



FALCONS

Volume 2024/25-2

September 26, 2024

Principal: Mrs. M. Wilson

Admin. Assistant: Mrs. J. Vossen

Office Hours: 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM

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Francois Lake Elementary School

Principal’s Message

Francois Lake Elementary School continues to be a busy place. It has been a wonderful start to the 2024-2025 school year. Students have been busy settling in, learning new routines, building new friendships and actively playing to burn off excess energy.

This week had students setting goals for the year. The goals fall into three categories that align with the province’s competency statements. These competency statements are:

Communication competency encompasses the knowledge, skills, processes and dispositions we associate with interactions with others.

Thinking competency encompasses the knowledge, skills, and processes we associate with intellectual development.

Personal and Social competency is the set of abilities that relate to students' identity in the world, both as individuals and as members of their community and society.

Students have been talking about these skills (appropriate to each grade level) in their classes and identifying how these skills would fit into a goal for their world. After their goals are set, students work on them throughout the year and evaluate them at the end of each term. I encourage you to talk to students about the goals they are working towards.

Our school also has many goals that we work on throughout the year. One that we are working on right now is a personal social goal of fundraising for Terry Fox. Please ask your child if they have brought their form home yet and want to participate in the fundraising. Our school is hoping to see a fundraising total of \$900. Let’s go Falcons! We can do it! Every little bit counts. Fundraising forms are due in by October 11th, 2024.

Wishing everyone a happy end to September. A reminder that it is getting chilly in the mornings; remember to send your child with something warm.

Regards,
Mrs. Wilson

Phyllis’ Story

In her own words •

Mark your Calendars!

(Dates subject to change)

September

- 27 Orange Shirt Day
- 30 National Day of Reconciliation—No School

October

- 4 School Classroom Fees Due
- 4 Student Verification Forms Due
- 10 Informal Learning Updates go home
- 14 Thanksgiving—No School
- 22 Lock Down with RCMP
- 23 11:53 Early Dismissal—PM Talk About Learning
- 24 25 Provincial Pro-D Day—No School
- 30 Retakes 9 AM

November

- 8 11 AM Remembrance Day Assembly

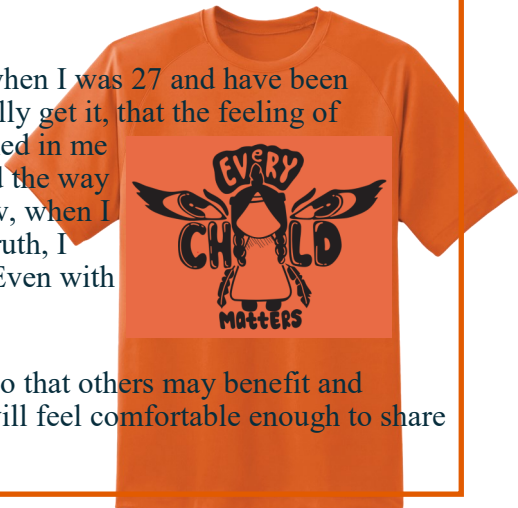
I went to the Mission for one school year in 1973/1974. I had just turned 6 years old. I lived with my grandmother on the Dog Creek reserve. We never had very much money, but somehow my granny managed to buy me a new outfit to go to the Mission school. I remember going to Robinson’s store and picking out a shiny orange shirt. It had string laced up in front, and was so bright and exciting – just like I felt to be going to school!

When I got to the Mission, they stripped me, and took away my clothes, including the orange shirt! I never wore it again. I didn’t understand why they wouldn’t give it back to me, it was mine! The color orange has always reminded me of that and how my feelings didn’t matter, how no one cared and how I felt like I was worth nothing. All of us little children were crying and no one cared.

I was 13 years old and in grade 8 when my son Jeremy was born. Because my grandmother and mother both attended residential school for 10 years each, I never knew what a parent was supposed to be like. With the help of my aunt, Agness Jack, I was able to raise my son and have him know me as his mother.

I went to a treatment centre for healing when I was 27 and have been on this healing journey since then. I finally get it, that the feeling of worthlessness and insignificance, ingrained in me from my first day at the mission, affected the way I lived my life for many years. Even now, when I know nothing could be further than the truth, I still sometimes feel that I don’t matter. Even with all the work I’ve done!

I am honored to be able to tell my story so that others may benefit and understand, and maybe other survivors will feel comfortable enough to share their stories.





At work and at play...

Yesterday, at 10:01 AM, FLES had it's first **Fire Drill** of the year! Our students are so good at getting out, the entire school was empty in just over **3 MINUTES!** Well Done Falcons!



Please remember to send healthy foods and drinks to school for your student. FLES promotes healthy living which includes learning how our diets promote healthy bones, bodies, and brains!

Do send:

- ✓ Low sugar drinks
- ✓ Real fruit and veg
- ✓ Low sugar and/or low salt food
- ✓ Good protein sources

Please leave at home:

- ✗ Soda pop
- ✗ Candy, gum, etc.
- ✗ Sweet treats, cookies, etc.
- ✗ Salty treats, chips, etc.



Class Fees and Student Verification Forms are Due Friday, October 4, 2024

- Each student needs to bring **\$25** for their class fee this year.
- Please check your child's backpack, look over the 3-hole-punched form, sign and date it, and please send it back no later than next Friday, Oct. 4. Haven't seen it? Can't find it? Call 250-695-6401 or email mvossen@sd91.bc.ca and we'll send it home again.

REMINDER:
Our Province has a New Student Personal Digital Device Directive

Please chat with your child about the new cell phone policy.

Student Personal Digital Devices:

The Board restricts the use of personal digital devices at school for the purpose of promoting online safety and focused learning environments.

For students in elementary schools, personal digital devices must be powered off and safely stored during the **entire school day, from the time the student arrives on school grounds until they leave school grounds.** This extends to instructional time, while off school property (e.g. field trip), etc.

Students in elementary schools may only use personal digital devices during the school day for instructional purposes and to promote digital literacy, and only with the permission and direct supervision of a teacher or other staff member.

For more detailed information regarding this new policy, please go to <https://www.sd91.bc.ca>, go to "**Board**", select in drop down "**Policies and Regulations**", click on link, clear yourself, and select on the sidebar, "**Policy 604.1** for the Policy, **and 604.1R** for the regulation.

Next PAC meeting Thurs. Oct. 17 at 5:30 PM in the MPR. All parents are Welcome!

PAC Executive:

Amy Wainwright	Chair
Jessica Shively	Vice Chair
Johanna Hayes	Treasurer
Ileasha Gooding	Secretary
Jessi Jack	Co-Hot Lunch Coordinator
Amber Poffenroth	Co-Hot Lunch Coordinator

And the last words go to:

Mr. Mike Skinner, who allowed our FLES staff to leave school to go help find Oaklynn Schweder with Search and Rescue on Friday, **and** also to the Houston Search and Rescue Team who found her alive and safe on Sunday evening!