



Howitt News

Issue #10

APRIL 2ND, 2026



DRESSING FOR WARMER WEATHER ☀️

As we head into the warmer months, we are excited to see students enjoying outdoor learning, recess, and physical education activities. With the change in season, we kindly ask families to help ensure students are dressed appropriately for school each day.

Please keep the following in mind:

- Comfort and sun safety: Light, breathable clothing, and hats are encouraged to help protect students from the sun. Students can pack sunscreen! Also, bring your sunglasses!
- Active and safe participation: Students should wear clothing that allows them to move comfortably and safely during play and learning.
- Appropriate for school: Clothing should be suitable for an elementary school setting and for active learning throughout the day.
- Footwear matters: Running shoes are essential for Physical Education and active play. Flip flops and sandals are not safe for PE activities and cannot be worn during these times.
- Be prepared: We recommend that students keep a pair of gym shoes at school, so they are always ready to participate.

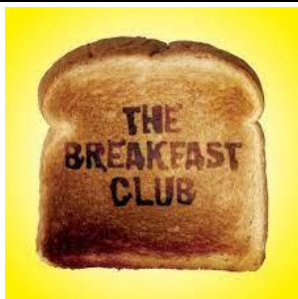
Our goal is to ensure that all students can fully and safely take part in all school activities. Thank you for your continued support in helping your child come to school prepared for a fun and active day!

CLASS PHOTOS AND SPRING INDIVIDUAL PHOTOS WITH LIFETOUGH:

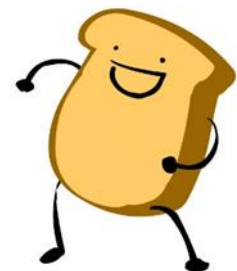
Lifetouch photographers will be at Howitt on *Monday April 27th*. They will be taking class photos for all of our divisions, and individual student photos as well. Each student will receive a class photo, and families will have a chance to order individual spring photos through Lifetouch. If you have any questions, please contact the school!



READ-AND-FEED BREAKFAST:



Thanks to volunteers from the Alberni Valley Read and Feed program for volunteering their time to prepare toast, vegetables, and fruit for students. Thanks to Mrs. Sally Anderson and the Read-and-Feed program for supporting our school with breakfast program food items.



CLASS BUILDING FOR THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR:

Over the coming months, our staff will begin the thoughtful and complex process of building classes for the 2026–2027 school year. This includes considering a variety of factors such as academic needs, social dynamics, and overall class balance to create positive and effective learning environments for all students.

If you would like to share input regarding your child’s placement, we encourage you to:

- Connect with your child’s current teacher to discuss your thoughts, and
- Submit a written note to the principal outlining your child’s learning needs, strengths, and any important considerations.



Please note that requests for specific teachers cannot be accommodated.

While all input is carefully considered, final decisions must reflect the needs of the entire school.

Due to changing enrollment and staffing, class placements are tentative and will be finalized in September.

Deadline for submissions: *May 28, 2026*

HOWITT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PARENTS ADVISORY COUNCIL (P.A.C.)

We have a long tradition of parent involvement at John Howitt Elementary with a wide variety of opportunities available for parent volunteers. For its size, our school community is very rich in resources and opportunities for our students thanks to the committed efforts of our parents over the years. The P.A.C. has worked with staff to make John Howitt a cohesive learning community dedicated to student success.

PAC is treating us to a scrumptious April!

- Popcorn Day on *Monday April 13th*
- Cookie Day on *Monday April 20th*
- Pretzel Day on *Wednesday April 29th*

Our next meeting is **Tuesday April 21st, 2026**, at 5:30 pm in the library.

All PAC fundraising will go towards building a new primary playground.



KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR NEXT YEAR (2026-2027)

John Howitt Elementary is taking registrations for incoming catchment area Kindergarten students for September 2026. Those children born in 2021 are starting Kindergarten in September.

Registration packages are available at the school or can be completed online. Copy of a birth certificate and proof of residence in our catchment area are also needed to complete the registration package. We will also have an "All About Me" form for families to complete to help us get to know your child. For more information, please contact the school at (250) 723-7521.



In May/June 2026 we will host our Kindergarten “Here We Come” event for children and families to get a tour of the school, meet staff, and take part in learning centers to help welcome you to our school.

ARE YOU MOVING? CHANGING SCHOOLS FOR SEPTEMBER 2026?



As we are preparing for the 2026-2027 school year, please inform us if your family is moving or changing schools. This helps us keep our records up to date and ensures a smooth transition for your child. If you are planning a move, please let us know. We can help to make the transition as seamless as possible for your family. It also helps us to plan our staffing and classes with a clear picture of our student numbers. Please contact the school office at your earliest convenience if you have any updates regarding your address or school plans for next year.

If you are moving schools, we strongly suggest that you register with the new school as soon as possible. This ensures that they can plan for any new students for next year. It also helps to make sure that the new school has a spot for your family. Thank you!

SCHOOL CALENDAR

April 3 rd	Statutory Holiday: Good Friday (no school for students)
April 6 th	Easter Monday (no school for students)
April 13 th	PAC Popcorn Day
April 20 th	PAC Cookie Day: (NEW day)
April 21 st	PAC Meeting 5:30 pm in the library
April 22 nd	Earth Day
<u>April 22nd & 23rd</u>	<u>Early dismissal for Student Learning Conferences (dismissal at Noon)</u>
April 24 th	School Based Pro-D Day (no school for students)
April 17 th	Spring Individual Student Photos and Class Photos (Monday)
April 29 th	PAC Hot Lunch Day
May 4 th	May the “Fourth” be with you
May 11 th	Pro-D Day (no school for students)
May 19 th	Statutory Holiday: Victoria Day
May 21 st	PAC Burger and Hot Dog Hot Lunch Day
May 26 th	PAC meeting in the library at 5:30 pm
May 27 th	Howitt Grade 4 to 7 Track and Field Meet
June 21 st	National Indigenous Day
June 25 th	Last Day of School for students
June 27 th	Admin Day (school closed)

Sincerely,
Mr. S. Brown,
Principal

