



SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

December 2021

Submitted by: Dr. Christine Perkins, Superintendent/CEO



December 2021

Acknowledgement:

We are proud to live, work, play, and learn on the ancestral, unceded territory of the syilx people.

Mission:

To inspire and develop lifelong learners who can communicate, think creatively, problem-solve, collaborate, and understand their personal and social responsibilities.

Vision:

To create a safe, healthy, and respectful learning community that enables each student to build a bright future.

Seaton Family of Schools:



Alexis Park Elementary

It is starting to look and sound a lot like winter holidays here at Alexis Park Elementary School.

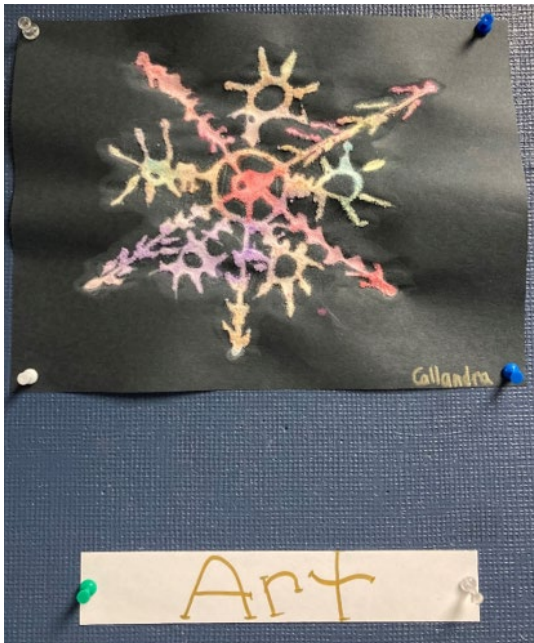
Our amazing music teacher Tobi Huggins has students from all classrooms learning holiday tunes! Our school will be filming our holiday concert December 7th, 8th, and 9th.

Later in December we will be sharing with our families the completed concert video. Here are some of our students practicing one sweet (pun intended) candy cane song.

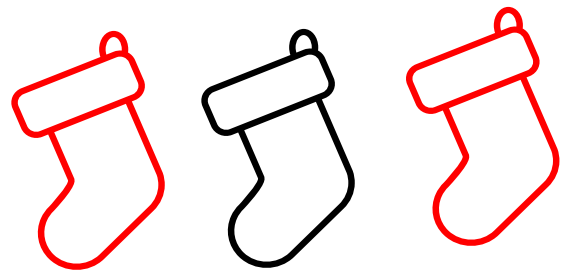




Our students have also shown their holiday spirit in the form of beautiful artwork.



We are excited to see our hallways filled with holiday cheer as we near the final day of school.



WE HERE AT ALEXIS PARK WOULD LIKE TO WISH EVERYONE A HAPPY HOLIDAY AND A WONDERFUL END TO 2021!



Beairsto Elementary

for Beairsto there are many things to celebrate...

This month we will focus on:



Marie-Anick Duchesne, one of our Indigenous support workers has been doing a variety of activities in classes - from teaching beading, making creams to special tea and lip balms ...



In the gym we had our traditional ball hockey games and championship after school run by Mr. Richard and Mr. Cox.

The cup in the picture dates back to when some of our teachers were students at Beairsto!!!



Air gymnastics is back this year in full force as well run by Mr. Helm in the gym!



Asking some grade 7s this month, they said the pride club, the Christmas trees, the great community, ball hockey, skating, and all the fun art!

So, I am including a Christmas tree picture - our beautiful Christmas tree is in our front foyer donated by a Beairsto family!

Voilà





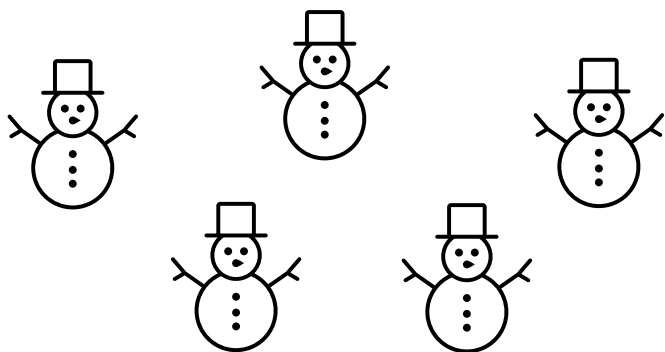
Harwood Elementary



Ms. Pereira, our amazing Fine Arts teacher, has been planning, choreographing, producing, directing, filming, editing, and distributing a series of holiday show videos to showcase student talent at Harwood. There is angelic singing, lively dancing, inspired acting and amazing instrumental talent.

We are so proud of the work that has been done to make these shows happen.

The first snowfall brought with it the very first snowman building competition. Here are the winners!





Our Indigenous Support Workers, Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Duchesne run hoop dancing every Monday after school. They have 23 students signed up this year, which is the most ever. Students have been learning the basics of hoop dancing and the older students have been helping to choreograph some group dances. They also hosted an evening door swag making event for families.



W.L. Seaton Secondary



Seaton French Immersion students wrote the DELF Level B2 Exam. This language exam is recognized around the world.



Mr. Perron's woodwork students are helping build beds for the Sleep in Heavenly Peace project.

They have already constructed over 20 beds.

Vernon Family of Schools



Alternative Programs

ALP



Deborah Johnson, a Residential School Survivor from Esketemc, spoke to students at ALP.



Work continues on the canoe with Frank Marchand. It's really taking shape.



Everyone's favourite class – Foods with Ashley!



Open Door



Festive window art created by Open Door students.



CrossRoads



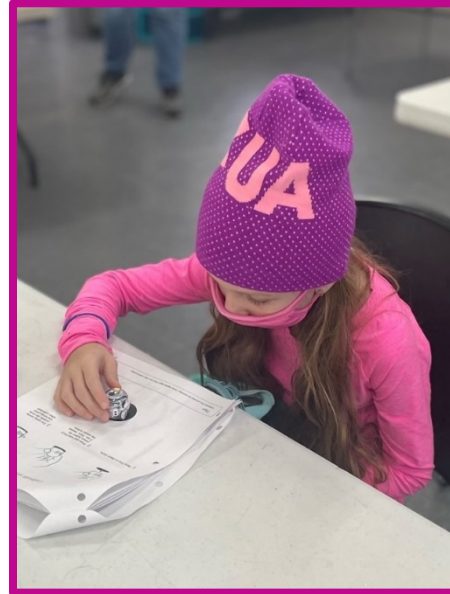
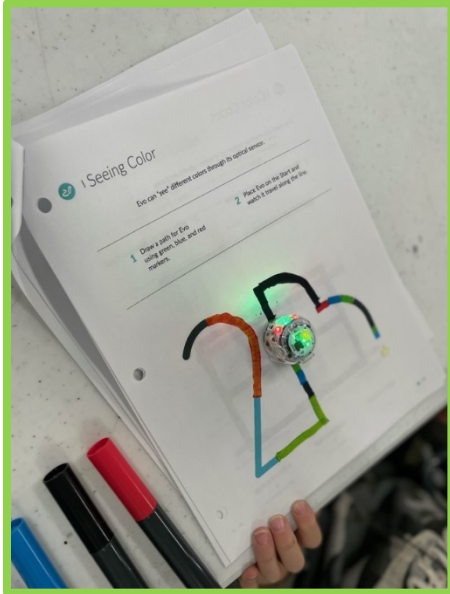
Mario introducing students to Smudging - a ceremony for purifying or cleansing the soul of negative thoughts.

If you haven't had a chance to try Bannock Tacos, Crossroad's students recommend you really should!



VLearn

VLearn students using their computational thinking skill to program Ozobot robots.



The VLearn elementary elves sharing their Christmas spirit.





BX Elementary



Every year BX collects toys for Santa Anonymous and we have filled two bins already! We are collecting new and gently used toys. The generosity of the students and families is heart warming.

Constable Neil Horne, our new liaison officer, visited BX and our kindergartens were treated to some time with him.



“Our photos show our Performing Arts program here at BX under Michelle Johnson.

November was a busy month in the Performing Arts room as students excitedly prepared for the BX Christmas Showcase. Rehearsal for our showcase started in November with classes singing, dancing, acting, playing instruments, making props, or learning to operate sound and lighting for our show.





One grade 5/6 class drummed to Jingle Bells sung in the nsyilxcən **language**. nsyilxcən is spoken by the syilx nation.

Due to covid, a live audience was not an option, so with the help of our videographers, Brianne Boulter, and her helper Hudson, were able to film each class performing on our gym stage.

Ms. Johnson will be putting a movie together for parents next week. This is BX's first virtual concert and we are all very excited to see it."





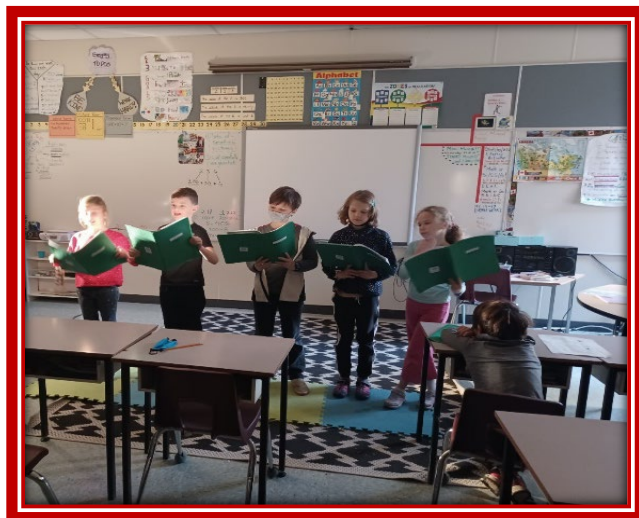
Hillview Elementary



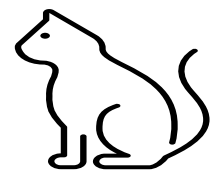
Beading! Mrs. Jackson our ISW, meets with students every lunch break. This month they have started making beaded Christmas ornaments! Thank you, Mrs. Jackson.

One piece of multi-media art from a student in Mrs.

Graber's grade 2/3 class. The students used fiber, paint, tissue, and paper to create these lovely "I Love Snow" creations.



Students in Mr. Schneider's class present their reader's theatre performances to the class. It was all about "THE C-A-T".



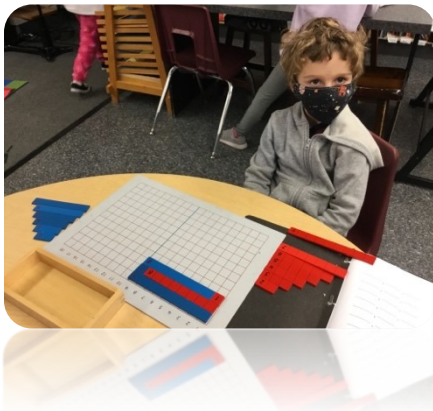


Silverstar Elementary



Grade ½ students working on Christmas pictures that will be oiled, and then put up on the windows to create a stained-glass effect. Also, some sponge printing snowflakes, and making Christmas wreaths. Lots of creativity going on in the spirit of Christmas!

Montessori grades 1-3 students directing their learning. Self-directed learning through exploration. Using Montessori materials guides the students learn, practice, and master difficult concepts





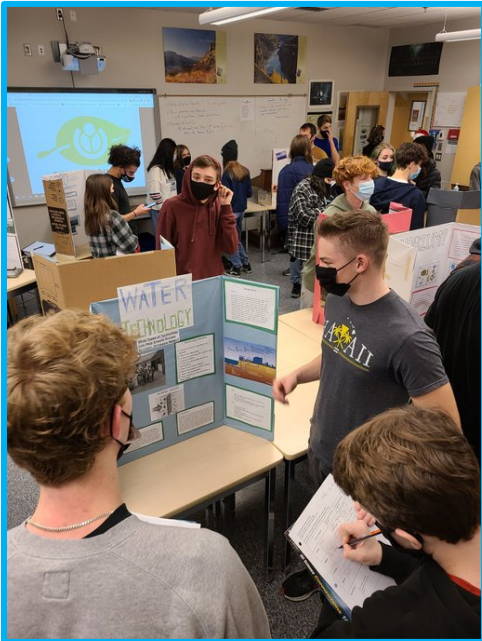
Vernon Secondary School



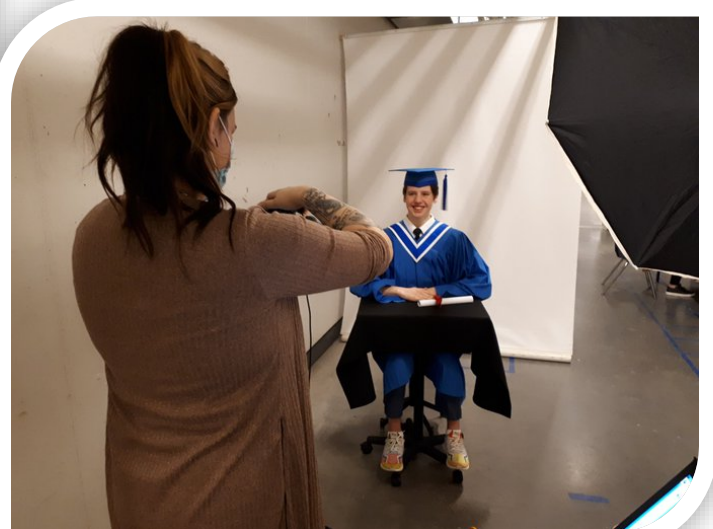
Thanks to the VSS Leadership class for decorating our commons area! **This time with the holiday theme :-)**



Sustainability fair at VSS by SS1! Sc10 visiting. Great learning on all sides.



Grad photos this week at VSS. Very exciting for our Grads and Parents! Tyler looking getting ready and looking great! Keep working hard Grads!



Fulton Family of Schools



Ellison Elementary

It's beginning to look a lot like....Winter....and the season of giving at Ellison! For the month of December, we have been learning about the virtues of compassion and generosity. We are collecting non-perishable items for the food drive and preparing over 40 hampers for our families.



Our Gr. 5/6 students in Division 15 have been decorating the bird houses donated by Grandpa John and his generous supply donors. Student voices and songs have been ringing through the hallways all this week, as the students under the direction of our fabulous music teacher, Mrs. Robinson have been preparing our virtual Christmas concert.

We are awaiting a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus next week... We are sure that we are on the "Nice" list this year!



Mission Hill Elementary



**Heritage Fair contest winners.
Mission Hill had 6!**





Our fabulous music teacher is incorporating basketball into her to teach "beat".



classes



Building structures for Math class.

"Team work makes the dream work".



Okanagan Landing



We also had our first spirit club organized Spirit day – Twin day. Pictured above are “twins” Mr. Petersen and teacher candidate Amy Thiesson.

This month at OKL we enjoyed our first snow days. Students enjoyed time out on our wonderful playground making snowmen and sliding down the hills.

We are looking forward to our virtual Christmas concert later this month as well as red, white, green, and gold day, and pajama day before the holidays.

Our school is also giving back to the community by collecting Warm for the Holidays clothing, toys for Santa’s Anonymous, and food for hampers for our in need. We truly are a school with heart.

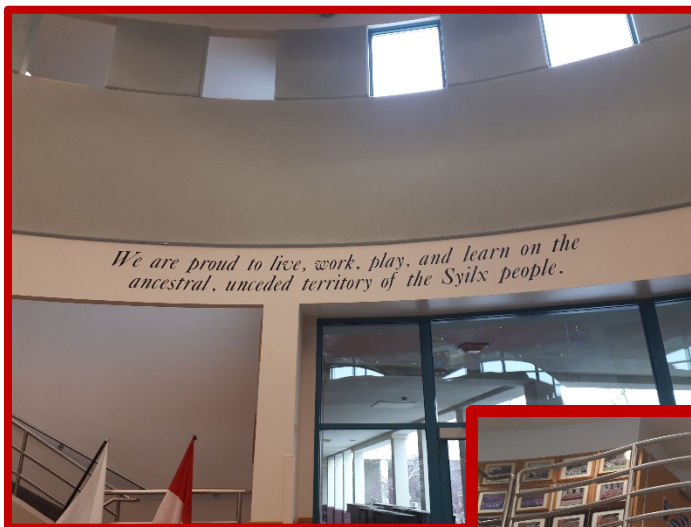


families

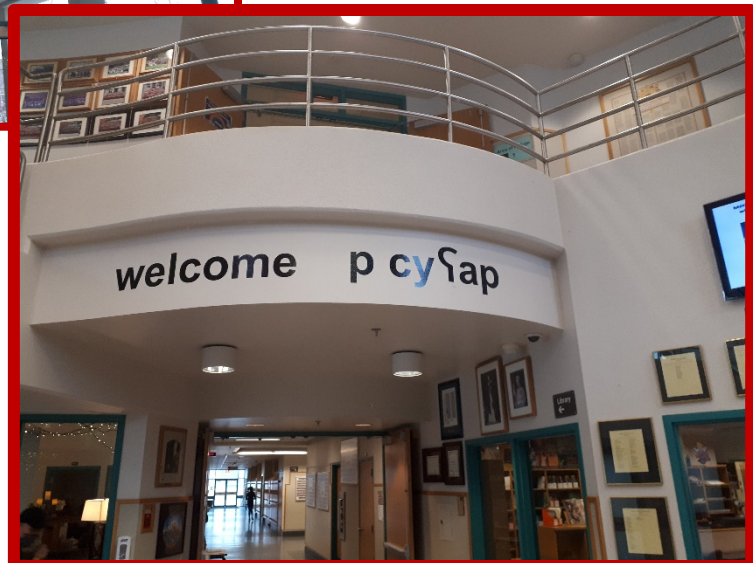
Clarence Fulton Secondary



Fulton's leadership class held their annual "Fill the Bus" fundraiser on Friday, December 3rd. Thank you to all our community members who contributed to this worthy cause. Many families will benefit with a Christmas hamper from this generosity.

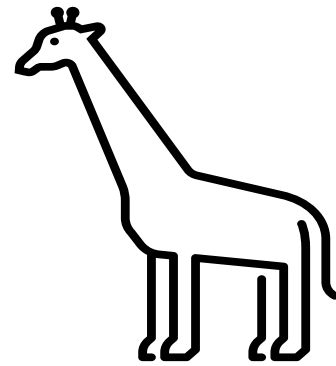


Fulton is proud to have our front entrance acknowledge that we are situated on the beautiful land of the Syilx people.





Students of Academy of Inquiry and Adventure Okanagan SD22(AIAO) spent time at Fintry with curator Dan Bruce who has led tours since 2016 for AIAO.



Kalamalka Family of Schools



Coldstream Elementary

Coldstream had some fun with a theme day at the end of the month:

"Twin" Day (photos attached). We had even had "Quintuplets"



Our volleyball teams enjoyed their first season back since before COVID. A great big thank you to all of our parent & teacher coaches!



The Reading Together Program is now up and running in our school again! A huge thank you to all of the volunteers for making this happen.



Kidston Elementary

Kidston Grade 3 choir performing at the Coldstream Light-Up December 5.



Showing our Kidston Kindness at the Food Drive Dec. 7. Safety Bear was here too

“Cram the Cruiser” and “Fill the fire truck”



The Grade 3/4 class learning about biomes.





Lavington Elementary

Our school goal is focused on the mental well-being of our staff and students. Here is a good sign of the social and emotional wellness of our school community. A whole school effort to show love and appreciation for the principal - solid qualitative data!



As promised, Maccagno Lane is being kept snow free!

I always have an extra oomph for this section of the school grounds - I can't even feel my L5 and S1.

Safety first! That's what we always say!

Once again, our student leaders have taken the initiative to share and present the creative skills of the Lavington Lynx. The rest of the students are busy preparing a school wide sing-along that we will be able to experience together.



Kalamalka Secondary



It was a busy month of schooling at Kalamalka Secondary in **October**. The grads held a successful bottle drive where they raised over \$3500 in a day from the community. And since the drive took place on our Terry Fox day, the grads decided to give \$500 of that over to cancer research in Terry's name.

Our Safe School's team held a grade 8 'retreat' (right here on our grounds!) where Grade 11s and 12s set up a series of fun activities for the 8's as a welcome to high school life. The kids had fun, and no one was hurt in the playing of these games.





The Leadership students held a Karaoke contest for the school, and they featured our International kids on stage. The Leadership also held a Scary Movie night on Parent Teacher night in which zombies held the center stage. At the end of the night of interviews, one teacher was mistaken for a zombie because she was only answering in grunts, but she established her credentials before any zombie solutions had to be deployed. Whew!

Then at the end of the month, we had a great population of awesome costumes as a large percentage of the student population dressed up for the shortened day. Was there learning, reading, and ciphering, you might ask, in addition to all this fun stuff? Oh yes, of course!

Then, **November** came around with a Covid Remembrance Day ceremony where we had our Leadership kids and our Choir send videos out to all the staff to show in their separate classes. Mr. Winston included a speech read by Mr. Thomas that moving to the point of tears for several people.



In the speech, Mr. Winston covered the aspects of the various wars that Canada has fought in with a special focus and emphasis on those soldiers who came from Coldstream and Vernon specifically. He even mentioned several of our very own grads who have gone on to a career in the armed forces and why that is so important for those individuals, for Canada, and for us.



In sports, our senior boys' soccer team won the right to go to Provincials by winning the Valley title outscoring their opponents on the way by a score of 20-1. Then, of course, the Provincial tournament was cancelled due to the floods in the Lower Mainland. The boys are very disappointed in not getting to show off their skills and bring home more hardware, but most unhappy about not going is their coach and our principal, Mr. Grace.

Our senior girls' volleyball team missed going to their Provincial tournament by a close margin as they came second in the Valleys to Summerland. And where are the Provincials being held this year, you ask? Abbotsford. Hmm. And it appears that tournament is cancelled as well. Coaches Maria Hansen and John Nielsen proudly led these girls for the season.



Bloom Family of Schools



Charles Bloom Secondary



Bloom's very own "Elf on a Shelf". Thanks, Mrs. Kineshanko for bringing the holiday spirit alive at Bloom.

Bloom's Sr. Girls Volleyball Team ranked 5th in the province for single A schools. Provincial bound regardless of where they are.





Senior Students painted a lovely winter scene in the library.



Events keep going at Bloom,

Career students are doing some great exploration

Ms. Fenn and the Craft group has started strong

Some our students got to experience some indoor rock climbing

Wood and Metal students are making some great projects, and we in the office are celebrating their work

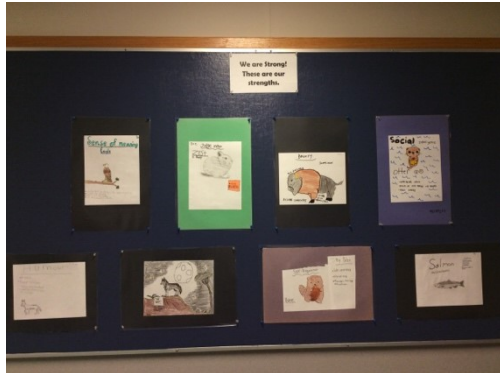
International students are loving the snow!

Forestry students got the equipment moved off the woodlot just in time!

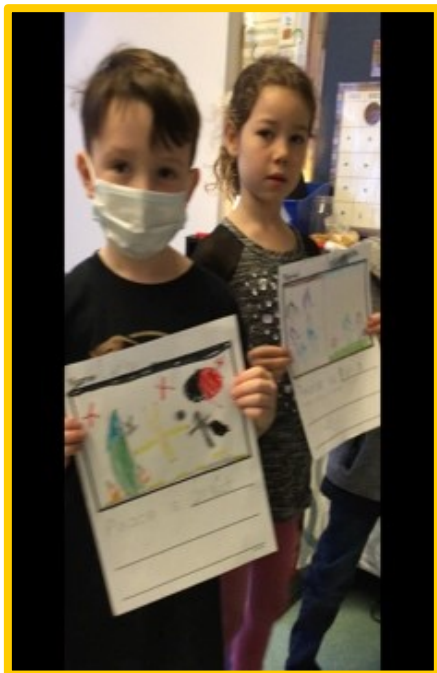


Cherryville Elementary

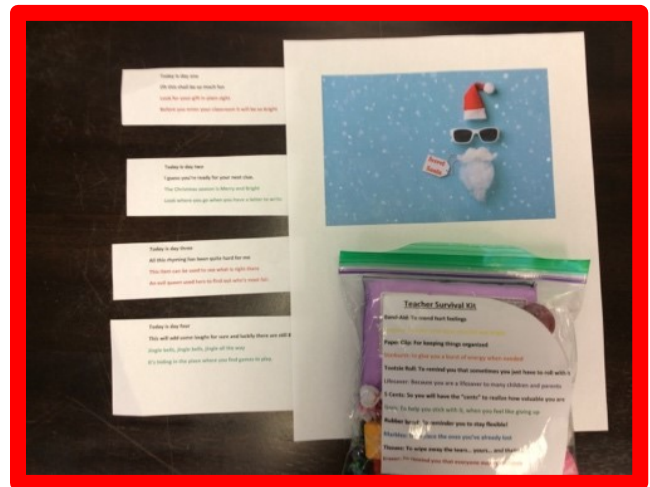
At Cherryville we have been busy. We are taking a strength-based approach to learning and our students have been figuring out what their strongest character strengths are. Our grade 5/6 class has made posters of the different character strengths adding in an indigenous animal to from our area to match each strength.



Our students have been working hard on reading and math and applied design. Lots of hands-on activities!



Cherryville has a secret Santa that has been hard at work leaving clues for our staff with little treats each morning! Whoever could it be?



J.W. Inglis Elementary

Kindergarten students strengthen their understanding of numbers by playing a math game with a partner and connecting the visual (dots on the dice) with the written/symbolic number.



Students (Sage and Trustyn) and PAC President, Amanda Cadden accept a cheque on behalf of the school for \$3500 from the Tolko representative Jim Haxton.



Students in Grade 4/5 demonstrate their understanding of subtraction with borrowing by using manipulatives and then giving an oral explanation of how they 'borrowed' using base 10 blocks.



Indigenous Programs



Marie-Anick Duchesne, Indigenous Support Worker at Harwood Elementary and École Beairsto at Holiday Front Door Swag making evening.



Fulton territorial acknowledgement was installed this past month.



**Tammy Brown,
Indigenous
Support Worker,
at Harwood
Elementary
sharing her
enthusiasm and
culture**

Human Resources

Human Resources Department welcomes Nichole Cooke to the district as our new Executive Assistant for Human Resources.

Nichole holds a degree in Human Resources and joins us from her previous employment at Thompson Community Services in Kelowna.

We congratulate all the UBCO student teachers who are currently completing their student teaching practicum and plan to graduate in December.

Many of our student teachers are currently applying for positions in our district and we look forward having many join our district once they receive their teaching certificate from the Teacher Regulations Branch.

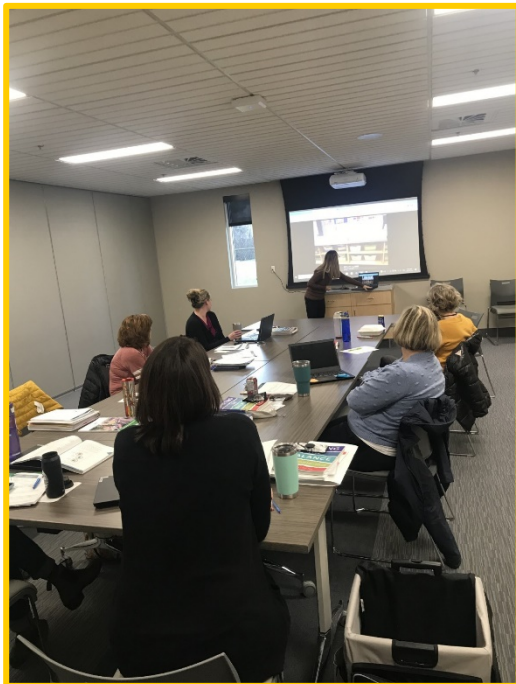
The district is currently posting and recruiting for both TTOC positions and numerous secondary school second semester position starting January 31, 2022. We are also doing ongoing recruiting for many Support Staff positions.

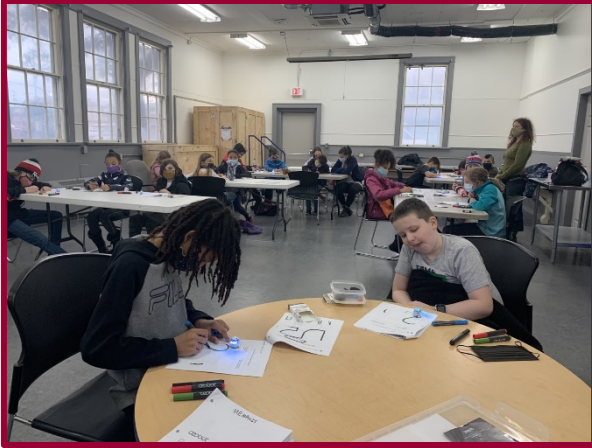
Interested applicants should review our website here [School District No. 22 | Employment - School District No. 22 \(sd22.bc.ca\)](https://sd22.bc.ca) for all job postings.

The district continues into December with our current local Collective Bargaining discussion with the local Vernon Teachers' Association.

Student Learning Curriculum

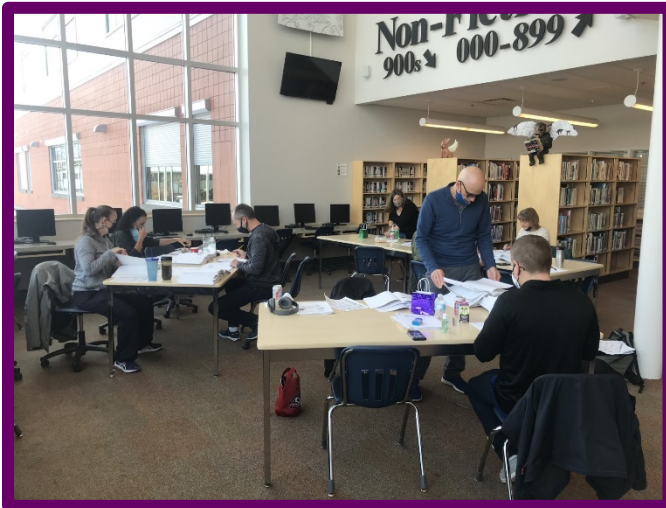
Members of our Learning Directions Team supporting and learning from one another. Collaboration and sharing experiences allow for new ideas and innovative practices to be explored. Our team is always looking for ways to connect, support and learn alongside other educators.



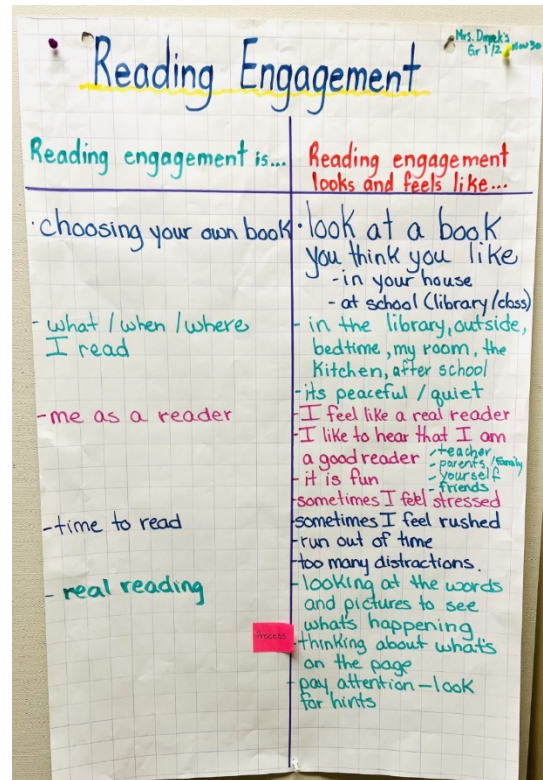


Chelsea Kiddine, (Technology Innovation Coordinator), worked with our VLearn Elementary students at Heritage Hall learning about Ozobots and basic coding techniques. The two groups of students (k-3 and 4-7) learned how to make their bots drive, go faster, go slower, and turn around. They also had time to experiment and try tasks at a multitude of levels. Chelsea will be returning to continue their exploration and play with a variety of codes.

Thank-you to all the teachers and administrators that participated in the professional learning opportunity to score the Foundations Skills Assessment. Our scoring trainers did a wonderful job working with each group engaging in conversations around assessment as well as literacy and numeracy competencies.



Literacy Intervention Teacher, Heather Jamieson, is working alongside teachers at Harwood Elementary to gather small data for Harwood's school-wide literacy goal and supporting all students to experience engagement in their reading. Grade 1 & 2 students participated in discussions about what "Reading Engagement" means to them. Notice how the students describe how important it is for them to hear that they are a 'good reader' from their teacher, their family, their friends, and most importantly, from themselves.



Career Programs

Our Trades Sampler students just finished their 12-week program at Okanagan College. One of the most important takeaways is they have come out of the program seeing themselves in a trade and a lot of them are already taking steps forward into their chosen career paths. It is hard to quantify the impact this has had on these young people but in their own words, when they were presenting, I heard statements like:

"There has not been a moment where I didn't enjoy this."

"One of the best courses I have ever taken."

"Really helped me focus on my career."

"I chose to take the sampler because I had no idea what I wanted to do after high school. I enjoyed this way more than regular school and now I want to be a Plumber."

"There was something so satisfying about putting up those walls to create a shed."

"Now I have a way better idea of what I am going to do."

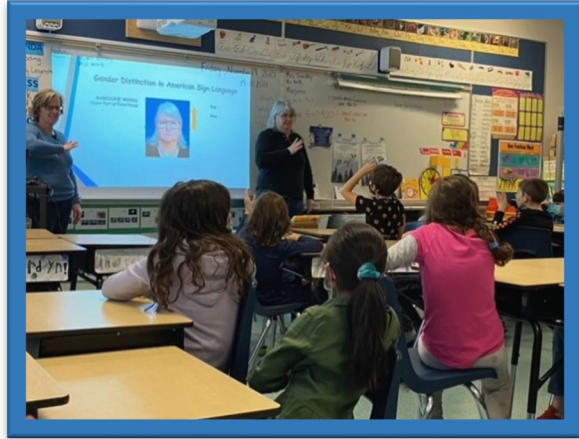
"I learned so many new skills about stuff I didn't know."

"I used the first aid I learned the very next day in real life."

This program does an excellent job of giving students some introductory trade skills and inspiring them to step into their future.



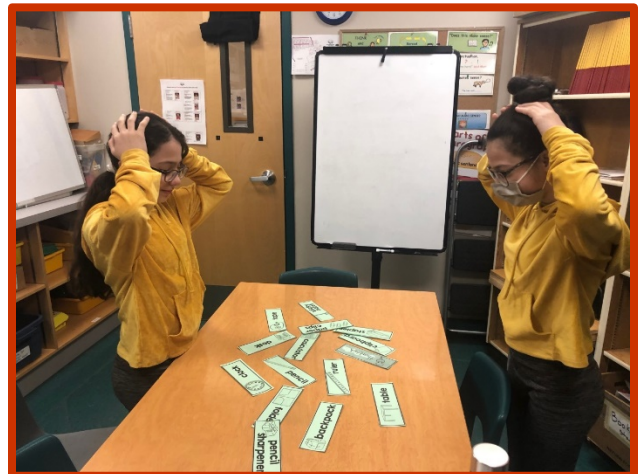
Student Support Service



Two of our Signing EAs Marjorie Cameron and Heather Schneider are teaching sign language within multiple Elementary schools.



Students in our ELL (English Language Learners) groupings are enjoying interactive games to enrich their language skills.



International

Ms. Cooper's ELL class performed an Act of Kindness and raked leaves at a senior's house.



International students participating in a gingerbread house fundraiser contest in the community.





Program activities continue to be a highlight for International and ELL students. Here, fun with friends at laser bowling caps an afternoon of shopping in Kelowna.

Bloom International student Reina from Japan is proud of her intricate Woodwork candle holder, and Charlotte puts finishing touches on her brass rose at Bloom before returning to Germany. Charlotte reports having made a close friendship for life and is thankful for the engaging and supportive school experience here.



Finance Department

Welcome, **Sandra LeClerc**, who has joined our accounting team as an accounts payable clerk while **Audrey Grieve** is helping the students at BX Elementary covering the library clerk role. Sandra brings a wealth of experience from her previous roles supporting staff and students in Northern BC.



IT Department

With the school start-up 'rush' settling down, we are back to a more normal routine of daily IT activities, technology maintenance, and new projects.

During the past month, we completed the power-washing / re-imaging of all 3300 Chromebooks in the district. We have finalized the refresh of teacher computers and most of the clerical and library computers in schools. Our next major target will be the refresh of computers in the Board Office complex.

The following are some of the key IT projects we are currently working on, or about to initiate:

Development of new and modern set of IT policies and standards, including a program for cybersecurity awareness.



We will continue our rationalization of school-based servers as we remove all the old Windows 7 devices, and related technologies.

ComputerHope.com

In the coming months we will be commencing a multi-year project to update our network infrastructure. This refresh is expected to take 2-3 years and will increase our wireless coverage and capacity in schools.

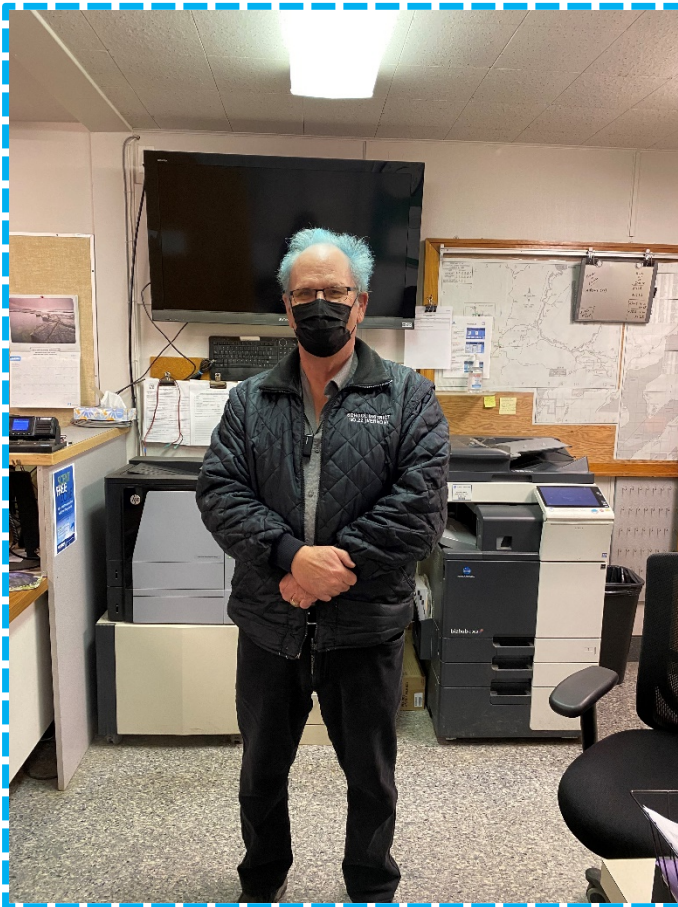


We have begun the process of replacing our oldest Chromebooks that will reach their end of support life in June 2022.

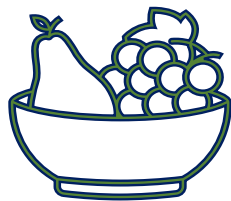
And of course, we had a little fun too !!!



Transportation



Brett Jones, school bus driver
participating in Kidston Elementary **Crazy**
Hair Day Nov 26th



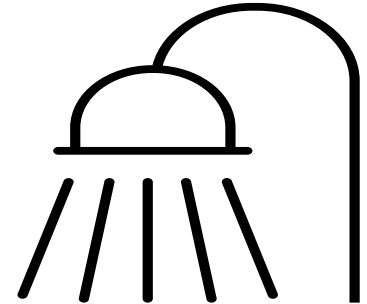
Transportation Department staff
are bringing in non-perishable food
items and or money to support the
Lumby Food Bank this year.

Maintenance

We have many projects planned over the break:



Charles Bloom gym shower upgrade and science room renovation...



BX DDC upgrade and support office renovation!!

- Classroom projector installations are ongoing
- Seaton and Harwood Learning commons upgrade

We plan to start a recycling program in the near future and will ask for input from schools in the new year.

Crews will continue to tackle work orders during the break.

Custodians will get the mid-year cleanup under way with a focus on removing floor tape.

Please remember that Custodians will not be in every school during the break, staff may be required to disarm and re-arm buildings.

The Operations department will be switching alarm monitoring providers over the next few weeks. The biggest change to staff will be the new number they will have to call. Gord and Archie will visit each school prior to the change to ensure a seamless transfer.

Engagement – all are invited to get involved

BCCPAC (Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils): <https://bccpac.bc.ca/>

- To understand parents as stakeholders in public education, please see the following (There is an excellent graphic at the end to help you visualize the system):
<https://bccpac.bc.ca/index.php/resources/16-dpac-pac/920-parent-stakeholders>

BCPVPA (Principals' and Vice-Principals' Association) - <https://www.bcpvpa.org/>

BCSSA (School Superintendents' Association) - <https://bcssa.org/>

BCSTA (School Trustees Association) - <https://bcsta.org/>

Communicate with School District 22:

- Board Meetings: <https://sd22.bc.ca/board-of-education/board-meetings/>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SD22Vernon/>
- Trustees: sd22_trustees@sd22.bc.ca
- Twitter: Follow us @SD22Vernon
- Superintendent: cperkins@sd22.bc.ca
- Website: <https://sd22.bc.ca/>

Strategic Planning Process:



We need your voice and ideas!

School District No. 22 (Vernon) is embarking on an update and revision to its strategic plan. We want to personally invite **each member of the community to offer their feedback and thoughts**. This feedback can be provided virtually, and during in-person focus groups, subject to COVID-19 restrictions.

The focus is to determine a pathway that best meets the needs of our students and the provincial academic requirements. Our schools should reflect our values, which is why it is essential to hear from members of the community.

To that end, we have hired Public Consulting Group (PCG) as a consultant to help us initiate a collaborative effort which will involve School District No.22 (Vernon) staff and the entire community in a meaningful manner.

We hope you will consider providing feedback via the website and participate in the initial focus groups. More information about this process is forthcoming. We were pleased to be able to kick-off the process with partner group leads, the Board and district staff on December 10th. Larger representation of partner, and community groups, will be interviewed in January (week of the 17th), and all staff and community members will be able to participate via an online survey from mid-January onward.

An iterative process will continue all spring until a DRAFT is presented to the Board of Education in June of 2022.

Dream big! We look forward to hearing from you and your great ideas for the future of learning for our students. Thank you all in advance of this work.

Happy holidays.



Dates to note:

December

1	World Aids Day
3	International Day of Persons with Disabilities
4	National Cookie Day
5	International Volunteer Day
5	World Soil Day
12	International Day of Neutrality
17	Last day before Winter Break
17	National Maple Syrup Day
18	International Migrant's Day
20	First day of winter break
20	International Human Solidarity Day
21	Winter Solstice
25	Christmas Day

January

3	Last Day winter break
3	International Mind-Body Wellness Day
4	Schools open
4	World Braille Day
11	National Road safety Week
12	National Youth Day
18	National Winnie the Pooh Day
19	National Popcorn Day
19	National Immunization Day
24	National Girl Child Day
24	International Day of Education
28	National Fun at Work Day
31	Hot Chocolate Day
31	National Backward Day