



# Howitt News

Issue #7

JANUARY 9<sup>TH</sup>, 2026



## New Year Update:

Happy New Year and welcome back to school! We hope everyone enjoyed a restful winter break and that you are feeling refreshed for the year ahead. As we begin this new term, students are continuing to build their skills in reading, writing, and mathematics, and we are proud of the effort and perseverance they are showing each day.

We are pleased to welcome Ms. Nalini Arjun to the Howitt Staff. Ms. Arjun will be working in our Grade 1&2 class (Division 3) on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays.

With winter weather well underway, please remember to send students dressed for the wet and cold conditions. Warm jackets, boots, and rain gear help ensure students are comfortable and ready to enjoy outdoor learning and play. Please make sure there is a set of clean clothes in backpacks if possible. Thank you for your continued support as we work together to make 2026 a successful and positive year for all learners!



**Progress Reports went home in December.** If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your child's teacher or call the office. ***If you haven't yet returned the report card envelope, please send it back to school with your child.***

## IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES:

- **PAC Popcorn Day:** Monday January 12<sup>th</sup>
- **Pro-D Day:** Monday January 19<sup>th</sup> (no school for students)
- **Deadline to order PAC Pizza Day:** Tuesday January 20<sup>th</sup> (11:59 pm)
- **PAC MOVIE NIGHT:** Friday January 23<sup>rd</sup> (doors open at 6 pm)
- **PAC Hot Lunch Day:** Wednesday January 28<sup>th</sup>



## 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.

- Our next meeting is **Tuesday January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025**, at 5:30 pm in the library.



# MOVIE NIGHT

## at the school gym!

**Friday, January 23, 2026 | Doors open 6:00 pm, movie starts 6:30 pm**

Get comfy and enjoy a family fun movie night at the school gym!

Bring your own chairs, blankets and pillows.

K–Grade 5 must be accompanied by an adult.  
No in & outs.

We will have concessions and pizza! No outside food please.



### Support the school with a tasty treat!

The PAC is fundraising with concessions for a new school playground!  
Lots of food and two line-ups! (Cash or Square accepted)

Pizza slice \$3.25 • Popcorn \$2 • Chips \$1.50 • Chocolate bars \$2  
Bottled water \$1 • Bubly water \$1.50





# Get ready to grow!



Planning to grow a garden this spring?

**Support John Howitt School with  
our West Coast Seeds fundraiser**

**Order by January 24!**

The PAC at John Howitt School is raising money for a new accessible playground to support all children in fun outdoor playtime! All funds raised will go directly toward this goal.



Scan the QR code or visit  
**[fundraising.westcoastseeds.com](https://fundraising.westcoastseeds.com)**  
and select **John Howitt Elementary PAC**  
to shop. Thanks for your support!

Orders will ship to the school. If you know a student, enter their name at checkout and your order can be sent home with them. If you do not know a student, you will be contacted by the PAC to arrange pick up.



**West Coast Seeds**



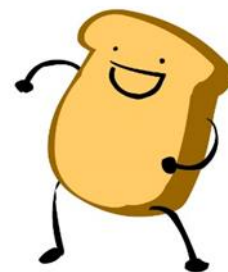
**John Howitt  
Elementary  
PAC**



## READ-AND-FEED BREAKFAST: STARTS BACK ON *TUESDAY JANUARY 6<sup>TH</sup>, 2026*



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.



## PINK SHIRT DAY FEBRUARY 2026: LOVE IS LOUDER

John Howitt Elementary will be selling Pink Shirts and Hoodies through our online store between now and *February 10<sup>th</sup>* from the same company that did our school clothing in the fall.

**This is a school fundraiser** and all funds raised will go to support students in need (e.g. school supplies).

Pink Shirt Day in BC is *Wednesday February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026*. Shirts will arrive in time for Pink Shirt Day.

<https://johnhowittpinkshirtday2026.itemorder.com/shop/home/>

Each shirt or hoodie comes in Youth or Adult Sizes.



## SCHOOL CALENDAR

January 12 <sup>th</sup>	PAC Popcorn Day
January 19 <sup>th</sup>	School Based Pro-Day (no school for students)
January 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Howitt Leadership Spirit Day: Teacher & Student Swap Day
January 23 <sup>rd</sup>	PAC Movie Night: The Lego Movie
January 27 <sup>th</sup>	PAC Meeting at 5:30 pm in the library
January 27 <sup>th</sup>	Family Literacy Day (Jan 26 to Feb 1 <sup>st</sup> - Family Literacy Week)
January 28 <sup>th</sup>	PAC Hot Lunch Day: Pretzels
February 9 <sup>th</sup>	PAC Popcorn Day
February 13 <sup>th</sup>	School Based Pro-D Day (no school for students)
February 16 <sup>th</sup>	Statutory Holiday: Family Day (no school for students)
February 25 <sup>th</sup>	Pink Shirt Day
February 25 <sup>th</sup>	PAC Hot Lunch Day
February 26 <sup>th</sup>	PAC Meeting 5:30 pm in the library
March 4 <sup>th</sup>	Student Learning Update #2 reports sent home
March 5 <sup>th</sup>	Last Day before Spring Break
March 9 <sup>th</sup> to 20 <sup>th</sup>	Spring Break (two weeks)
March 23 <sup>rd</sup>	First day back from spring break
March 24 <sup>th</sup>	PAC Meeting 5:30 pm in the library
April 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Statutory Holiday: Good Friday (no school for students)
April 6 <sup>th</sup>	Easter Monday (no school for students)
April 17 <sup>th</sup>	Spring Individual Student Photos and Class Photos (Friday)
April 21 <sup>st</sup>	PAC Meeting 5:30 pm in the library
<u>April 22<sup>nd</sup> &amp; 23<sup>rd</sup></u>	<u>Early dismissal for Student Learning Conferences (dismissal at Noon)</u>
April 24 <sup>th</sup>	School Based Pro-D Day (no school for students)
May 11 <sup>th</sup>	Pro-D Day (no school for students)
May 19 <sup>th</sup>	Statutory Holiday: Victoria Day
May 26 <sup>th</sup>	PAC meeting in the library at 5:30 pm
June 21 <sup>st</sup>	National Indigenous Day
June 25 <sup>th</sup>	Last Day of School for students
June 27 <sup>th</sup>	Admin Day (school closed)

Sincerely,  
Mr. S. Brown  
Principal

