



NOVEMBER 2017

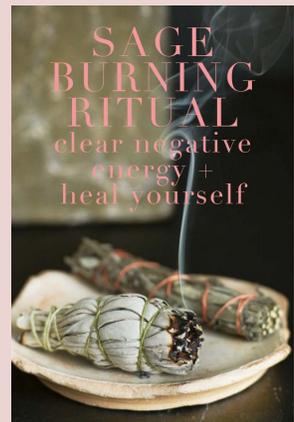


SCHOOL DISTRICT 58 FIRST NATION SUPPORT WORKERS NEWSLETTER



FNSW Nov.2017 Craft

Submissions
from the
following school
Bench
Colletville
Diamond Vale
Kengard
Learning Center
Merritt Central
Merritt
Secondary
Nicola Canford
John Allison
Vermillion Forks
PSS





KENGARD
LEARNING CENTRE



COMMUNITY
LEARNING CENTRE



KENGARD
Aboriginal Education

Fall 2017 FNSW Leona Dumont Submission

Well it's great being back at KLC for this school year.
We have seen a increase of registration at KLC.

In the Month of September, we made Dreamcatchers with Willard Wallace.

The students took part of Terry Fox Run.

The students started to request Weekly Smudging at KLC. So, we smudge every Monday morning.

Also, some of the students took part of Orange Shirt Day. It is awesome that they take interest in the meaning of Orange Shirt Day.

I have now taken of the duty of FNSW cooking weekly. So some of the students have taken Cafeteria and cook with some of the staff and myself to get credits to their course. We cook and demonstrate on how to cook First Nations Food. We are always looking for donations of Wild meat, Salmon, Berries or roots.



Melody and Sierra making Dreamcatchers with Willard Wallace.

Orange Shirt Day at KLC September 2017 with staff & students



In October we continued with our weekly smudges. We introduced some of our traditional Indian Ice cream.



Mckayla & Saphire making Indian Ice cream for the Lunch.

We also made Beaded Lanyards.

Mckayla to the right with her lanyard





Update from KLC



Karly, McKayla, Sarah, Alicia

Sarah & Alicia



STUDENTS AT KLC



Karly



Sarah



Mckayla



Alicia

VERMILION FORKS & JOHN ALLISON

ELEMENTARY

FALL 2017 NEWSLETTER



STUDENT ACTIVITIES AT JAE & VFE

The beginning of the year has been very busy at JAE!



Elders Presence: Willard showing Mrs. Ransom's class the rules of the Lahal game. Oly and Willard had 2 classes facing off and playing a game to end the day.



Weekly drumming and singing with 2 different classes. Students are singing on their own!

Orange Shirt Day and the Harvest Festival were celebrated on September 29th. Throughout the



last school year each class had the opportunity to take care of one raised bed in the garden which they watered and weeded. In September they harvested all the vegetables that were grown, and the whole school, including the grade 4's that moved up to VFE enjoyed an afternoon of



live music and food that was made from the vegetables picked.



Each year at Vermilion Forks, the students and staff participate in the Friendship Salad event. Each student brings a piece of fruit to school to cut up, mix it together to make an amazing fruit salad. This year, the music teacher had the idea for the students to learn the "Cups" song to perform. The beat of cups was in sync, it sounded great.



The Welcoming Dinner was held at PSS again this year and it was the biggest turn out



yet. To start off the evening, Mr. Lawrence introduced the students from Mr. Brum's grade 3 class



who sang the Welcome song, with the as-



sistance of Elders Oly Bent, Sonny Oppenheim and Willard Wallace who were drumming. Metis jiggers, McKenzie and Taylin from Merritt danced their feet off! The girls had the audience in awe with how fast and long they danced.



During dinner we all had the pleasure of listening to live music played by Randy Chillihtzia. Indian Taco's, soup, and different deserts were on the menu. There was a great turn out for this event including the USIB Chief and Council, Metis Representatives, Princeton Town Council, Trustees, School District 58 Superintendents and staff. Door prizes were won, and all had fun including the children. Thank you to all who made this event a success!

HAPPY HALLOWEEN, BE SAFE!





PRINCETON SECONDARY

FIRST NATION NEWSLETTER

Fall2017

Dates to Remember:

Oct. 26– Parent Gathering, MCE

Nov. 9– Lahal Tournament, DVE

Nov.13– Remembrance Day

Nov.15– International Rock Your Mocs Day!

Nov. 17-Similkameen Valley Career Fair

Report Cards go home

Nov.28&29– Parent/Teacher Interviews 2:00pm

Dec. 23-Jan7– Winter Break



The four goals of our Aboriginal Enhancement Agreement (left) and our district update were reviewed at our Welcome Dinner by our Superintendent of schools, Stephen McNiven. Our First Nation Support Worker team, along with our staff, strive to improve student success with these goals as our compass.



Homework Club

Available to everyone

Mon.-Thurs.

3:05-4:00pm

Welcome Room

Princeton Welcome Dinner 2017

This year the Welcome Dinner brought out many educators, students, and their families in celebration of a new school year. The PSS gym was alive with socializing, hand drumming, the sweet voices of the Grade three students, and the music of the fiddle as McKenzie and Talyn showed off their amazing Metis Jigging skills. Many of our district trustees and administrators were present and proud to support the local aboriginal education initiatives. We also acknowledge the support from the representatives of the Upper Similkameen Indian Band, the Aboriginal Advisory Council, the Metis, the Town Council, Nicola Valley Institute of Technology. Randy Chillihitzia shared his musical talents as we all enjoyed Indian Tacos made by the PSS cafeteria and other student volunteers and alumni. A special thank you to Miranda Crucil, a PSS student, who prepared bannock, helped with set up, hand drummed, served dinner, presented the ribbon shirt to our Vice Principal, Crystal Larsen, and helped with clean-up. Miranda will be missed next year as she furthers her education towards veterinarian.

Thank you to all those who came out, especially those who volunteered (far too many to name :) and provided door prizes.



Rock
Your
Mocs
11/1520

Celebrate NATIVE PRIDE by wearing your Moccasins to school on November 15 along with people all over the world. Moccasins historically were the footwear of many Native tribes. Though their basic construction was similar throughout the country, the decorative elements including beadwork, quillwork, painted designs, fur and fringes used on moccasins varied from one tribe to another. Indigenous people often could tell each other's tribal affiliation simply from the design of their shoes. Observers say the Rock Your Mocs

FNSW's Schedule

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 11:00-4:00

Tuesday 10:00-4:00

Alternate Wednesday afternoons at The Bridge

Friday 11:00-3:00

Homework club 3:10-4:00 Monday-Thursday

ONGOING SERVICES

Cultural events in the Nicola/Similkameen area

Homework Club (all welcome!) Mon-Thurs. 3:05-4:00pm

Lunch- FNSW Room open to eat, hang out and work on Arts and Crafts

Academic Support available in class and in FNSW room

Tutoring (requests encouraged, funding available for students with Aboriginal ancestry)

Social/Emotional Support

Connecting with students, parents/caregivers, teachers, counselors,

Local Band Members and District FNSWs

School District 58 Website

sd58.bc.ca

The school district website is a very handy tool to keep in-tune with what is happening in our school and within the district. The Aboriginal Education tab is filled with information regarding First Nation events and activities in addition to cultural information, education and resources.



Orange Shirt Day Sep. 29th, 2017.

Why orange shirts?

One elder, name Phyllis went to residential school in her new orange shirt. She was proud of it because it was new. However, once at school she had to give it up and wear something else, because she was not allowed it. This made her feel sad, maybe even bullied, so we wear orange to remember her story and stand strong beside her to make her and others feel better.

It is a symbol of unity, showing survivors that we are witnesses to the atrocities of residential schools. By showing support, we are helping in the healing process because we are listening to their stories.

What is residential school?

It was an early school system across Canada where Aboriginal children went to school. Often they were taken from their families and they only saw their families in the sum-

mer. It was not a happy experience

for many Aboriginal people. They were not allowed to speak their Aboriginal languages or practice their traditions. The last school closed in 1996, only 18 years ago.

What does it mean to be Aboriginal?

The term Aboriginal has come to mean belonging to three of Canada's original peoples, First Nations, Métis and Inuit.

How did it begin?

School District 27 Williams Lake is given credit for the spark and campaign. Phyllis Jack was from the Dog Creek Indian band, near Williams Lake BC. By sharing her story, she hopes to help other heal and feel safe in coming forward with their stories. It is one step in the long journey of healing Aboriginal people and non-Aboriginal people are making around residential schools.



2017 Similkameen Valley Career Fair

To all LSIB/USIB/Princeton Students – please join us at the Similkameen Career Fair to be held at the LSIB gymnasium in Cawston on Friday, November 17/17 from 10 am to 2:15 pm Listen and get inside scoop to all the speakers as they tell you their educational journey to where they are at today in a rewarding job.

Speakers will include a: Welder, Chef, Industrial Mechanic, Health Care Aide, Construction, Haul Truck Driver, Shift Manager, and Self-employment sector



To enter your name in for a prize, you must ask a question to one of the speakers and be present when the draws are made.



This event is funded by First Nations Education Steering Committee and co-hosted by Upper Similkameen and Lower Similkameen Indian Bands





ORANGE T-SHIRT DAY MAKING A MEMORY BAG

**NICOLA
CANFORD**

**FNSW
NEWSLETTER**

2017

FALL 2017

ORANGE T-SHIRT DAY

September 29 @ Nicola Canford

The students watched a video about Phyllis Webstadt, a First Nation woman who is from Williams Lake and It took Webstad 40 years to find a way to re-frame her experience to fight racism and bullying under the motto "every child matters" — and by using orange.

Orange T shirt day is in recognition of Phyllis who never saw her orange shirt that she wore to the residential school when she was just 6 years old.

At Nicola Canford we watched a You Tube about Phyllis Webstadt’s explanation of how the special day was chosen, because students generally start school in September and every year since September 30, 2013 people wear orange in support of the Residential School survivors.

We also watched a video of Nicola Campbell’s (a local author from Lower Nicola Indian Band) book Shi Shi etko.

All the students made a small memory bag which they filled with either sage or lavender.

Paul Joe honored us with a hand drum song.



Paul Joe

Paul sang a hand drum song to the assembly of students for Orange T shirt Day.



Memory Bags

Kylee Stump needing help tying on her memory bag.

Leland Ball Sept. 10
Isaiah Davis Sept. 13
Tonade Moses-Caprian Sept 15
Lacey Sheena-Patrick Sept 19
Phoenix Aspinall Sept 24
Satiara Schooner Sept 25
Montana Mountain-Chief Sept 26
Haidyn Clark Sept 27
Sean McKay Oct 1
Kailah Smith Oct 23
Devnn Shackelly Oct 25
Dorian Hurtubise Oct 25

Gwen Wray Oct 25



Happy Birthday to those students in September and October

Seven character teachings

Every month we focus on a different character, for September it was the Bear – which is for courage, strength, bravery and risk taking.

We need courage to conquer fears

Listen to your heart

Never give up and never give in

For the month of October we focused on Wolf – Humility

Humble, Sharing, Selfless

- * Everyone and everything is equal, no one is more important than another
- * Devotion to protect your family/community
- * Putting others before ourselves





Evan and Hayden

Learning how to stretch a deer hide on a frame and finding out it is a lot of work.

Division 4, Grade ¾ went on a field trip to Lower Nicola Indian Band Culture Centre. We met Carol Basil and Hank Yamelst there. The site was prepped for tanning and scraping hides.

They learned about making sure to use the proper side of the animal when making a product. The outside of the animal is on the outside of a made product from the to show respect to the animal.

always buckskin (which is a completed tanned hide)



Scraping a deer hide

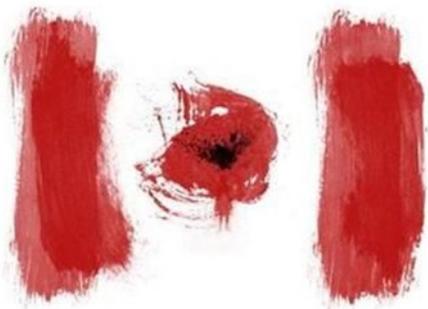
Grade 3 & 4 students waiting their turn to scrape a deer hide.

Products from Moose, Deer, Elk skin.

The students also learned many various products made the skins. They were shown a rattle, hand drums. There were also moccasins and gloves, medicines bags, so many more crafts.



Drums made from deer, Elk or Moose hide.



*IN FLANDERS FIELDS THE POPPIES BLOW
BETWEEN THE CROSSES, ROW ON ROW
NOVEMBER 11*



Septembre & Octobre

Bienvenue! Welcome Back!

We are thrilled to be back underway. We welcome several new staff members who join us this year. The diversity of their experiences, cultures, and perspectives will certainly add to the richness of our school.

Be sure to check here for monthly calendars, hot lunch form, PAC notes, etc.

We are always happy to take any questions. Call 250-486-7363 to speak with myself or Joan.

Allez les Chats sauvages!

M. Aubin

Connections

Principal: [M. René Aubin](#)

Secretary: [Mrs. Joan Robinson](#)

Phone: 250-378-2230

Fax: 250-378-4498



Bell Schedule

First Bell: 8:50 a.m.

Recess: 10:40-10:55 a.m.

Lunch: 11:55-12:55 p.m.

School ends: 2:55 p.m.

What's Happening at Colletville:

One to One Reading: **Volunteer and Help Build Skills and Confidence in Young Readers** Literacy Merritt and Nicola Valley Society is seeking French and English speaking volunteers for the One to One children's literacy program in local elementary schools. Volunteer 1.5 hrs/wk for 12 wks. 2017-18 sessions run Oct to Feb and Feb to May. Attend a 2-3 hr training session and school orientation early Oct. Contact Kelly Reid, Literacy Outreach Coordinator, literacymerritt@gmail.com or [250.378.7844](tel:250.378.7844)

Newsletters: We will be making newsletters available online on our website. Should you want a paper copy sent home please inform Mrs. Robinson.

Website: <http://cves.sd58.bc.ca/wordpress/>

Lunches: Please eliminate nuts and nut products from lunches. We have several students with allergies. Also, please consider the ease of assembly or preparation of lunches provided as there is limited support available.

PAC meeting: October 24th 6:00pm in the library



HOME OF THE WILD CATS-CHATS SAUVAGES



Bonjour,

My name is Crystal McMaster, I will be the First Nations Support worker for Collettsville Elementary for this year.

I will be splitting my time working with students and staff at Collettsville as well as perform the continued work on School District projects & initiatives.

Previous schools I've worked at have been Nicola Canford, Bench, KLC, CMS as well as the high school for several years, so I may seem familiar to some.

So far this year I've spent some time making classroom visits trying to get to know the staff and students.

To date, we've had Willard Wallace in to resume hand drumming once again, and the kids had a good time singing and dancing. This will continue throughout the year on Thursdays at the lunch hour. The other activity we will be starting is powwow dancing, as this is Collettsville's year to host the annual Student Powwow.

Other upcoming activities is the Lahal tournament happening November 9th at Diamondvale School, so the grade 6 class will be doing some practicing starting right away. The SD#58 First Nations Education department hosts these activities to provide students with an opportunity to learn local traditional games, which also serves as an extra opportunity to get acquainted with one another as part of early transition to grade 8. Some students really benefit from these events.



The Cross Country team had a great season. Kicking off with many students participating in the Bench Run, Central Run and Princeton Runs to date. Results will be posted in the Merritt Herald.



Madame Vachon had a new delivery arrive to our library with several lovely titles in the First Nation category from Strong Nations in both French and English titles, please come in to have a look.

Bench Elementary School

Submitted by FNSW- Leona Dumont

Well it nice to be back at Bench for this 2017-2018 school year.

We all participated with Orange Shirt Day September 29, 2017. It was nice to see the students take part of the assembly

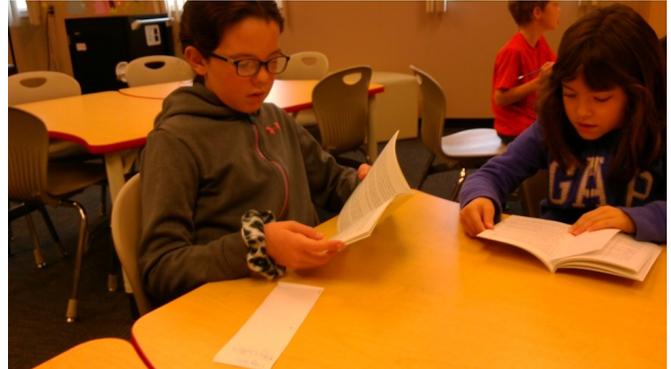
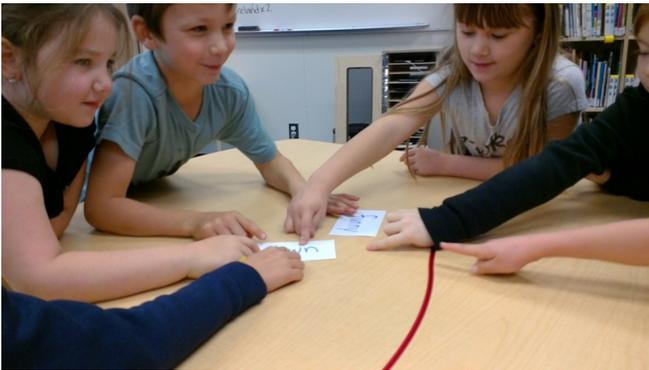


In September we started a Reading program with Grade One, Grade Two and Grade Threes.



Reading Group

Update provided by Leona Dumont



In grades Two and Grade 4 we started Aboriginal Math and Social Studies. In the Grade Two class we had talked about our Nle?kepmx traditional foods. We introduced Indian Ice cream.



Students enjoying Indian Ice Cream



November 2017 FNSW Newsletter

Merritt Central
Elementary
School

Dates to Remember:

Oct. 26 FN Parent Gathering

Oct. 27 FNSW Meeting

Oct. 31 Halloween

Nov. 5 Daylight Saving Time ends

Nov. 6 Lahal Tournament

Nov. 11 Remembrance Day

Nov. 14 Staff Meeting

Nov. 24 FNSW meeting

Nov. 24 Report Cards go home

Nov. 28—29 Shortened Days –Parent/teacher



First Nations Support
Workers for Merritt
Central

Greta Brown

8:00 to 3:30

Mon.—Fri.

gbrown@365.sd58.bc.ca

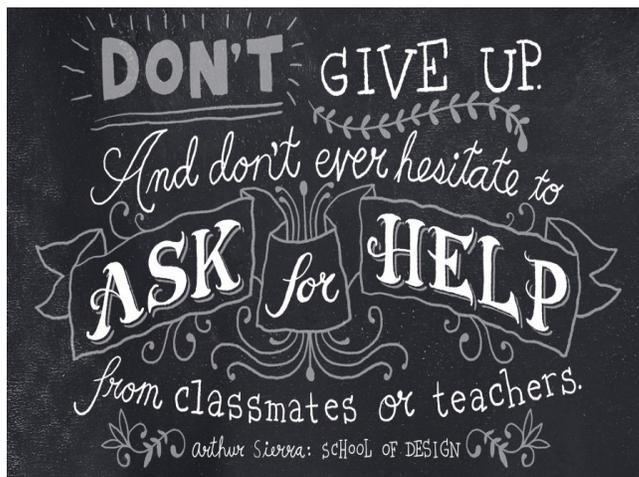
Martha Chillihitzia

Mon– Fri.

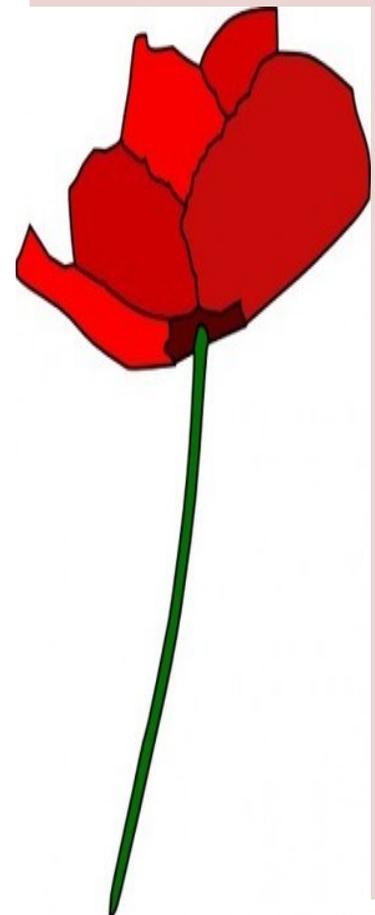
8:00—3:30

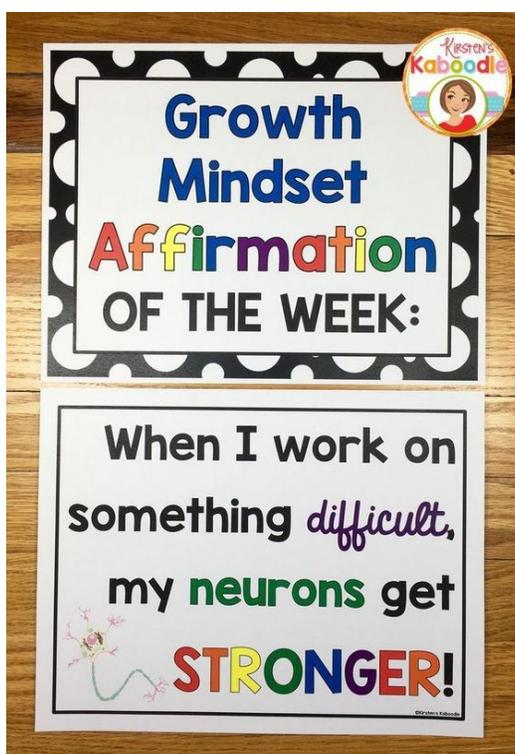
We can be reached @

Phone: 250-378—9931



I believe in myself and my abilities.





Above is a demo by Daniel Manuel on cleaning a Kokanee fish. The kokanee were caught in the upper Nicola river in Upper Nicola. Community members get together, catch, clean and dry the kokanee, Then the Kokanee is shared with the community. The MC students enjoyed the demo. Daniel will dry the Kokanee and bring the some back to the MC students to sample.

Keith and martha checking out the agenda for the fn parents gathering 2017

Lahala and family enjoying the evening at the 2017 FN Parent Gathering



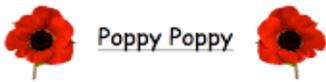
Thompson and Okanagan Prayer done by students at FN Par-



Joan Shackelly to MC as a guest for Thompson Language story telling



FNSW November 2017 Newsletter

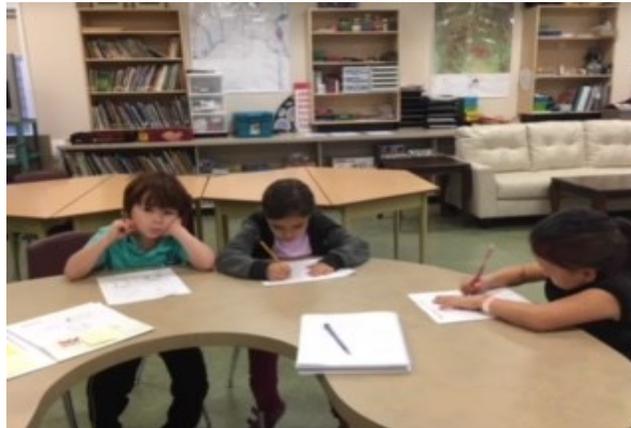


Poppy Poppy

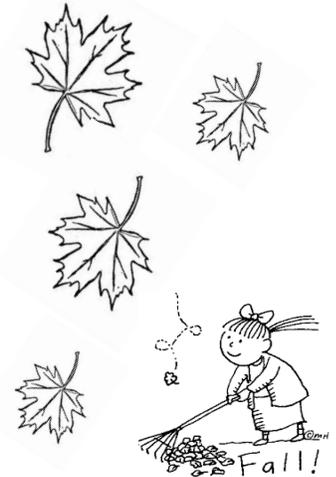
Poppy poppy what do you say?
Wear me on Remembrance Day.

Poppy poppy what do you tell?
Many soldiers in battle fell.

Poppy poppy what should we know?
That peace on earth should grow, grow, grow.



Small group support



Students showing math practice with card during at small group support



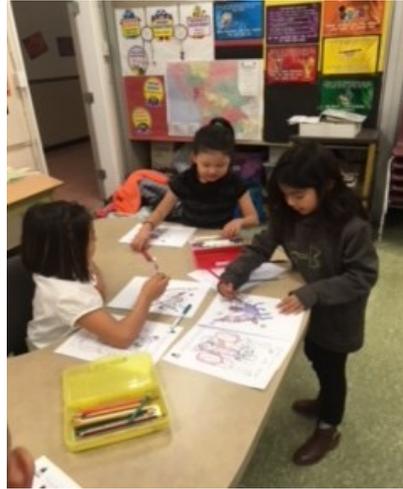
Recognizing Orange TShirt Day at MC. FNSW hall display and Nancy Saddleman shares pictures of time spent at the Residential School MC students.



FNSW November 2017 Newsletter



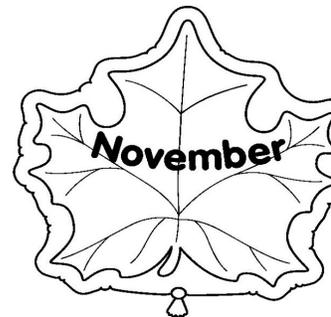
Merritt Central Fnsw room in the morning



Students play games, use the ipads, or choose to color.....



MC Halloween Pics. 2017



MERRITT SECONDARY SCHOOL UPDATE

by Keith Jager, Cheryl Rule, Gerome Garcia, & Dawn Williams

Orange Shirt Day was widely recognized throughout MSS
Youth Workers from Scempmx Child & Family Services
came out to support our MSS hand drummers



Annual School District Dinner Social



MSS Metis dancers



MSS traditional dancers & hand drummers



Classroom Connections Photos



Tea making with French 8 class



Canning with Foods 10 class



Canning with Foods 10



Outdoor Ed 10 class skinning & gutting a deer



MERRITT SECONDARY SCHOOL UPDATE

Submitted by Keith Jager, Cheryl Rule, Gerome Garcia,,Dawn Williams

Cultural Activities

Merritt Secondary School – 2017/2018

First Nations Support Workers:

Gerome Garcia— Grade 8
Keith Jager—Grade 9
Dawn Williams—Grade 10
Cheryl Rule—Grade 11 / 12
Elder Presence— Elder Nancy Saddleman
Language teachers—Marty Aspinall for Grade 8 & 9
Mandie Jimmy for Grade 10—12
Facilitate guests & presenters - Available with oral teaching / sharing

Goals:

Promote the four main goals of the Enhancement Agreement

- 1) Self Worth & Identity
- 2) Language & Culture
- 3) Health & Wellness
- 4) Academic Success

Musical Instruments, Singing & Dance:

MSS Hand Drumming Group—Echoes of the Land



At Risk Students:

Keith Jager

Current enrollment at MSS—587

Current aboriginal student enrollment—290

Upcoming First Nations Events & Activities:

Nov 17/17—1st term Report Cards are sent out

Jan 18/18—Culture Camp Study Session #1 @ House of Honor 3:30—6pm

Jan 26/18—Student Hand drumming celebration @ MSS

Feb 16/18—SD 58 Youth Conference

Classroom Connections to date:

Rocks & Minerals
Nlakampux Language Class
Traditional Plant Poster Boards
Nlakampux & Sylix Traditional Maps – Boundaries
Mapping & Governance—Chief & Council
Bitter Root
Canning fruitx
Jam making
Skinning & gutting a deer
Indian Ice Cream
Rose hips- New Growth, gathering, & the uses
Traditional Food, Medicine & Containers
Elders/Resource people:
Story Telling & Poems
Local History, Legends, Stories
One on One Support w/ Nlakampux language
Traditional Homes & Dwellings Plants & Medicine
Dream catchers/Beading
Smudging

GRAND OPENING OF ABORIGINAL COURT

Held at the arbor in Lower Nicola and our 3 pow-wow dancers



ers were asked to be apart of this event.

Thank you Kira Meldrum, Lenessa Seward, Sydney Joe,

*Kʷukʷscemxʷ - -
Thank you*

*To all our Resource people
who have come*



District Principal of Aboriginal Education

Shelley Oppenheim-Lacerte

(W) 250 – 315 – 1111 so-lacerte@365.sd58.bc.ca



Gerome Garcia MSS

Merritt Secondary School:

250 – 378 - 5131

Cheryl Rule &
Dawn Williams



Keith Jager MSS



Yvonne Joe NC
250-378-2172



Christine Anderson
250-378-2514



Greta Brown
Merritt Central
250-378-9931

KLC/ Bench

Elementary Leona

Dumont

25--378-2157



Renee Hartwell PSS
250-295-3218



Martha Chillihtizia
Merritt Central
250-378-9931



Barb Parker
John Allison
250-295-6727
VermillionForks
250-295-6642

Colletville School



Crystal McMaster
250-378-2230



"Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is suc-cess."

--Henry Ford

