



FALCONS

Volume 2025/26-3

October 3, 2025

Co-Principals

Mrs. W. Kelemen

Mrs. G. Moyah

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

For the month of October, our school family will be nurturing the virtue of gratitude. Teaching children to be thankful is critical for their development relationally, mentally, and emotionally. Research in children has linked gratitude to happiness, which means that instilling an attitude of gratitude at a young age can help children grow up to be happier people. Appreciating others requires us to acknowledge them and what they do for us, which in turn creates bonds and trust and helps us feel closer and more connected, thereby strengthening our social and emotional intelligence. Gratitude supports us to be mindful because it focuses on celebrating the present, thereby dispelling worries, stress, and anxiety, while fostering and cultivating positive thinking, resilience and a greater sense of self-worth.

As adults, we need to encourage and model gratitude by noticing and becoming aware of people, places and/or things we appreciate. What are the reasons you and your family are thankful? Who is one person you are grateful to have in your life? What's something about our school that makes you grateful? Did someone do something nice for you today? When we pause from our busy day and notice all the abundance in our life, we are grateful. Thank you for taking the time to read your child's newsletter and for sending them to school. I am fortunate to have this opportunity to serve the Francois Lake Elementary School community.

Respectfully,

Mrs. Kelemen
Principal

Mark your Calendars!

(Dates & events subject to change)

October

13 (M) Thanksgiving Day—**No School**

16 (Th) Earthquake Drill

16 (Th) PAC Meeting 5:30 PM

20 (M) Lock Down Drill

22 (W) Talk About Learning
PM—**Early Dismissal**
11:53 AM

24 (F) Pro-D Day—**No School**

November

4 (T) Photo Retake Day

10 (M) Remembrance Day
Ceremony—11 AM

11 (T) Observe Remembrance
Day—**No School**

December

3 (W) Learning Updates go
home

5 (F) Volleyball Tournament

18 (Th) Christmas Concert—
1:30

22 to January 2—Winter
Break—**No School**

January

5 (M) Back in school day

Talk About Learning Time and Early Dismissal—October 22, 2025

On Wednesday, October 22, students will be dismissed at 11:53 AM to allow time for parents and guardians to come to the school and check on their children's progress. Come meet with your child's teacher to address concerns, see the work your child has done for the last 33 days, and celebrate the first successes your child has achieved!

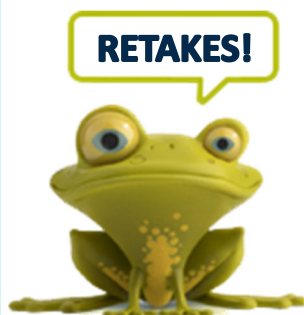
This year, we are offering 15 minute time slots to allow more time for an in-depth check-in.

Please call the school at 250-695-6401, between the hours of 8:45 AM and 3:00 PM, or send an email to mvossen@sd91.bc.ca to book your times.

Times are booked on a first-come, first-served basis. We will do our best to keep family bookings close together.

FLES Gets Photo Retakes!

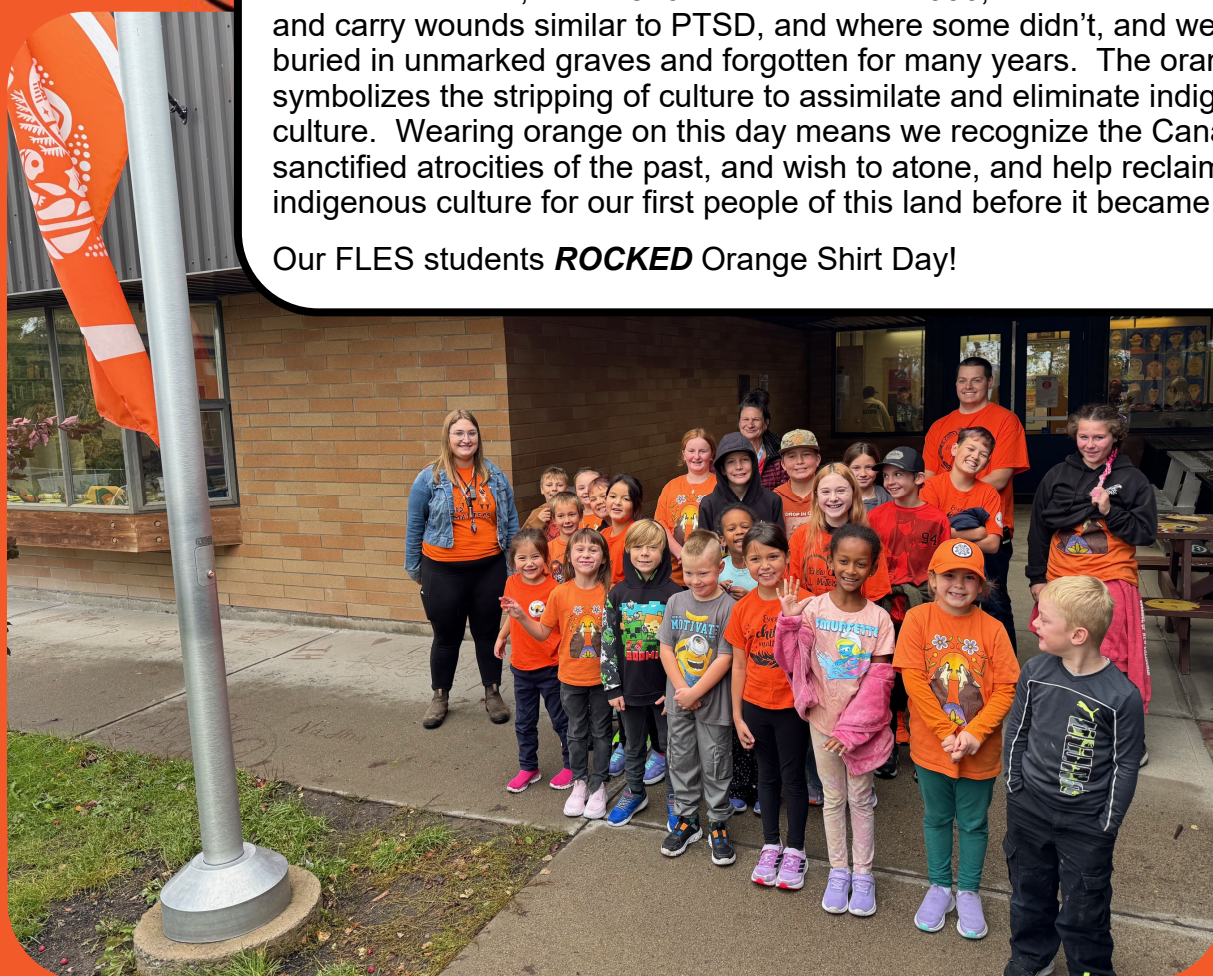
Tuesday, November 4, 9 AM, photo retakes will take place! We'll also have our class and panoramic school photo done. Send your beautiful little people to school all dressed up and ready for their super star moment!





On September 29, 2025, our students and staff participated in observing Orange Shirt Day. Students wore orange! They had shirts, hats, shoes, spots on their clothes, all in memory of indigenous children who went to residential school, from 1876 to as recent as 1996, where some survived and carry wounds similar to PTSD, and where some didn't, and were buried in unmarked graves and forgotten for many years. The orange shirt symbolizes the stripping of culture to assimilate and eliminate indigenous culture. Wearing orange on this day means we recognize the Canadian sanctified atrocities of the past, and wish to atone, and help reclaim indigenous culture for our first people of this land before it became Canada.

Our FLES students **ROCKED** Orange Shirt Day!



READING CLUB!!!

This **Tuesday**, October 10, at 12:15 PM, **intermediate** students are invited to join the first FLES Reading Club in the Library with Mrs. Vossen. On **Wednesday**, **primary** students are invited! This a block of time to explore new adventures, to travel, to experience new things, to discover cool things, and to imagine anything through reading!!! If you don't have a book, don't worry! We will have a Reading Club Library Log and (ahem) cool prizes!

Schedule:

Mondays and Wednesdays: Grades K-3, meet in the library at 12:15.

Tuesdays and Thursdays: Grades 4-7, meet in the library at 12:15 with the book you're reading or select a book in the library to leave for next time.

In Focus - Feeding Futures Guiding Principle (1 of 5)

"Students have access to food daily in an equitable, accessible, and non-stigmatizing manner".

Ms. Babych is our Meal Program Worker and she prepares food for our students.

Breakfast programs are available at all schools. As students arrive at FLES, they are welcome to have some food if they choose.

Schools are always looking for new recipes and meal ideas. If you have one, please share. Send an email to jbabych@sd91.bc.ca with your ideas!

LOCK DOWN DRILL—COMING SOON TO A SCHOOL NEAR YOU!

If your child comes home and tells you about how the RCMP were at the school on **Monday, October 22**, at **noon**, it's because the RCMP will be coming to FLES to assist in our yearly **Lock Down drill**.



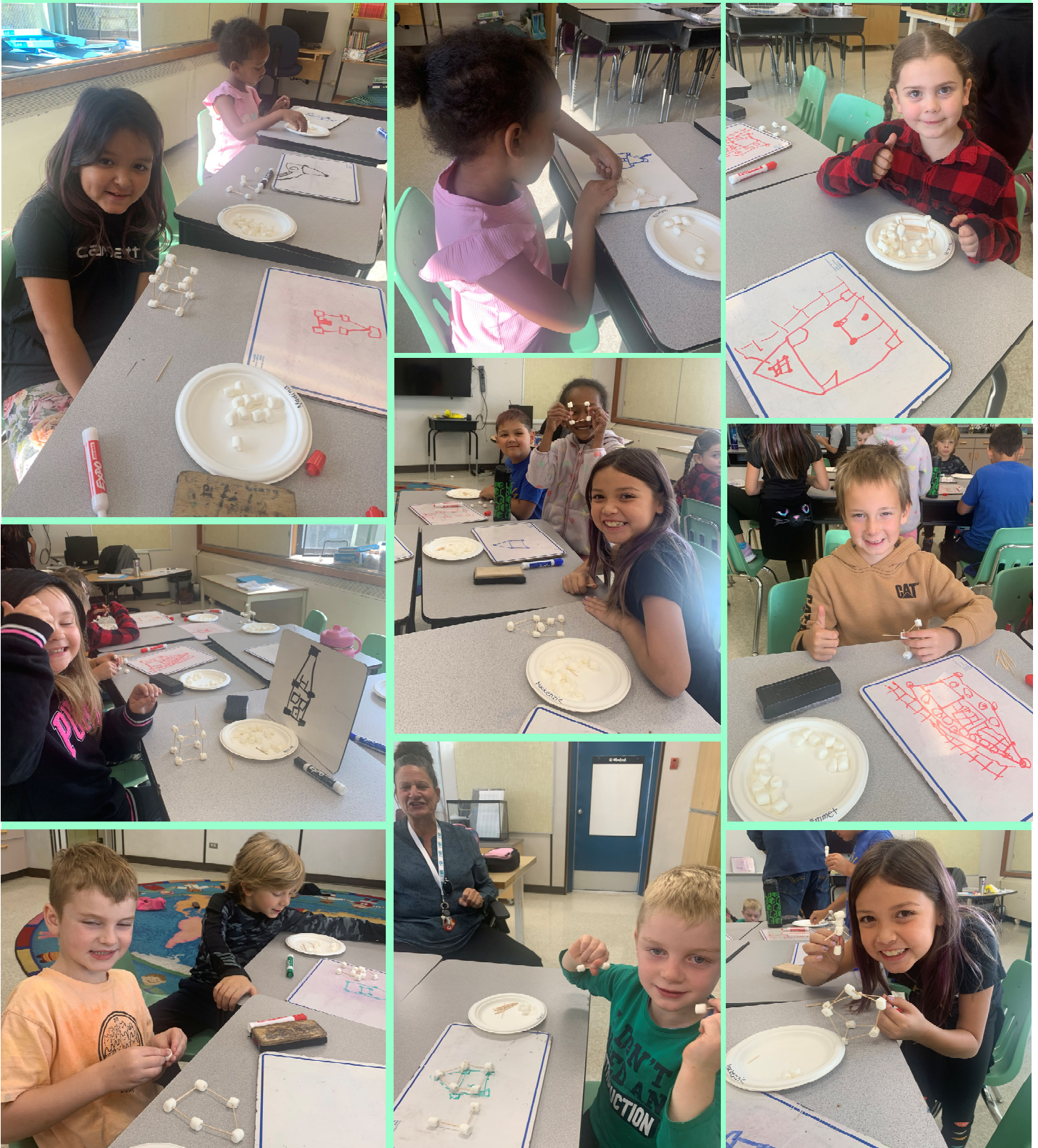
What happens in a lock down drill?

First, the whole school will hear an announcement from our principal. Immediately, all students and staff will go very quickly and silently to the safest place in the room.

Then, the RCMP will walk around the school attempting to open doors, make someone speak or make a noise, and make phone calls to cell phones and phone lines. The students and staff must remain absolutely silent and still, and wait for the principal to announce "All Clear" three times. Then, classes will resume as normal.



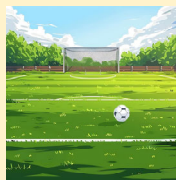
Mrs. Comeau is teaching our students Applied Design Skills and Technologies (ADST). ADST can and does look like these students, who are creating three-dimensional (3-D) structures of their two-dimensional (2-D) drawings. When you think about it, in this class, these kids get to experience an introduction to engineering and architecture. Real life skills!!!



Come see our amazing Wall Art! Mrs. Hogarth's class has created lovely sunflowers!!!



Our **SECOND Fire Drill** took place
Mon., Sept. 29, at 12:06.
Our school was fully cleared out in 2
minutes 36 seconds, nine
seconds faster than the last
one!!! Well done, **Falcons!!!**



Board Biz...



Proposed Policy Update

The following draft policy is currently open for public feedback
until 4:30 p.m. on Friday, October 10, 2025.

[Policy 302.7.2 – Unexpected Health Emergencies](#)

Members of the public are welcome to review all the information, including
how to provide feedback, on the SD91 Policies and Regulations webpage at
www.sd91.bc.ca/policies-and-regulations.

PAC Post...

Next PAC meeting Thur.,
Oct. 16 at 5:30 PM in the
Staff Room. Free
babysitting and **all** parents
are welcome!

Come see how PAC helps
direct our school.



School Board Meeting

Monday, October 20, 2025

6:30 pm

Room 112 @ FSJSS

Fort St. James, 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 in advance 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](http://www.sd91.bc.ca/meeting-information) for the Teams link.

To view the meeting agenda, please visit www.sd91.bc.ca/board-agendas-and-minutes.

Contact: Heather Silver, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent, 250-567-2284 ext. 9003,
hsilver@sd91.bc.ca

And the last word goes to:

Ms. Babych who
works hard every
day making sure
our students have
healthy food to eat!
Thank you, Ms.
Babych!