



Greetings Nakusp Elementary Families:

We have only two busy weeks left before the Winter Break! November is a core month of learning for students with class routines established. I am very pleased with learning progress in our school. Early indications show that our grade 4 and 7 students had outstanding results on the Foundation Skills Assessments. We are seeing amazing progress in our primary students reading fluency as well! Our emphasis on school community is really paying off as well, students have been engaged school wide in contributing to make our school and community a better place.

Our Christmas concert on December 19th will include performances from primary classes and a group of intermediate students. Doors will open shortly before 6 and the performance will start at 6:15. Intermediate students self-selected opportunities from drama, stop motion film, community gift making, and baking. A slide show of the other intermediate groups work will be played at 6pm. Families will be able to support the Grade 7 field trip through their bake sale after the performance in the breakfast room.

Teachers are busy putting together our first formal written learning update of the year. These will come home on the 21st of December. These written reports align closely with the new Ministry of Education Reporting order <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/reporting/resources-for-parents-and-caregivers> , as we have been following it for the last couple years. We hope that you find these reports informative and encourage you to contact your child's class teacher if you have any questions or concerns.

NES students continue to learn more about the Seven Grandfather's Teachings with the support of district elder Mr. Michael Garvey. This has aligned with our Positive Behaviour Supports "Virtues" program. We have seen our students respond very well to this and our school environment is always improving with students actively seeking to support each other. NES is hosting the Elder and Knowledge Keepers appreciation dinner next Monday. We look forward to showing our gratitude to those folks who have worked with our students to improve our knowledge of Indigenous ways of knowing and being. Please see Mr. McCluskey's input alongside Mr. Garvey's Seven Grandfather's piece for your own understanding later in the newsletter.

Schoolwide we have seen our students engaging with the community for seasonal events. Mrs. Alstad has spearheaded our school's support of the ASLCS "Stuff the Bus" initiative. Her class was also involved with PALS with support of the community hampers. Mrs. Volansky and a crew of intermediate students are making cards and gifts for folks at Halcyon House. Through our Service-Learning class, Mrs. Cook's and Ms. Vibe's students have been involved supporting Better at Home with raking leaves and shovelling snow, Halcyon House with visits and sharing, and working with Noel Ballard SMART coordinator to reduce the fire risk in our forest. Several primary classes will be visiting Halcyon and Minto Houses to carol in coming. We are proud of our students' commitment to bettering their community and it is wonderful to see them engaging so happily in these opportunities.

Our new playground is amazing! Huge thanks to the Ministry of Education, Sd10's Board of Trustees, PAC, and of course our amazing maintenance crew for getting the first portion of our playground up and running. We are very fortunate to have such an amazing addition to our school and community.

As always, thank you so much for supporting our school and entrusting your children to our care. If you have ideas on ways we can continue to improve and strengthen our ties with community and families, please contact me at [mike.hibberson@sd10.bc.ca](mailto:mike.hibberson@sd10.bc.ca).

Best regards,

Mike Hibberson

Principal



# Staff Directory

## PRINCIPAL

Mike Hibberson

3314

## VICE-PRINCIPAL

Tim Van Brummelen

3310

## SECRETARY

Lisa Bateman

3401

## TEACHERS

Sheri Boswell	Kindergarten
Marsha Roberts	Grade K/1
Jenna Arnold	Grade 2/3
Patti Zeleznik	Grade 2/3
Karlee Cook	Grade 3/4
Andrea Volansky	Grade 4
Elizabeth Tupper	Grade 5/6
Anita Vibe	Grade 5/6
Katie Oakes	Grade 7
Ethan McCluskey	PE/IST
Kim Hood	Learning Resource
Claire Jackson	Learning Resource
Brenda McQuair	Learning Resource
Megan Martin	Teacher Librarian

## EDUCATION ASSISTANTS

Doreen Yano  
Dorraine Gustafson  
Michele Hildebrand  
Charlene Lintott  
Candace Sollows  
Melanie Levitt  
Tammy Merry  
Cathy Quigley  
Meaghynne Jones  
Arlene Timmer

## STRONG START

Nancy Bone

Please visit our Facebook Page "Nakusp Elementary School" for all our current information, or [www.sd10.bc.ca](http://www.sd10.bc.ca)

## Important Dates for December

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Dec. 1-19 Stuff the Bus

Dec. 19 Christmas Concert

Start time: 6:15 PM

Doors Open: 6:00 PM



Dec. 20 Assembly—9:05 AM in the gym  
All families are invited to join

Dec. 21 Term 1 Progress Reports

Dec. 22 PJ Day

Last Day of Classes



Jan. 8 - Classes Back in Session

# Stuff the Bus

Mrs. Alstad's Grade 2/3 class have started collecting items for the Community Services Christmas Food Hamper Program.

Classroom will be collecting non-perishable food items, books and small toys. Grade 2/3 students will be sorting and graphing all the items that come in. The classroom with the most collections will win a classroom prize.





# 2023 Christmas Concert

When: Tuesday, December 19

Where: NES Gym

Time: Doors open at 6:00, concert starts at 6:15 PM

Who: Mrs. Boswell's Class

Ms. Roberts Class

Mrs. Alstad's Class

Mrs. Zeleznik's Class

Intermediate Drama Crew

The Grade 7's will be having a bake sale set up for after the concert.



## News from the Indigenous Education Department

### 7 Grandfather Teachings

Buffalo – Respect  
Turtle – Truth  
Wolf – Humility  
Sabe – Honesty  
Bear – Courage  
Eagle – Love  
Beaver – Wisdom

Students have been working on understanding and implementing the 7 Grandfather Teachings into their everyday lives. They are learning how the teachings are linked together in more ways than expected. For example, working on loving oneself can take courage. This brings in teachings from both the bear and the eagle. It has been amazing to see the students use these teachings throughout the school!

### **Grandfather Teachings**

- The animals have spiritual significance in Indigenous culture
- The animals live in harmony with the land and maintain its natural state. They are in sync with cycles of the season and they only consume what they need to survive
- It is foundational for an indigenous way of life, and a reminder to live with knowing the importance of one-another
- Used as a guide for community survival and unity, as well as personal growth and development
- To help live a good life
- To respect Creator, Earth and each other

Submitted by: Mr. McCluskey

