-being and as an affirmation of our commitment to ensure that everyone around us matters. By sharing her story Phyllis Jack hopes to help others heal and feel safe in coming forward with their stories. It is one step in the long journey of healing between Aboriginal people and non-Aboriginal people.

Given that September 30 falls on Sunday this year, we ask that everyone wear an orange shirt on Friday, September 28

We will be having an assembly in support of healing and reconciliation.

Every Child Matters !!



~ Student Drop-off Areas ~

**Skatepark Parking Lot**

Please help us to keep the flow of traffic moving. When dropping off your children in the student drop off area please have your children open the passenger door always to the curb for safety reasons. When dropping them off it is much safer when parents stay in the vehicle.

*Please use the  
Skatepark Parking Lot.*

**Bus Loading Area**

\*\*\* Bus students ONLY \*\*\*

For the SAFETY of all our children please do NOT pick up or drop off students in this area.

☺ THANK YOU ☺



*Do Not Park Here  
Thank You !!!*

~ Daily Attendance ~

Students at Nechako are expected to remain on school property throughout the school day, which is from 8:50 am - 2:53 pm.

Bus students must remain on school property from the time of arrival until the time of departure.

**The Skateboard Park is off limits for Nechako students during school hours.**

\*\*\* NECHAKO IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR STUDENTS WHO VISIT THE SKATEBOARD PARK AT ANY TIME \*\*\*

Keep The Office  
Informed  
250-632-2912

**Please call** to let us know of any changes in your child's daily school routine:

- ~ New person picking them up ~
- ~ Any change in transportation ~
- ~ Arriving at school late or leaving early ~
- ~ Put info in child's agenda in the morning ~

~ Thank you ~

**W** Walk away  
**I** Ignore  
**T** Talk it out  
**S** Seek help

The WITS acronym provides our school with a common language that children can use to respond to peer-conflict and unfair treatment.

"The WITS Program was created by educators, for educators, with an understanding that effective peer victimization prevention programs should enhance learning environments - not workloads. Program resources are designed to weave comfortably into the daily life of the learning environment."

See more at:

<http://www.witsprogram.ca/schools/primary-program/#sthash.btjPw0GI.dpuf>

~ The WITS Program will continue at Nechako Elementary School ~

Many of our students know the program very well and will continue to use it in all areas of the school. The program teaches students to make safe and positive choices when faced with peer conflict.

Our desire is to make strong connections with students, to help them grow and develop into responsible and respectful human beings.

**Our Motto at Nechako is: "Together We Succeed".**  
Together - teachers, students, and parents/guardians make a strong Nechako School.

Together  
We Succeed



**Terry Fox Run**  
**Thursday - September 27**