

Dear Parents and Guardians,

When people walk into our building, they are now greeted with a Falcon Board. This board contains the virtue of the month, a quote associated with the virtue, upcoming events for the week and highlights upcoming birthdays. We are hopeful that students, staff and guests will enjoy looking at the information and will find it a useful planning tool.

Remember to talk with your child about the virtue of the month. Ask them what they think creativity is and how they show this virtue. Next month, just two days away, we will have a new virtue to learn about and practice.

Respectfully,
Marlee Wilson

(Dates & events subject to change)

31 (F) Hot Lunch—Hot Dogs

5 (W) Global Play Day

7 (F) Pro-D Day—No School

12 (W) FLES Science Fair

14 (F) Pancake Breakfast

17 (M) Family Day—No School

18 (T) District Science Fair

26 (W) Pink Shirt Day

7 (F) Basketball Tournament

13 (Th) Formal Learning Updates
go home

17 (M) Resilient Rhythm Show
1:30

24 to April 4—Spring Break—No School

7 (M) Back to School Day

11 (F) Zone Pro-D Day—No School

18-21 Easter Break—No School

Last Friday, FLES students got to explore creative ideas and test them with an afternoon of cardboard construction. The goal was to build a structure that had four walls, would fit three students, had a functioning door and a window, and a roof. Using **Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM)**, we had some wonderful ideas come to life!

Thank you Mrs. Watts for being the Mistress of Ceremony (Emcee) for this awesome student-focused STEM learning activity!





Saline Painting

Friday, Jan. 17 the K/1/2 class got to practice some salt water painting. Students got to learn and watch how “dark wet” became “dry white” on cool winter coloured paper. This was a fun lesson in Art and in Science!



Student Learning Survey 2024/2025

Dear Parents and Guardians of Gr. 4 and Gr. 7 students:

The Provincial Student Learning Survey is unique in its scope, size and usefulness to schools. It gathers information from parents or guardians, teachers, and students on topics related to school environment, safety, and achievement. The information is used for planning in individual schools and provides a district and provincial perspective.

Early in **2025** the Student Learning Survey will be administered to students in grades 4 and 7, their parents or guardians, and all school staff. We encourage parents or guardians to participate in this survey, as the results are important in identifying and celebrating current strengths, as well as determining where the school needs to focus improvement. The surveys contain standard questions for the Province – in addition, questions from the school and/or district that focus on local conditions or issues may be included.

The survey can be completed electronically and can be accessed on the Internet at

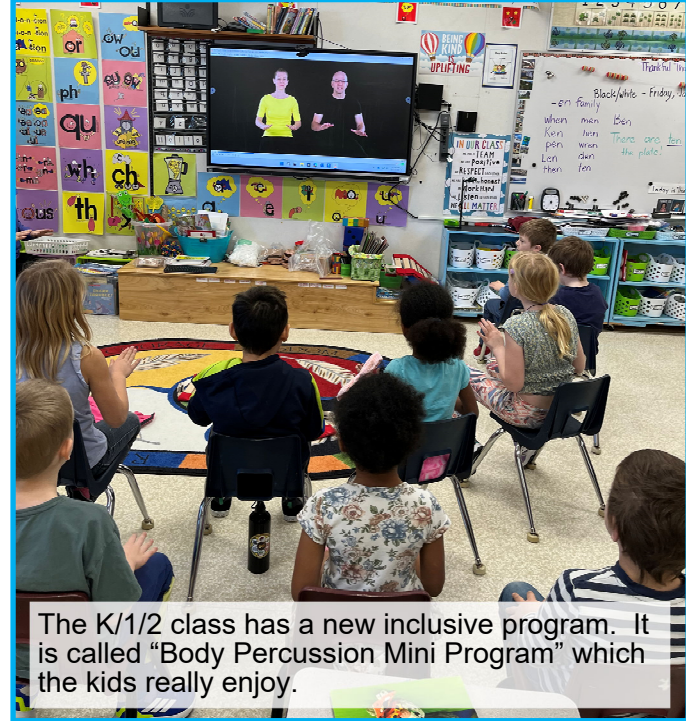
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/support/student-learning-survey>.

Any computer or mobile device with an Internet connection can be used, and access to the e-survey is simple and secure. On the login page, click on the Parents icon, and then select the school district and school name where your child attends school. Provincial, District and School Reports for previous years can be viewed at the same site under the *Results* section.

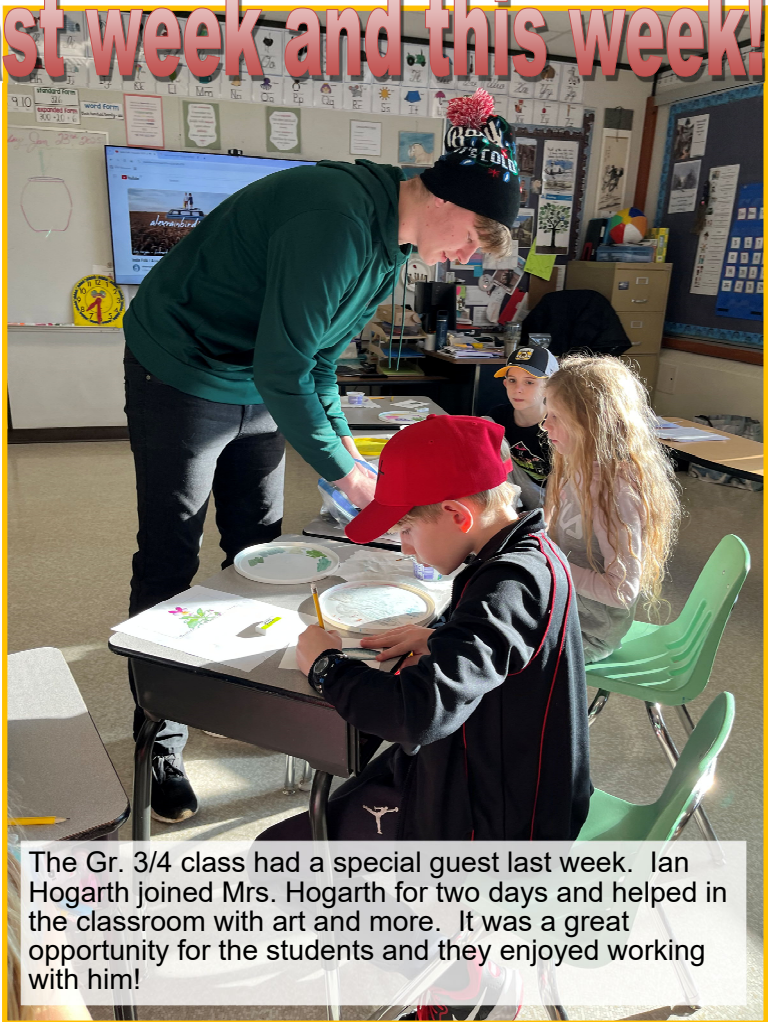
The e-survey site will be open until May 2, 2025.

If you have any questions, please contact the school at 250-695-6401.

Around the school last week and this week!



The K/1/2 class has a new inclusive program. It is called "Body Percussion Mini Program" which the kids really enjoy.



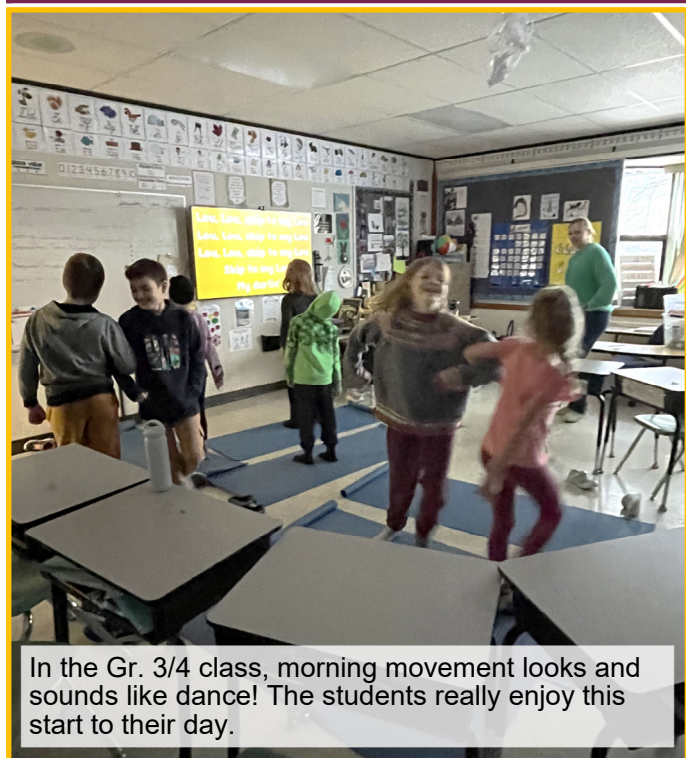
The Gr. 3/4 class had a special guest last week. Ian Hogarth joined Mrs. Hogarth for two days and helped in the classroom with art and more. It was a great opportunity for the students and they enjoyed working with him!



Morning movement: What a great way to start the Gr. 5/6/7 day!



If the kids can't skate, or ski on new snow, then they play soccer instead! We've got budding superstars!



In the Gr. 3/4 class, morning movement looks and sounds like dance! The students really enjoy this start to their day.















The Season of Science is Here

Science fair projects are under way for Francois' **Science Fair on Wednesday, February 12**—only 8 school days away!

Again this year, we hope we'll be sending on our amazing students to the District Science Fair Tue., February 18. After that, any of our science fair students will be able to present at the Central Interior Science Exhibition on Sat., March 8.

If a student needs an ethics approval (involves animals or human participation), the **Ethics Application** must be submitted by **tomorrow, Fri., January 31, 2024.**















Virtues Venue

February's Virtue is "**Friendship**". Friendship means creating close relationships with others. Friendship looks like **including** others, playing **together**, and **learning** about each other.

One afternoon last week, the afterschool kids, who were waiting for their bus, had a "Slo-Mo Race" down the icy hill! There was so much laughter and fun had by the students that day!



Next Year's Kinders?

It's never too early to plan for the next school year!

Francois Lake Elementary is a warm, caring, strong school that produces students who regularly bring back trophies for science, sport, and fine arts. This year, our students have been fortunate to add another language to their skills—ASL. Our students enter LDSS ready to grow into quality, kind adults who are well-prepared to take on the world.

Do you know of any four-year-olds in your circle of family, friends and neighbours, who live in or near our Francois Lake Elementary neighbourhood? Will they have their fifth birthday before January 1, 2026? FLES would love to know! 250-695-6401.

Our catchment area includes all of Bald Hill Rd. and south, all of Colleymount Rd., Francois Lake Rd. E., and any residences or locations between.

Poetry Club

Registration forms for Poetry Club went out last week and quite a few forms have been returned.

Practice will be Tuesdays, starting **February 18** and runs 'til April 8. No practice over Spring Break. On Saturday, April 12, adjudications will take place—time TBA.

PAC Posts...

Hot Lunch tomorrow!
Hot dogs!

Sausage Factory Meat Fundraiser orders are **due February 6!**

New to PAC, e-transfers for fundraisers are welcome to fles.pac.exec@gmail.com.



For more photos and current information, check out the Francois Lake Elementary

School PAC **facebook** page.

The K/1/2 Class have been studying a unit on penguins and invite the entire school to participate **tomorrow**, Friday, by wearing black and white to school.



Board Biz...



2024-25 Amended School Calendar

At its Regular Meeting on Monday, January 20, 2025, the SD91 Board of Education approved the following change to the 2024-25 school calendar:

The April 2025 professional development day has been moved from Friday, April 25 to **FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 2025**.

You may view the District's approved yearly school calendars under the About Us tab at www.sd91.bc.ca.

Next PAC meeting tonight, **Jan. 16 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



Superintendent's Report to the Board

Interim Superintendent Mike Skinner presented the 2024-25 Strategic Plan Mid-Year Update at the Regular School Board Meeting on Monday, January 20, 2025.

You may find it under the Latest News heading at www.sd91.bc.ca.



And the last word goes to:

Aubree, a new up-and-coming pianist! Aubree has been practicing our school song. We hope she'll play for our assemblies and special events. Thank you, Aubree!!!