

September 2023

## WICKANINNIH COMMUNITY SCHOOL

431 GIBSON STREET, TOFINO, BC V0R 2Z0

WWW.SD70.BC.CA/WCS (250)725-3254



### Principal's Message from Mrs. Stone

Hi everyone,

Welcome Back Everyone! We hope you have all had a restful and relaxing summer filled with many adventures and learning with your families. Our staff is so excited to welcome students and families back into our building starting Sept 5<sup>th</sup> for the 2023-2024 school year!

I feel so privileged and grateful to have the opportunity to be the principal of such an amazing school community! I look forward to students joining us from 10-12pm on September 5<sup>th</sup> and getting to reconnect with them after their summer break. I am also looking forward to seeing our incoming Kindergarten students and families at their welcoming conversations over the first week of school. I am looking forward to working alongside Wickaninnish Community School Parent Advisory Council (WEPAC) this year on their many projects. The first WEPAC meeting will be held at the school on September 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 in Room 102. All guardians and caregivers of students in our school community are automatically members of the PAC so come on out to hear all about the exciting initiatives that PAC is doing this year as well as hear updates from administration.

A reminder to students and families that our school calendar [CALENDAR \(sd70.bc.ca\)](#) can be found on our school website and to please make sure they attend school everyday as we have many important and exciting learning activities planned for you in mind. If your child is going to be away, please make sure to connect with the classroom teacher and our secretary Ashley Botting [abotting@sd70.bc.ca](mailto:abotting@sd70.bc.ca) by phone or email as we do safe arrivals each morning.

I really appreciate our parents / families calling the school, emailing their classroom teachers, or me directly [dstone@sd70.bc.ca](mailto:dstone@sd70.bc.ca) when encountering a problem or needing some support in solving problems or questions answered by the school. We so appreciate being informed so that we are better able to solve problems more quickly when they arise. Learning to navigate in our school community is so important for our students, staff and families and having the opportunity to be coached and supported through this process can turn hard situations into valuable learning opportunities for staff, students, and families.

We have been really appreciating this beautiful weather here in Tofino. A reminder to please wear weather appropriate clothes, send water bottles, have a spare change of clothes in your backpack or at school, bring your raingear in case of a quick change in weather, and apply sunscreen at home in the morning as the weather has been changing throughout each day.

The office will be sending home a verification package with each family that will need to be completed and returned as quickly as possible. Parents this is your homework please:)

In this package families will find walking fieldtrip permission forms, technology use forms, self-declaration forms, student release forms, Raincoast Education field trip forms, Bus and Boat permission forms and our protection privacy and consent form. If you have any questions about these forms, please be sure to contact Ashley Botting our Administrative assistant at the school. [u](#)Looking forward to a wonderful school start up!

A reminder that class lists will be posted after 2:30 pm at the front of the school, Tyhistanis Health Center ,and MICC in Opitsaht Sept 5<sup>th</sup>.

School supply lists can be found on our school website.

So start gathering supplies and some snacks for your first day (lunch program will start Wednesday September 6<sup>th</sup> our first full day of school) and we will see you all September 5<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM!

[sd70.bc.ca](#) Looking forward to a wonderful school start up.

Dani Stone, Principal

*I respectfully acknowledge that I live, work & play in the traditional, ancestral & unceded territory of the Tla-o-qui-aht & Nuu-chah-nulth First Nations. We strive for cultural inclusion & reconciliation through our work and are continuously learning to do this better.*

Upcoming Dates:

Sept 5th 10-12pm first day of school

Sept 5th class list posted 2:30pm at the school, health center in Tyhistanis and at the MICC in Opitsaht

Sept 6th Boat safety lesson for all boat students

Sept 8th Just Move it on the field 9:00-9:30

Sept 13th Kindergarten students first full day

Sept 18th Strong Start reopens and starts for the year

Sept 21st back to school BBQ on the back field 4:30-6:00

Sept 22nd Terry Fox Run 11:30AM bring your running gear and a water bottle

Sept 25th Curriculum implementation professional development day **NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS**

Sept 26th PAC Meeting 6-7pm room 102 all parents and guardians of Wickaninnish Students invited come check it out!

Sept 28th School photo day individual and class photos taken on this day!

Sept 29th Truth and Reconciliation school assembly 11:30AM Everyone Welcome!

Sept 30th National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

Oct 2nd Truth and Reconciliation Day— **NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS OR STAFF**

Oct 9th Thanksgiving **NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS OR STAFF**

Oct 20th Provincial Specialist Professional; Development Day **NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS**

**Attendance at School:**

Missing 3 days a month can add up fast! 3 days a month missed adds up to 30 days a year! A whole month missed of school!

Over your time in elementary school those 30 days a year can mean that you miss 210 days of school !!!!!

Which is over a full school year of learning! Our school years are approximately 182 days long!

Missing school and chunks of learning can mean more stress and anxiety and can also impact the social relationships that students are working on forming!

If you need to be away please let us know email Ashley at

***Don't forget to wear your orange shirt lots in September we will be continuing our learning as a school community around Truth and Reconciliation in our lead up to Sept 30th!***



**Don't forget to bring a labelled water bottle to school everyday!!!**

