



Volume 2023/24-1

September 14, 2023

Principal: Ms. S. Sollbach

Vice Principal: Mrs. M. Wilson

Admin. Assistant: Mrs. J. Vossen

Francois Lake Elementary School

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

Phone: 250-695-6401 Fax: 250-695-6695

Principal's Message

Wow! What a fabulous start to the 2023-2024 school year! Francois Lake School would like to welcome all families (new and returning) to our school. Students are adjusting to routines in classrooms and are engaging in learning new and exciting concepts.

The 2023-2024 school year will have some changes for parents as we implement the BC Ministry of Education and Childcare's Reporting Order. Parents and students can expect the following:

Between September 25-29, 2023, all students will set personal goals for each of the competency statements. The School District 91 Competency Statements are:

- **Communication: We can speak and listen actively and respectfully.**
- **Thinking: We can reflect, evaluate and grow in our own thinking and actions.**
- **Personal and Social: We can show respect and inclusive behaviour as we learn and play.**

These goals will be revisited at the end of each term and students will complete a self assessment of their progress in relation to their goals. A copy of these goals will be sent home to all caregivers with formal learning updates. Caregivers are encouraged to discuss learning goals with students and discuss progress with them.

On **October 12, 2023**, **Informed Learning (IL) Reports** about student achievement will go home.

On **October 18, 2023**, there will be our **Talk About Learning** afternoon.

More information about these changes will be forwarded to parents as it becomes available.

I would like to encourage all parents and caregivers to get involved in their child's education. One way to do this is to attend monthly **PAC** meetings. Our next PAC meeting will be **Wednesday September 20th following the Francois Lake Open House**. Babysitting will be available for families at no charge. Your participation at meetings is appreciated, as is your involvement in volunteering at PAC sponsored events at the school.

I'm looking forward to this academic year as we work together; staff, students and parents working together will bring a wonderful year of learning excitement and academic growth for all students.

Respectfully,
Sigrid Sollbach, Principal

Mark your Calendars!

September

- 13 Photo Day 1:00 PM
- 20 Open House 5 to 6 PM
- 20 PAC Meeting 6:00 PM
- 21 Terry Fox Run
- 22 Pro-D Day—No School
- 29 Orange Shirt Day

October

- 2 Observe National Day of Reconciliation—No School
- 9 Thanksgiving Day—No School
- 12 IL Reports go home
- 18 Early Dismissal—Talk About Learning (P/T Interviews)
- 31 Hallowe'en

November

- 10 Remembrance Day Assembly

FLES Welcomes...

Our New and Returning Administration

- ★ Mrs. Marlee Wilson—Vice Principal
- ★ Ms. Sigrid Sollbach—Principal

Our Returning and New Staff

- ★ Mr. Adam Hogarth—Grades 5, 6 & 7
- ★ Mrs. Velvet Hogarth—Grades 3 & 4
- ★ Mrs. Beckie Watts—Grades K, 1 & 2
- ★ Ms. Sam Osmond—Custodian
- ★ Mrs. Lana Coulson—Learning Support Worker
- ★ Mrs. Jean Vossen—Administrative Assistant

FLES Announces...

OPEN HOUSE!

On **Wednesday, September 20, 2023**, FLES is having an open house from **5 PM to 6 PM**. Come meet and greet your child's teacher and check out your child's successes so far! It's a year of changes that are going to help make your child's learning even more well-rounded. Our goal is to send out students ready to take on the world!
Let's go Falcons!!!

FLES Announces...

Vice Principal's Message

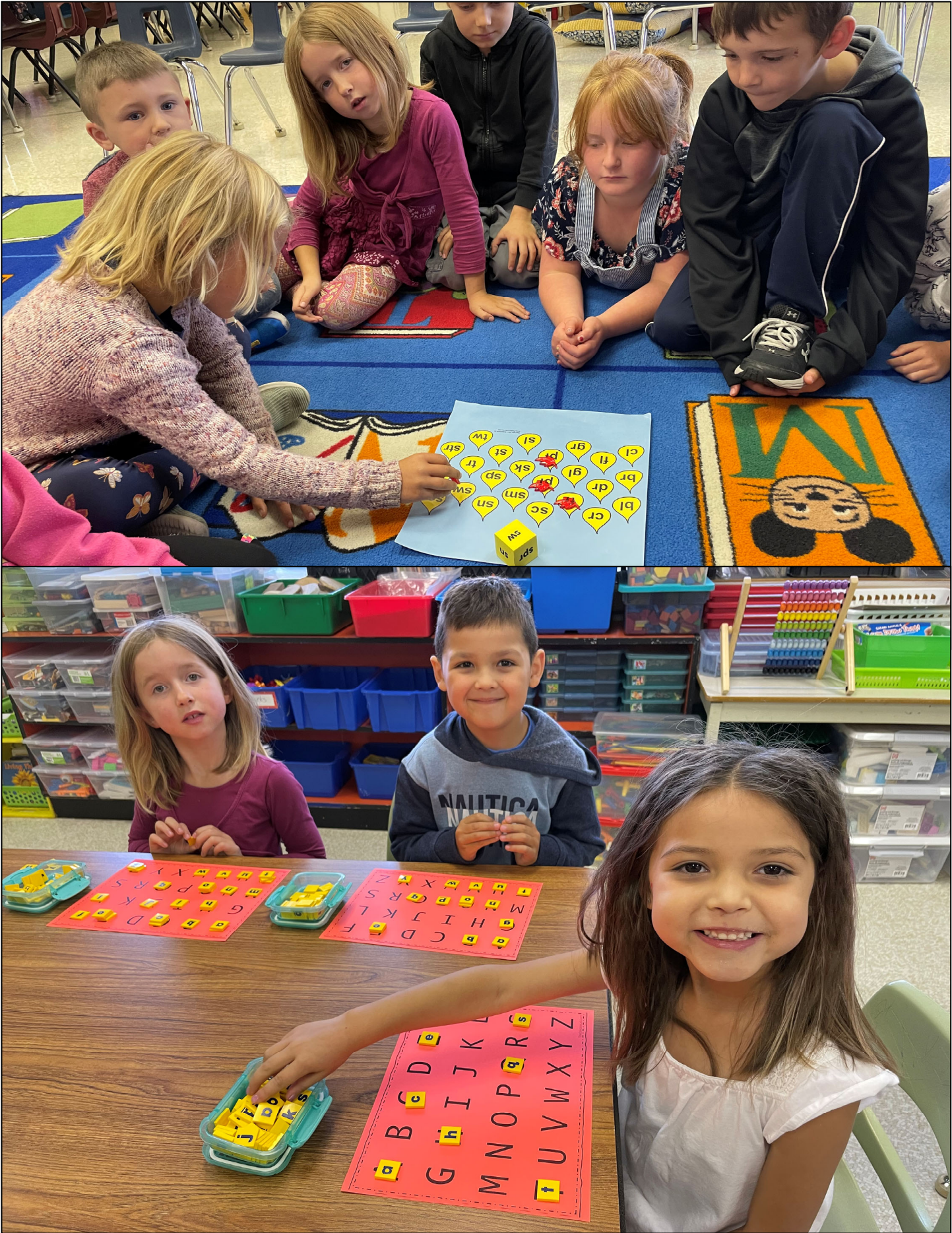
Francois Lake Elementary School would like to send out a big thank you and farewell to Mrs. Turford. During the summer, Mrs. Turford made the difficult decision to retire from her longstanding position at our school. She has filled many roles in our building such as: learning support worker, supervisor, friend and colleague, librarian, artist, stretching coach, and more. Mrs. Turford has been an amazing asset to our building and will be deeply missed. She had made a difference in the lives of many and we wish her all the best in the next chapter of her life. Best wishes Mrs. Turford.

FLES Welcomes...

Vice Principal's Message Continued...

Our team has changed. We are excited to welcome two new staff members and one returning member to our school. Mrs. Jean Vossen is our new Administrative Assistant in the office. Mrs. Lana Coulson is our Learning Support Worker and Student Supervisor. Ms. Beckie Watts is our Grade K/1/2 teacher. A warm welcome is sent to all, and a great year is to be had with our new colleagues. Welcome!

Sincerely,
Marlee Wilson, Vice Principal



FLES Shares...



Will take place
Thursday,
September 21,
2023, at FLES in
the field, weather
permitting. We
look forward to
seeing you here!

Please call by **2:00 PM** if you
will be changing your child's
after-school-to-home
arrangements. Thanks!

Literacy Tip...

There is no reason to limit literacy to
indoor spaces! Check this site out
for 10 cool, outdoor literacy ideas!

<https://childhood101.com/outdoor-literacy-ideas/>

Numeracy Tip...

Did you know you can build math
skills through play?

Teachers and parents can use
decks of cards, dice, or counting
objects to help students practice
their basic skills. For example,
students can practice
multiplication facts up to 6 times 6
by rolling two dice and multiplying
the results. You can also practice
addition skills this way.

Enjoy a variety of activities
outdoors to promote literacy and
numeracy with your family while
the weather is still warm enough!

There are a variety of activities in
the garden that can support math
practice from preschool to the
intermediate years. Please check
out this website for some ideas:

[https://
peanutbutterfishlessons.com/10-
math-skills-practice-in-the-garden/](https://peanutbutterfishlessons.com/10-math-skills-practice-in-the-garden/)

Board Biz...



School Board Meeting
Monday, September 25, 2023
6:00 pm

School Board Office
Vanderhoof, BC

Important Public Attendance Notice:

Members of the public are invited to attend
Regular Meetings of the Board of Education.

Due to limited space and seating availability,
please request your seat prior to noon on
meeting day if you wish to attend in person.

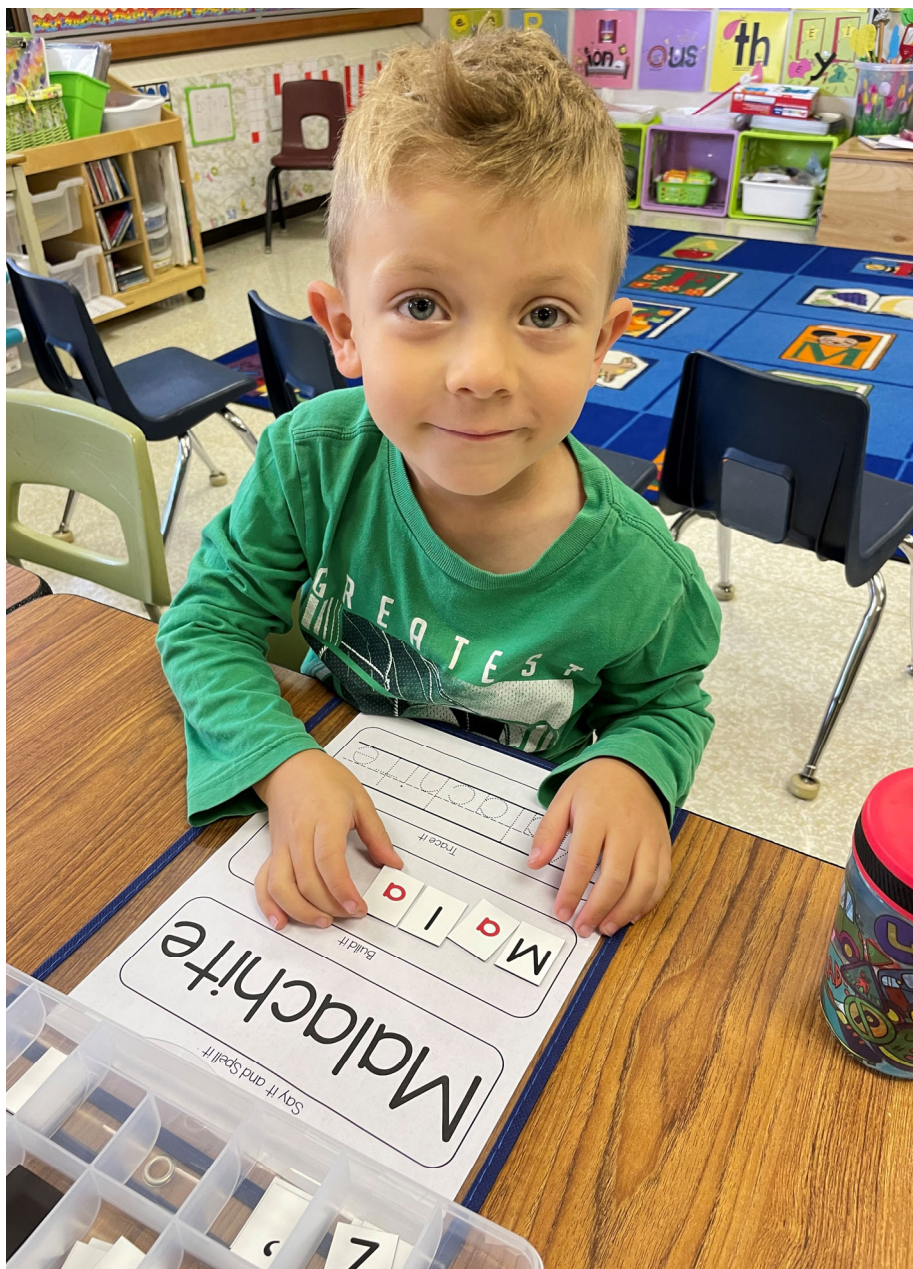
Alternatively, members of the public may
attend this meeting virtually through Microsoft
Teams. To take advantage of this online
attendance option, please visit
www.sd91.bc.ca/meeting-information for the
Teams link or you may request your
electronic invitation prior to 4:00 pm on
meeting day.

Contact:

Heather Silver

Executive Assistant to the Superintendent
250-567-2284 ext. 9003

hsilver@sd91.bc.ca



PAC Posts...

The first PAC Meeting will take place after the
Open House on September 20 starting at 6:00
PM in the MPR. All parents are Welcome!

And the last words go to:

Our teachers, Mrs. Hogarth, Mr. Hogarth, Mrs.
Osmond, and Mrs. Wilson, for helping new
students and new staff
feel welcomed at a new school!