



NEWSLETTER

1824 Fairfield Rd., Victoria, B.C. V8S 1G8

Tel. (250) 598-5191 Fax (250) 598-0044

Website: www.sd61.bc.ca/school/MargaretJenkins

Thursday, January 26, 2012

School Goal: To increase student creativity across the curriculum.

Vice Principal's Message

Happy New Year and bonne année to you and yours...it's hard to believe that we have already been back for three weeks and our school year is half finished!

Kindergarten registration for 2012-2013 starts next week. As families at ÉMJS have the option of registering their children in either the English track or the French Immersion track, we are often approached by anxious parents wanting to make the best decision for their child. It is important to remember that all of our Kindergarten teachers are experienced professionals who will provide your child with a wonderful Kindergarten year.

For those parents who are considering French Immersion, children can be registered in French Immersion in Kindergarten or Grade 1. The program is open to all and most children take to the program like "ducks to our rain puddles".

Most children who enter French Immersion do not speak French, nor do their parents. This can be a leap of faith for some families; they are uncomfortable with being unable to support their child academically. Oral language acquisition is the goal for the early primary years. At school, there will be lots of opportunity to build language comprehension. Parents can support their child by reading and reviewing skills in English.

We are often asked questions about placing students with learning issues in French Immersion. Many students with learning difficulties are just as successful in French Immersion as in English, as they face the same challenges in either track. Parents know their children and are in the best position to make this decision.

We are also asked questions about placing students whose mother tongue is not English or French in the Immersion track. Initially, these students may find it confusing but after several months, language acquisition in their third language takes off.

Whatever decisions you make regarding your child's placement, we look forward to welcoming you and your child to the ÉMJS school community where our motto is "a safe and caring environment where the love of learning will flourish".

Mme Laurie Cairns
Directrice-adjointe

**Registration for:
English Kindergarten,
French Immersion - Kindergarten or Grade 1,
Late Immersion – Grade 6
January 30th to February 3rd**

Kindergarten (child born in 2007) or Grade 1 French Immersion entry (for students not currently in French Immersion Kindergarten only) and for Late French Immersion, Grade 6 entry, begins **Monday morning, January 30th at 8:00 am.**

To enroll your child in **English Kindergarten or French Immersion Kindergarten or Grade 1**, go to your catchment school during Kindergarten Registration week (January 30th - February 3rd). For more information on Kindergarten programs, visit the school district web site www.sd61.bc.ca.

To enroll your child in **Grade 6 Late Immersion**, apply to register at the dual track Middle School of your choice (Arbutus, Cedar Hill, Central, Lansdowne or Shoreline) during the week of January 30th to February 3rd. Registration begins January 30th at 8:00 am. For more information on Late Immersion and on Late Immersion registration, visit the school district web site www.sd61.bc.ca.

French Immersion is a District Program for which registration is first come, first served.

École Margaret Jenkins School

is hosting our:



Ready, Set, Learn Open House

(for 3 year olds and their parents)

Thursday, February 9th, 2012 – 1:00 to 2:30 pm

Ready, Set, Learn features:

- an opportunity for children to experience being at our school.
- an information pack for parents.
- a snack.

Please r.s.v.p. to 250-598-5191

or rdemchuk@sd61.bc.ca



Upcoming Important Dates

PAC Meeting – 7:00 pm	ÉMJS Library	Jan. 26
ÉMJS School Selected ProD Day		Jan. 27
K, Gr. 1 F.I., & Gr. 6 Late Imm. Reg. Begins		Jan. 30
Grade 5 orientation to Central		Feb. 1
Sandi Henrich, Artist – Div. 7		Feb. 1
Pizza/Sushi Day		Feb. 1
K, Gr. 1 F.I., & Gr. 6 Late Imm. Reg. Ends		Feb. 3
Sandi Henrich, Artist – Div. 16		Feb. 3
Spirit Day – Twin Day		Feb. 3
Renee Sala, Artist: Div. 4,5,6,8 – in Brick Annex		Feb. 6
Ready Set Learn (for 3 year olds) 1 – 2:30 pm		Feb. 9
School Newsletter		Feb. 9
Out-of-School care sign-up-for returning families		Feb. 11
Pizza/Sushi Day		Feb. 15
K-12 Student Transfer week begins		Feb. 16
ProD Day – No School for Students		Feb. 17
Out-of-School care sign-up-for new families		Feb. 18
Renee Sala, Artist: Div. 4,5,6,8 – in Brick Annex		Feb. 20
PAC Meeting – 7:00 pm	ÉMJS Library	Feb. 23
K-12 Student Transfer week ends		Feb. 24
Basketball Jamboree – 12:30 pm at Central		March 6
Last day before Spring Break		March 9
Schools reopen after Spring Break		March 26
Good Friday – NO SCHOOL		April 6
Easter Monday – NO SCHOOL		April 9
Class photos, whole school photo, team photos		April 24

VIC-ESQ LACROSSE WANTS YOU TO PLAY LACROSSE



REGISTRATION FOR THE SPRING
SEASON IS UNDERWAY!

THE FASTEST GAME ON TWO FEET

FOR MORE REGISTRATION AND OTHER
INFO GO TO WWW.VELA.GOALLINE.CA



AWESOME GAME FOR ALL KIDS 4 AND UP

Oak Bay PARENT OWNED PRESCHOOL



OPEN HOUSE

February 11

10am - 1pm

REGISTER NOW

Spaces for
3 & 4 year olds

1701 Elgin St.

250-592-1922

www.oakbaypreschool.com



This visit was pivotal on so many levels: Sophie had changed so much since the kids had last really seen her (she slept through the entire visit before Christmas), the kids' ability to directly engage in conversation about Sophie took a giant leap forward (more on that later), and Sophie seemed to recognize the kids and the class. Christina and I were barely out in the hall afterward before we were exclaiming, "That was amazing!"

What was so different this time? For starters, Sophie had almost 2 months of changes behind her this time *and* she was awake so the children were pretty blown away. She was sitting a little on her own, she finally noticed the foot rattle when Christina put it on (this has been an important marker for many of the children during previous visits), and she was very interested in all the smiling faces around her, chirping and shrieking with delight, which, of course, elicited similar responses from the kids. The children discovered Sophie had grown 4 blocks and put on about 6 pounds since they first met her.

The next big change we noted came from the kids. This is the first time they wanted to know more about Sophie (and even a bit about me). In the past when Christina would open the session up for questions around the theme, we invariably were treated to comments and anecdotes about whatever, or whomever, the kids wanted to talk about. Not this time: Christina offered the question period and immediately *questions* were asked. How long does Sophie sleep for? How many naps does she take? How do I know when she is tired? How do I feel after I have been up all night? This marked a sea-change in how the children are engaging – less about themselves, more about Sophie and me – and these questions contain the roots of empathy. As the children desire to understand more about this little baby, what they are in effect doing is placing someone else's experience at the centre of their thinking, and trying to relate to it. A mile in someone else's Robeez, so to speak. Christina and Sophie and I are so happy to walk it with them.

Jody Carrow

PINK Shirt Day is fast approaching once again (Wednesday, February 29th)! The school district has offered to bulk purchase **PINK** t-shirts for anyone who is interested. T-shirts are 100% cotton. There is no date on them, so they can be re-used each year. The front says **PINK SHIRT DAY** and the back says **BULLYING STOPS HERE!**

T-shirts are \$4.00 each including HST. Sizes are:

- Youth (xsmall, small, medium, large, xlarge)
- Adult (small, medium, large, xlarge, xxlarge)

If you would like to order a t-shirt, please let Rosa know by **Wednesday, Feb. 1st** then send your money into the school office.

Campbell's Soup Labels

Did you know that Campbell's soup labels can be redeemed to support programs in our schools? One of our parents has volunteered to co-ordinate this fundraiser. It's easy to help out. All you need to do is send in the whole Campbell's soup label whenever you have soup, chunky soup, or any other Campbell's soup product to the EMJS office. Our volunteer will take care of the rest.





Community Jazz Gala

February 10th, 2012 Victoria BC - Once again the Wardroom-Officer's Mess at the Canadian Forces Base in Esquimalt will light up with live jazz to support the community work of the Fairfield Gonzales Community Association (FGCA). The Wardroom will transform into a semi-formal event offering wine tastings, gourmet appetizers, extravagant decor and a silent auction. The evening of dancing, tasting and bidding will support a local charity, and feature esteemed jazz artists such as Trio Espresso, the Esquimalt High Senior Combo and Anne Scheafer & Zachary Santella.

Basic information:

- The funds raised by the Community Jazz Gala will directly strengthen our new youth programs, our "SAFE SPACE" campaign and the growing children, family and recreation programs the FGCA provides to over 20,000 community members
- **Time:** 7pm- 1am
- **Location:** the Wardroom-Officer's Mess Hall 1586 Esquimalt Rd
- Semi-Formal Dress Code in Effect
- Live Jazz music, wine tasting, silent and live auction, dancing & door prizes !

Ticket sales at www.fairfieldcommunity.ca or call 250-382 4602 or drop by 1330 Fairfield Rd-- \$35 per person and \$60 for two people.

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Daisy Dollars Fundraising Program

Don't throw out those Island Farms UPC codes! ÉMJS is eligible to participate in Daisy Dollars fundraising so simply **cut out codes from any Island Farms products**, bring them to the school and Island Farms will redeem us 3 cents per code...those codes can add up over the year and can help raise money for our PAC and school activities!

There is a milk jug on the table outside of the office where you can drop off your collected codes.

ÉMJS Out of School Care Registration

2012-2013

Fairfield Gonzales Community Association will be holding re-registration at FGC Place for our existing (currently registered in 2011-2012) families on Saturday February 11th, 2012 during the hours of 9am-4pm and during the week following.

External registration for new families will be held the following Saturday, February 18th during the hours of 9am-4pm at FGC Place.

The FGC Place is located at 1330 Fairfield Rd. Close to the corner of Fairfield Rd & Moss St.

Registration packages will be available starting February 6th online and with the on-site manager. For further details please contact MJOSC Manager Caroline Roberts at 250-592-8800 or go to our website www.fairfieldcommunity.ca/programs

Spring Break Camp - March 12-16th 2012

Active games & out trips are the focus of our Spring Break Camp this year. Camp will be available March 12-16 and will run from 8am-5pm for \$30/day. Registration will open February 15th. Registration packages will be available on our website and with the MJOSC manager as of February 6th. Registration will be confirmed once complete packages with payment are submitted. Forms must be handed in directly to the on-site manager. For further information please contact MJOSC Manager Caroline Roberts at 250-592-8800 or go to our website www.fairfieldcommunity.ca/programs

Moss Rock Preschool

Moss Rock Pre-School is excited to announce that the 2012-2013 program will be open 5 days a week from 9:00am -12:00pm. Families have the option to attend for a scheduled 2-5 days per week. Registration for September 2012 is now open. For more information about the program please contact Sarah Angus, Manager, at 250-382-2065 or email ffosc@fairfieldcommunity.ca



PAC Corner

REMINDER: There is a **PAC General Meeting on Thursday, January 26 at 7pm** in the Library. Childcare will be provided.

Thanks to the parents who helped with the French Book inventory last week. We will meet again on Friday, Feb. 3 at noon-ish in the Computer Lab to continue. Please feel free to join us even if you were not there for the last one. No French necessary.

FRIENDS Parent Workshops are now available to School Districts, PAC's and other Parent organizations. For more information go to <http://www.friendsparentprogram.com/workshops>. If you would like to speak with someone directly about your interest and/or submit a request for a parent workshop in your area, please email info@FRIENDSparentprogram.com and a FORCE representative will assist you.

Thrifty Foods Smile Cards

THRIFTY FOODS™

smiles every day.™



We have been approved for the Thrifty's Smile Card fundraising program! We will distribute cards as soon as we receive them...

VCPAC is pleased to announce that each PAC will receive **two** free tickets to the [2012 Vancouver Island Parent Conference](#). Please contact our PAC Chairperson, Rachel Franklin if you are interested in the one remaining ticket at: xdrachel@shaw.ca Check the VCPAC website for more info: www.vipc.ca/registration.

Finally, a big **"thank you"** to Kelly for arranging to reschedule Pizza Day after our "snow day" cancelled it last week! And a big **"thank you"** to our pizza day volunteers who re-arranged their schedules to help out at yesterday's pizza day!

VAC WORKSHOPS UNDER WAY

Please join the PAC Visual Arts Committee (VAC) in welcoming Sandi Henrich back to the Artists in Residence Program at ÉMJS. Sandi will begin art workshops with Carly Piggott's Grade 3 class on February 1 and Alix Freiburger's Kindergarten class on February 3. Students will be making Pacific Ocean inspired art to be displayed as part of a West coast mural collage at the Spring Fair.



1000X5

1000 Books by Age Five
Children's Book Recycling
Project Greater Victoria

Teaching Reading – Yes or No?

Leave the teaching of the reading process to teachers. But it is never too early or too late to teach your child to love reading – that reading is fun. Choose bright, colourful books for little ones often with rhyming. For older children, tune into their interests: Sports? Cars? Animals? Space? Enjoy lots of shared reading – where your child holds the book and you take turns reading: even toddlers enter this process. Mostly, remember to have fun with reading, and your child will too.

Remember to drop books for babies and preschoolers into the drop box outside the ÉMJS office. So far, the project has collected and shared 12000 books. Thank you.