

OAKLANDS SCHOOL

2827 Belmont Avenue, Victoria BC V8R 4B2

Phone: (250) 595-2444 • Fax: (250) 595-4789 NEW Attendance email: oaklandsattendance@sd61.bc.ca

OCTOBER 9, 2020

Happy Thanksgiving!



I wish you all a wonderful Thanksgiving weekend.

During this time, expressing gratitude seems more important than ever. Daily, I appreciate the kindness of our staff and wider community at Oaklands. I am also grateful for my family and good health!

I look forward to taking time over the long weekend to notice and reflect upon the things that bring me joy. Certainly, I will find time in nature and enjoy some yummy turkey and fixins' with my family!

Warmly,

Amei Mai, Vice-Principal , Outdoor Education Teacher

IMPORTANT DATES

Monday, October 12

Thanksgiving

No school



Friday, October 23

Professional Development Day

No school for students

Wednesday, October 28 &

Thursday, October 29

Early Dismissal at Noon each day.

Parent-Teacher Interviews

Via ZOOM meetings

Teachers will contact families with more information soon.

Thursday, October 29

Photo Re-Take Day



I would like to take this opportunity to welcome UVic practicum student, **Anna Weston**. She will be co-teaching *Outdoor Education* with me for 21 out of 24 divisions. She will also be teaching grade 3 in Ms. Durrance's class three days a week.

Ms. Weston did her undergraduate degree in Recreation and Health Education, and is doing her final practicum in the 16-month Elementary Post Degree Professional Program Bachelor of Education at the University of Victoria. Ms. Weston is passionate about health and wellness, and brings her experience of working as a fitness instructor, personal trainer and weight room attendant, to teaching.

Amei Mai, Outdoor Education Teacher

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SHIELDS FOR SALE \$3.00 EACH

Although the Ministry of Education website (under the updated Health and Safety Guidelines) states that **Elementary** school students **are not** required to wear masks, we would like to support our families and their personal choices regarding personal protective equipment while students are inside Oaklands school.

Through our Oaklands Website, **School Cash Online Payments** <https://oaklands.sd61.bc.ca/> you will be able to purchase a child size shield with the Oaklands logo for **\$3.00 each**. The shields are comfortable and allows us to see our student's faces. **SHIELDS ARE IN THE OFFICE FOR PICK UP.**

A reminder to families: wearing a helmet is the law in B.C.

Please ensure students come to school with helmets if they are riding bikes, scooters or skateboards. If students are not wearing a helmet, we will ask them to stay off of their bike/scooter/skateboard while they are on school property. Thank you for helping to keep our kids safe.



Backpacks & School Supplies

If your child(ren) are in need of school supplies and a backpack, Telus has generously donated these items. Please let our office staff know, and we will distribute them on a first come, first served basis. (We have 14 backpacks left.)

Each backpack contains:

- 2 pencil cases
- 4 erasers
- A package of lined paper
- 12 lined exercise books
- A ruler



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Message from the PAC

To all parents,

We had our first PAC meeting of the school year on September 29th, where we held the AGM and now have our PAC Executive for the school year. Thank you to the parents who attended the meeting via Zoom.

Presidents: Sarah Milbrath and Patti Christianson

Vice President: Eugene Johnson

Treasurer: Melissa Donaldson

Secretary: Melissa Root

Members at Large: Dave Evanoff, Jen Hoffman, Jillian Detellis

Petra Eggert and Amei Mai were both present at the meeting where they gave updates on what is happening in the school. The current focus is purchasing outdoor sports equipment for each class. Everyone in attendance approved this school request for the \$3500 of equipment.

Please remember the **PAC Contribution Request Form**. Donations accepted until **Friday, October 16, 2020**. This year Covid-19 has changed some of the ways we use the Contribution Funds. In previous years the funds helped the school for musicals, chess club, etc. This year our focus will be mainly on more sports equipment for less sharing and easier to rotate for cleaning, classroom materials that teachers may need, and the school community garden project that keeps growing.

Speaker Series Part 1 – Math and your Child

Hello Parents,

The PAC Executive is pleased to announce that we are bringing Nikki Lineham, math expert and educator extraordinaire, back to Oaklands for 2020. Nikki will be coming to you via Zoom on **Tuesday, October 20th starting at 6PM**. This year, Nikki will be delivering two separate sessions designed to help guide parents in helping their children at different ages.



Session One (from 6PM to 6:50PM):

Number Sense Support for K-3: In this zoom session we will share games, activities and routines that you can do at home to support mathematics and building number sense. We will also briefly discuss the current math curriculum and how it differs from the math classes you may have experienced when you were in school. Resources will be shared with all attendees that will support you in making math visual, accessible and fun at home!

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Session Two (from 7PM to 7:50PM):

Digging Deeper into Math Concepts for Grades 4/5: In this zoom session we will explore a few math 4/5 concepts conceptually, which means exploring why the procedures work and how they work as well as when we might use them to solve problems. Some parents find the "new math" baffling because they never experienced it themselves and so this session will be geared for parents who are open to understanding different ways of thinking about and doing mathematics so that they can better support their children at home.



If you are interested in learning some tips for helping your children with math skills, mark the time in your calendar. The Zoom link will follow next week.

Community Fundraising

The following local businesses generously contribute funds to the Oaklands PAC whenever you shop with them.



Soap Exchange – As a member of the Soap Exchange's 'Clean-Up Program' we receive 10% (in dollar value) of all purchases made by our members. Simply let the staff know at the time of purchase that you are an Oaklands PAC member (all parents and guardians of students at Oaklands are automatically PAC members). The Soap Exchange is located at 1393A Hillside Ave.

Website: www.victoriasoapexchange.com

Finn and Izzy – Over the past three years Finn and Izzy's 'Give 'Back to School' A New Meaning Program' has raised over \$1200 for the Oaklands PAC. With every pair of regular priced shoes sold at a value of \$40 and up, Finn and Izzy give \$5 back to the Oaklands PAC. At purchase, choose 'Oaklands' from the list of Greater Victoria schools.

Finn and Izzy is located at 2259 Oak Bay Ave.

Website: finnandizzy.com



THRIFTY FOODS



The Smile Card Program is a significant part of the PAC's annual budget;

every year they donate up to \$3000. In the past we have used these

funds for field trips, classroom support, and new technology purchases. Smile Cards are available in the school office. Take the Smile Card with you to any Thrifty Foods location when you go grocery shopping.

Ask the cashier to load any amount you wish onto the card before having your grocery order rung through. Pay for the card load with cash, debit card or credit card. Ring the grocery order through and pay for the order with your Smile Card. When the card balance is running low, load it again to continue to support the Oaklands PAC every time you shop. Loaded Smile Cards can also be used to pay for groceries delivered to your door.

FAQs: <https://www.thriftyfoods.com/community/smile-card-fundraising-program/faq>