



Volume 2024/25-10

January 16, 2025

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

Dear Parents and Guardians

Welcome to the New Year. I hope that you enjoyed a restful and joyful holiday break. School is now back in full swing, and I find January a wonderful month where students settle back into routines quickly and more work gets accomplished.

At the start of a new year, it is common for people to reflect on the past, refocus on the future and set new goals. We often see new ideas or games emerging from students after the winter break. Following this trend, January is the month where we highlight the virtue of creativity. Creativity allows people to be innovative, adapt to change and solve problems.

Students can show their creativity in many ways; in the class, on art projects, on the playground, participating in the science fair and even at the speech arts festival. Students in the intermediate grades began working on their science fair projects this month. They needed to come up with their own ideas and then work through the scientific method for their projects. The students will work on their projects until they are showcased on February 12th.

All students are offered an opportunity to join the school’s Poetry Club and then enter the Speech Arts Festival. The festival is a wonderful opportunity for growth, skill development and creative expression. Students can improve communication skills, boost their confidence levels, build levels of resilience, foster their love of literature and performance, and so much more. If you think that your child might be interested, please fill in the form that went home last week and return it to the school.

I am looking forward to seeing where this creative month of hard work takes us.

Remember to keep your eyes open for an informal learning update that will be going home with students on January 23rd.

Respectfully,
Marlee Wilson

Mark your Calendars!
(Dates & events subject to change)

- January**

16 (Th) PAC Meeting 5:30

23 (Th) Informal Learning Updates go home
- February**

5 (W) Global Play Day

7 (F) Pro-D Day—No School

12 (W) FLES Science Fair

17 (M) Family Day—No School

18 (T) District Science Fair

26 (W) Pink Shirt Day
- March**

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
- April**

7 (M) Back to School Day

18-21 Easter Break—No School

22 (T) Back to School Day

Earth Day Trash-PU 1 PM

Next Year’s Youngsters?

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

Do you have new neighbours with kids? Are they elementary school aged kids?

Do you know of any up-and-coming kindergarten-aged kids in your neighbourhood, in the Francois Lake Elementary School catchment area? Might they be 4 years turning 5 years old? Was their birthday this January 2025 or will they have their fifth birthday before December 31, 2025? FLES would love to know!!

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



The Season of Science Has Begun!

FLES is ramping up science fair projects, getting ready for our own Science Fair on Wed., February 12, with hopes 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 Fri., January 31, 2024.



Poetry Club

FLES had a number of folks asking for MORE Poetry Club for this year...so...FLES and volunteers answered!

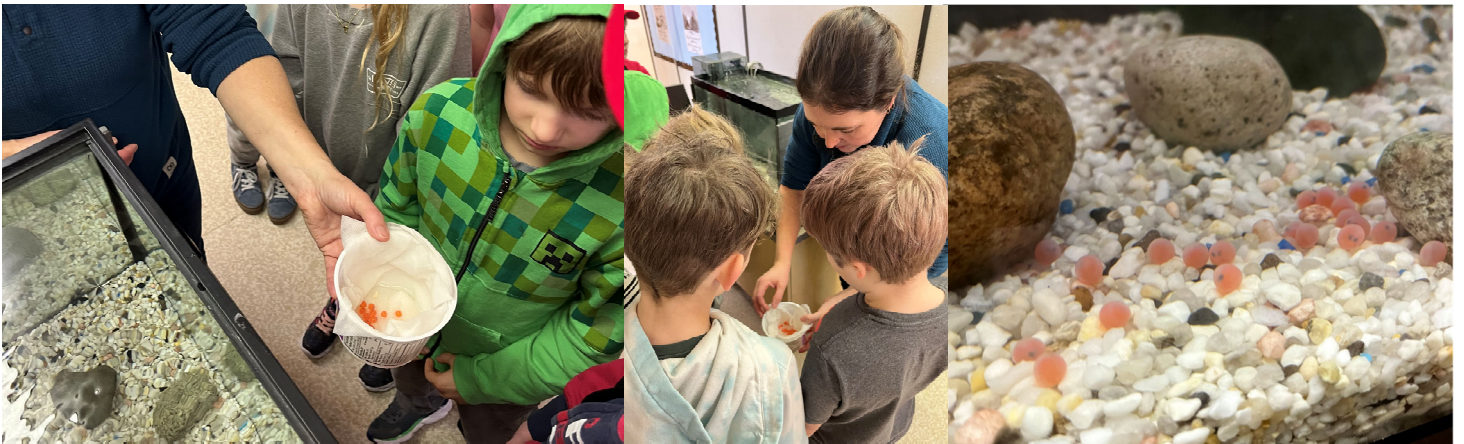
Registration forms for Poetry Club went out last week and quite a few forms have been returned.

Practice will be Tuesdays, starting February 18 and will run 'til April 8. There will be no practice over Spring Break. On April 11, adjudications will take place—time TBA.

Fishy News

Earlier this winter, we had an unfortunate loss. Our Chinook salmon eggs were collected above the Farwell Canyon slide in the Fraser watershed and the eggs were fertilized under stress. This causes high mortality for fry, and FLES' fry all perished during hatching.

Luckily, Oceans Canada was able to replace the eggs with Coho salmon eggs which are growing and thriving as hoped! Over the next few weeks, we should see some fry as part of our school's daily science exploration!



STEM

The next STEM activity day will be January 24, 2025, and we are calling out for **GIANT CARDBOARD BOXES**, please!!! The **BIGGER**, the better! Please bring the boxes to the school by Thurs. Jan. 23.



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

School PAC **facebook** page.

Next PAC meeting tonight, Jan. 16 at 5:30 PM in the MPR. All parents are Welcome!

Board Biz...



Proposed 2024-25 Calendar Amendment – Public Feedback Welcome!

The Board of Education is seeking to amend the 2024-25 School Calendar to shift our Zone Pro-D Day from April 25 to April 11, 2025. Members of the public are invited to provide feedback before **4:00 p.m. on Friday, January 17, 2025.**

Please check out our [SD91 Yearly Calendar](#) webpage for more details.

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



School Board Meeting Monday, January 20, 2025, 6 pm, Virtual Meeting via MS Teams 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. 003 hsilver@sd91.bc.ca

And the last word goes to:

Tasheena England of Fisheries and Oceans Canada for saving the day with new fish eggs for our students to watch develop into a new generation of salmon!