



Words from the Wolfpack

Tsuma-as Elementary Newsletter
Ms. Girard, Principal

September 23, 2026
Mrs. Kynoch, Vice-Principal

September Start Up

September has been a wonderful month so far! Students, families and staff have transitioned back to school and into our usual routines. It has been great reconnecting with families and welcoming many new faces into our school. The energy and excitement will surely carry us through the fall!

This is the first “Words from the Wolfpack” newsletter. We aim to send out a school newsletter once a month by email. Each newsletter will include important school information and a list of upcoming dates. Paper copies are available by request through the office. If you have questions regarding the newsletter content, please contact Ms. Girard directly at mgirard@sd70.bc.ca

Open House

We would like to welcome all families to our open house on Thursday September 24th from 4:30 – 5:00 pm. We will have our classrooms open for students to show their families their learning spaces and have an opportunity to meet our staff. The library will also be open to visitors until 5:15pm. Our PAC will be set up at the front and the back of the school with some take home information for parents & a little snack take away! Hope to see you there!



Tsuma-as Elementary

TRUTH & RECONCILIATION WALK

Sept. 29 @ 11am

Join our school community on Tuesday September 29th as we gather to honour and remember those who attended residential school, and we walk together to continue our path of Truth and Reconciliation.

10:55 am Circle gathering in our gymnasium
11:00 am Welcome & Speeches
11:10 am Sing **našukʔaʔin We Are Strong**
11:15 am “Every Child Matters” Walk

Please wear your orange shirt

Walk Route: from school - along Compton to Gertrude - across foot bridge, left along Dyke path/forest - back to Gertrude/Compton - back to school

We hope you can join us!
Tsuma-as school community members are all invited (Parents, Guardians, Grandparents & Friends)



Photo Day

Individual student photos will be taken on **Wednesday October 14th**. Throughout the day, classes rotate through photo sittings. **ALL students will have their photos taken.** Afterwards, the LifeTouch photo company will send home a photo “proof” with instructions of how to order. **Orders do not occur until after proofs are sent home.**



School Website

Staff are working hard to keep our school website up to date and user friendly. Our school website should provide quick access for you to locate important information about our school. It will also be a place to view exciting news stories and student learning updates. Please take some time to familiarize yourself with our school website. <https://www.sd70.bc.ca/tes> (Or just Google Tsuma-as Elementary)

Comfort Kits

Reminder to all families: Friday is the last day to send in your child's comfort kits. These are stored at our emergency site. Please send any last-minute kits in to your child's classroom **before** Friday afternoon.



Parent Handbook

The Parent Handbook will be emailed out to all families today. This includes important information about our school, expectations, policies and procedures. You can also use our school website under the "Parent Handbook" tab to locate and review.

Morning Drop Off Routines

A reminder to all families that students should NOT be arriving to school early, as regular supervision does not begin before 8:20. Students should not be arriving before then. With safety in mind, we ask that students arrive at school as close to 8:30 as possible. The rear parking lot is the safest place to park and drop off or pick up students. Please do not use the small side lot in the front, as that is priority for our childcare center.



School Building Access

The main areas of our school building are closed before and after school. This includes access for Mighty Learners Out of School Care families. If your child attends Mighty Learner's OSC – the children must always stay with their care providers and in their designated spaces. This means that the main school building is NOT open for families to access before or after school hours, even if your child has forgotten something. For the safety and security of all staff, students and families must remain in the assigned Mighty Learners rooms.

Breakfast Club

We are thrilled to have our community Read & Feed program offering a breakfast club again this year. Each morning, our Foods Room (room 104) will be open from 8:20 – 8:35 am offering students a light breakfast snack. This program is open to all students.



School Meal Program

Just a reminder that our school meal program has started. If you would like to sign your child up for our school lunch program, please contact the office for sign up information.

Parent Advisory Committee (PAC)



Last week, we had our first PAC meeting. It was wonderful to see some new faces. Please remember, PAC meetings are open to all parents/guardians of students at our school. All parents are invited to join our PAC meetings to hear school and committee updates. Important PAC information will be shared through the Tsuma-as PAC Facebook page & our "PAC" tab on our school website. The next PAC Meeting will be held on Monday October 19th at 6pm.

Student/Parent/Teacher Conferences

Learning conferences will take place **Wednesday, October 28th and Thursday, October 29th**. This means students will be **dismissed early at 11:50 am**. Regular bussing will occur on those two days. More information will be sent out by email in the coming weeks.

Students Messages & Pick-up Changes

Day to day communication about school is best done directly between families and their child's teacher. If you need to send messages or reminders to your child or arrange alternate pick-up plans, we ask that you send your child's teacher a note, email or message in their agenda ahead of time. We understand that some situations are urgent or unplanned and will need to be called in. In these situations, we ask that urgent pick-up changes are called into Mrs. Brooks in the office. She will help ensure the teacher and child are informed.

School Sports

Elementary school sports are gearing up for the fall. We currently have three extra-curricular sports happening:

Grade 6/7 Volleyball (Tuesday/Wednesdays) - Coach: Mrs. Coleman tcoleman@sd70.bc.ca

Grade 4-7 Wrestling (Tuesday/Thursdays) – Coach: Mrs. Anker anker@sd70.bc.ca

Grade 4-7 Cross Country Running (Tuesday/Thursdays) – Staff Contact: Mrs. Gallagher
tgallagher@sd70.bc.ca



Upcoming Dates:

Sept. 24th – Open House 4:430 – 5:00 pm

Sept. 29th - Wear Orange + 11 am Truth & Reconciliation Assembly & Walk (everyone welcome)

Sept. 30th – National Day of Truth & Reconciliation – No School

Oct. 12th – No School - Thanksgiving

Oct. 14th – Individual Student Photo Day

Oct. 15th – Shake Out Earthquake Drill & Evacuation Practice

Oct. 16th – Pizza Hot Lunch Day

Oct. 19th – PAC Meeting in the library @ 6 pm

Oct. 21st & 22nd – Student Vision Screening

Oct. 23rd – No School for Students – Professional Development Day

Oct. 28th & 29th – Learning Conferences – *Early Dismissal Time @ 11:50 am*

Nov. 4th – Cross Country Race Day

Nov. 10th – Remembrance Day Assembly

Nov. 11th – No School – Remembrance Day

Nov. 13th – Individual Photo Retake Day

Nov. 16th – No School for Students – Professional Development Day

Nov. 18th – Hot Dog Hot Lunch Day

Nov. 23rd – PAC Meeting in the library @ 6 pm



4th Annual Pediatric Stroke Awareness Walk

THE SMALLEST STEPS CAN CREATE THE BIGGEST CHANGE

Bring your family, invite your friends, and join us for a day of fun, laughter, and giving back! Together, we're raising awareness for pediatric stroke and helping build a community where every child—regardless of ability—has the opportunity to play, connect, and belong.



10:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Sunday, 27 Sept 2026



**Blair Park
Port Alberni**



Walk-Run-Bike



Fun Games



**Lanaes
Party** Face Painting

Raffles, refreshments, rock painting and so much more!!!

FREE ENTRY

OPEN FOR ALL AGES & ABILITIES

Any inquiries please contact Deserray



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