



**SIWAL SI'WES
(our forefather's teachings)
INDIGENOUS DEPARTMENT
Mission Public Schools**



To work collaboratively with all schools to ensure that Indigenous students are successful in Mission Public Schools. While promoting and respecting the traditional territory of the Stó:lō People, we help to foster an awareness and respect of all Indigenous peoples for all students and staff in Mission Public Schools

Newsletter #4

June 2021

From the desk of District Principal, Vivian Searwar.....

Ey Swayel, Pepiyel tel skwix. Ey tel sqwalewel kw'es Stó:lō Temexw. I am happy to be here on Stó:lō territory, this land rich with mountains, cedar trees, rivers and rain. Warrior work. I have been told by a Kwantlen Elder Cheryl Gabriel, that the work we do, as Indigenous Peoples is warrior work. We have endured much hurt and pain, and much has resurfaced over the past month. The recent recovery of 215 children found near Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc, the former Kamloops Residential School, additional recoveries in the prairies, and those of our neighbours to the south, have the far-reaching impacts on all Indigenous peoples. Stories of children buried in unmarked graves are not stories at all, they are true accounts by residential school survivors, and as such, the children found are not 'discoveries', they are recoveries. This is just the beginning, and many children are still waiting to be found, returned to their families and communities to receive a proper ceremony for their journey to The Creator. Siwal Si'wes raises our hands to you, the survivors of the Residential School System, of the Indian Day Schools and of the Sixties Scoop. I have been told by Elders that they are not only survivors, but thrivers, as they continue to teach us strength and resilience, particularly during these times. This year was the year of the Sasq'ets (Sasquatch), the'itqel, or HONESTY. We call upon all peoples to continue to walk alongside us as we search for the truth and justice for Indigenous peoples. I would like to acknowledge the work done by the Siwal Si'wes Staff. Although this was a challenging year, much work was done. I look forward to next year, when we may have more freedom to continue serving Indigenous learners and families with letsé mot, letsé thale, a good heart and a good mind. I would like to acknowledge the work of the Siwal Si'wes Advisory Council, who have guided the work we do within the schools and within the community. We will continue to focus on creating and nurturing a culture of equity in learning and working spaces for Indigenous learners. I would like to acknowledge Elders, Knowledge Keepers and Members of the Nations, of Qwó:ltl'el, Leq'á:mel, Matheqwí, Sq'éwlets, of the Metis community, of the Inuit community and to all local Indigenous organizations with whom we work. I wish to express Petlexwchet te Xolhmet Ye Mestiyexw, a grand congratulations to the Siwal Si'wes Graduating Class of 2021. You started your life journey as a baby and now you are moving into adulthood. We hope you carry the strength of your ancestors with you. Finally, I rise my hands to the children. You are our teachers for today and for tomorrow. I wish everyone a safe and relaxing summer!



Mekw tel sq'eq'o
Kahkinohw-nihtah-kohmah-kahnuk
All My Relations,

Vivian Searwar



SIWAL SI'WES STAFF

DISTRICT PRINCIPAL

Vivian Searwar

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Marcy Buell

INDIGENOUS LIAISON WORKERS

Tiffany Bishop:	Summit 4—12
Judy Cathers:	École Christine Morrison Elementary & Indigenous Culture
Alexis Christie:	Deroche Elementary & Band Outreach @ Leq'á:mel Sq'éwlets
Katie Cochrane:	École Heritage Park Middle School
Deanna Dettieh:	École Mission Central Elementary & E. S. Richards Elementary
Jacob Firlotte:	Hatzic Elementary, Hillside & Boy's Club
Holly Gallant:	Windebank Elementary
Chris Gawthorn:	West Heights Elementary, Summit K—3 & Indigenous Culture
Ariel Gienger:	École Mission Senior Secondary School
Donna Giroux (Malila):	École Christine Morrison Elementary, Halq'eméylem Language & Culture
Leslie Jensen:	Fraserview Learning Centre
Marla Mulholland:	Dewdney, Silverdale Elementary, & Stave Falls Elementary
Rhea Paul:	École Mission Central Elementary
Susan O'Soup:	Albert McMahon, Cherry Hill Elementary & Indigenous Culture
Sukhi Pangli:	École Heritage Park Middle School
Brenda Pierre:	Halq'eméylem Language & Culture
Rachel Schooner:	Hatzic Middle School
Jennifer Snow:	Hatzic Middle School
Jasmin Wells:	École Mission Senior Secondary School
TBA:	Riverside College

INDIGENOUS MENTOR TEACHER:

Peggy Janicki

SIWAL SI'WES TEACHER/LIBRARIAN:

Jennifer Lane

BAND OUTREACH TEACHER:

Glenda Scrimshaw

INDIGENOUS STUDENT SUCCESS COACHES:

Katy Brookes

Donald Cosens

PROGRAM AREA LEADERS:

Jodie Amaya—HPMS

Lyn O'Grady—HMS

Jody Shaw—MSS



2020—2021 School Year

Year of Honesty

ENHANCEMENT AGREEMENT THEMES

Theme 1: Honouring Culture and History: Ensure ALL students are learning about and respecting Aboriginal peoples, culture and history

Theme 2: Positive Learning Experiences: Create high levels of student engagement and success so students are connected and supported in their learning

Theme 3: Meaningful contributions: Create empowering opportunities for students to grow as individuals and prosper as a part of a community

Theme 4: Looking to the Future: Ensure all students are preparing for change and making successful transitions

Katy Brookes & Don Cosens—Indigenous Success Coaches

Ey Swayel Siwal Si'wes Families,

We want to start this message by acknowledging the pain that has resurfaced in Indigenous communities with the recovery of 215 children at Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc on May 27th. At our schools we have seen the impact these children have made as our students come to our Indigenous rooms and recount the stories of their parents and grandparents experience in residential schools, many of which they are learning for the first time. In our middle schools we honored the lives of these children through schoolwide projects; Heritage students folded 215 orange origami ravens which hang prominently in our front foyer. At Hatzic, we folded 215 orange shirts which we strung between our lowered flags, and our drum group sang an honor song and read a poem to honor these lost children.



If you or someone in your family is struggling with the re-surfacing of trauma due to this news, please reach out to us and we can help to connect you with support. Please know that if anyone in your family has been impacted by the abuses committed at residential schools, they can receive counselling for free through the First Nations Health Authority "Indian Residential Schools Resolution Health Support Program." Status is not required to access this program. Information can be found at: <https://www.fnha.ca/benefits/mental-health>. You can also call the Residential School Survivors Hotline at 1-800-721-0066

It's hard to believe that we are at the end of what has been called the longest and shortest year ever in our school district. It has been a hard year for everyone, and we are incredibly proud of your sons and daughters who overcame these obstacles to do their best to confront the challenges that faced them with school this year. Some challenged themselves to keep up with online learning, others worked hard to catch up after COVID related absences from school, and others still had to focus on their mental health above school. We want to reassure you again that whatever your year looked like, please know that next year we will welcome your child back with open arms and compassionate hearts. Instead of worrying about "catching up", let's focus on being where we are and making sure everyone can come back to school next year with a hopeful heart. If you have any concerns about your child coming into next year, please never hesitate to get in touch. It is our pleasure to hear from parents and work with you to care for your children.

We wish you all a summer filled with sunshine and cool water, time to rest and enjoy the wonderful children you have trusted us with all year. It has been our honor and privilege to care for your children and we look forward to all the new possibilities next year will present to us.

Albert McMahon Elementary—Susan O'Soup—Indigenous Liaison Worker

2020-2021 school year is almost upon us, and we all made it through another COVID year. The last few weeks have really taken off and before we knew what was happening, school is almost done for another year. There has been so much happening these last few weeks at Albert McMahon Elementary.



Leo, Hayden, Donnie and I have had the enjoyment of playing with clay then making either a caterpillar, ladybug, frog and/or octopus. Very thankful we got to enjoy the beautiful warm, not hot sun.



A beautiful mural has been painted on the gym wall. This beautiful painting is of a Long House. All students would be putting their initials along the bottom of the painting.



Ryder from Mrs. Reist's class got to make beautiful Tree of Life dreamcatchers. All students got to make one to take home.

These last few months have been awesome working along the very welcoming staff and students of Albert McMahon. I would like to wish everyone an enjoyable, relaxing summer!.

Band Outreach; Leq'á:mel & Sq'éwlets

The Band Outreach students learned about telling their stories through pictures, using pictographs as a guide. Telling our stories are important, they are sacred and heal our spirits. Students were instructed to think either about their past and tell their life story, or they were to think about the future and illustrate their life ahead. The power behind storytelling is sacred to Indigenous peoples worldwide, as we all have a story. We don't know where we are going unless we know where we came from. The beauty behind their stories is that they are not in word form, but through pictures they find significant to their stories.



The students also listened to James Leon who shared an oral story about, "How the coyote got his curved paw." The moral behind the story is of importance, the students enjoyed listening intently and were all very respectful during his presentation.

Miss. Glenda Scrimshaw
Band Outreach Teacher



Donna Giroux (Malila) École Christine Morrison & Halq'eméylem, the traditional language of the Stó:lō

This year seems to have flown by so fast as if it had wings.

In May we talked about the super full flower blood moon (skw'exo:s) we talk about the Stó:lō calendar which is Teme'lile (time for Salmonberries) followed by TemQoqo (High water Time) of course Temqwa:l (time for Mosquitos) is already upon us.

We have had a few Halq'eméylem classes at the Outdoor Classroom finding and looking at the many plants becoming available to us in this season (temqwiles) some plants we have looked at include: salmonberry (elile) thimbleberry shoots (thathqi) and blossoms, stinging nettle (Th'exth'ex), flowers or blossoms (spaqem) and Cedar (Xepa:y)

The fieldtrip to Xa:ytem Historical Site for the grade 6 classes were informative with one special guest appearance who go by the name of Spath (bear) Spath came out of the brush and walked around for a bit, stood up then turned and went back to the bushes. The one group who were in the carving station were quite excited by his unexpected visit. The other two stations were the long house and the pit house (semi-underground winter dwelling).

Ey cha o te' Temkwokwes!(the Hot time)
Have a great summer!



Cherry Hill Elementary School—Susan O'Soup—Indigenous Liaison Worker

The end of the school year is coming up fast and there are some of the upcoming events at Cherry Hill Elementary. Here are some things Cherry Hill teachers have been doing with students to remember the 215 students who never came home from Indian Residential School near the former Kamloops Residential School. This week we will be putting up 215 orange cut out, people the students made on the chain link fence at the school.

What happening at Cherry Hill and upcoming events: **Fun Day**

Thursday June 17th- Schedule B

Friday June 18th- Schedule A

sponge relay

four corner soccer with beach balls

Student should wear their team colors

Learning group races

Intermediates Tug-o-War (little guys watch)

Freezies to eat outside

LUNCH- PIZZA HUT for kids

Indigenous Day June 21, 2021: Ms. Abbott, Ms. Midzain and I are planning to have a Sasq'ets Sabe (Sasquatch) celebration outside in the playground. All students from Cherry Hill Elementary will exhibit their Sasquatches they made with us through the year. It will be a day of student drumming and acknowledging the year of the Sasquatch who represents honesty. Freezies will be handed out after the celebration. I wish everyone a wonderful and safe summer holidays.



École Christine Morrison Elementary

Malila (Donna Giroux) Indigenous Liaison & Halq'emeylem teacher, and Judy Cathers, Indigenous Liaison & Cultural Presenter

XWO':MXELEM RUNNING CLUB



- Students continue to run daily
- They started out in Stó:lō territory, and are hoping to run across Canada to the land of the Mi'kmaq and then to the land of the Inuit.
- Our final run will be mid-June
- Thank you to Indigenous Sport and Christine Morrison PAC for supporting and sponsoring this annual running club

INDIGENOUS DAY



Indigenous day is celebrated on June 21, Summer Solstice, the first day of summer. Students will be participating in Aboriginal art, music and teachings. The music department, under the direction of Chris Schaufert is planning a wonderful program which includes a Greeting song using hand drums, followed by Evening Rise

(Native American song) using handbells. The song "Evening Rise" = Our Song of Mourning/Grief for the lost children, survivors, and families of the residential school system. Also included will be "My Heart Soars," poem by Chief Dan George, and "Blackbird," by the Beatles, covered by Emma Stevens, an indigenous student from Cape Breton (sung in Mi'kmaq). Introduced by a student as an anti-racism song. We are also looking forward to having several elders join us virtually.

INDIGENOUS PRESENTATIONS

We are very fortunate to have Indigenous presentations in our school that enhance student learning. Lyn H., Inuit Soapstone; Lacrosse with Dawson C.; Starblankets with Val T.



Ey Swayel Siwal Si'wes Families

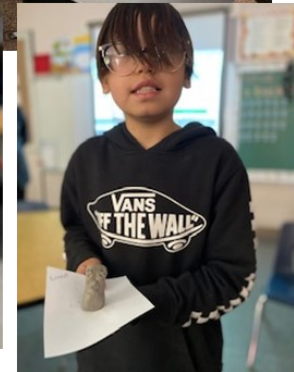
Drums Making

It is hard to believe that it is almost time for summer break. This year has been a tougher than usually but rewarding, none the less. This year at Deroche we finally were able to finish a school set of medicine wheel themed Indigenous drums. We are so proud of the grade sixes for this hard work, they completed them with a good heart and mind, and we raise our hands in thanks to them. They are leaving the 'up and coming' Deroche Bears with a little piece of them to learn with for years to come.



T'xwelátse & Red Cedar Blanket Teaching

All Deroche students hand crafted their own stone T'xwelátse and western red cedar blanket. We learn who T'xwelátse is and how he came to be on this Earth, we later made and wrapped him in cedar blankets to symbolize protection for his journey home when he was repatriated.



Xa:ytem Long Houses

Our grade 5-6 class was blessed with an opportunity to visit the Xa:ytem long houses where we learned about the local history and seen artifacts.



Dewdney Elementary —Marla Mulholland—Indigenous Liaison Worker

We have finished completing all of our goals this year for our Dewdney's Enhancement and Equity Grant. We were blessed to have a wonderful session with Ovila Mailhot from Seabird Island. Students all had wonderful works of art that they created. The time spent learning from Ovi is always amazing!



I also had the pleasure of meeting with Peter Gong for the Sasq'ets art piece he made for the school. Four pieces of his artwork are now displayed at the entrance when people enter the school. Mrs. Tedford's class also had a very informative field trip to Xa:ytem to learn about the local history of the Stó:lō people.



Edwin S. Richards—Deanna Dettieh—Indigenous Liaison Workers

Jai with her dream-catcher. Great job Jai!



Gr. 5/6 students got to have Archery with Ms. Gawthorn.



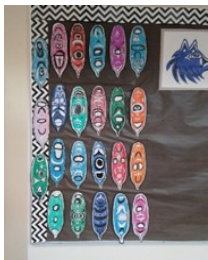
Kindergarten students in Mrs. Havre's class made 100-day crown. The school took part in Jump Rope for Heart.



As part of the Grant this school year, all Gr. 5/6 students got to take part in drumming with Darren Charlie



Students from Mrs. Tench, Ms. Boudreau and Mrs. Bissoondant's class got to take part and have the wonderful opportunity to have by virtual Mrs. Lolehawk talk of the local land and area, Leslie Jensen talk of the local plants, and Mrs. Tosoff talks of the Star Blanket



In Mrs. Tench's class all students took part in the phases of the moon and drawn the phases on the cedar planks provided from HMS. Great artwork. Feathers to represent all Indigenous children of the former Kamloops Residential school.

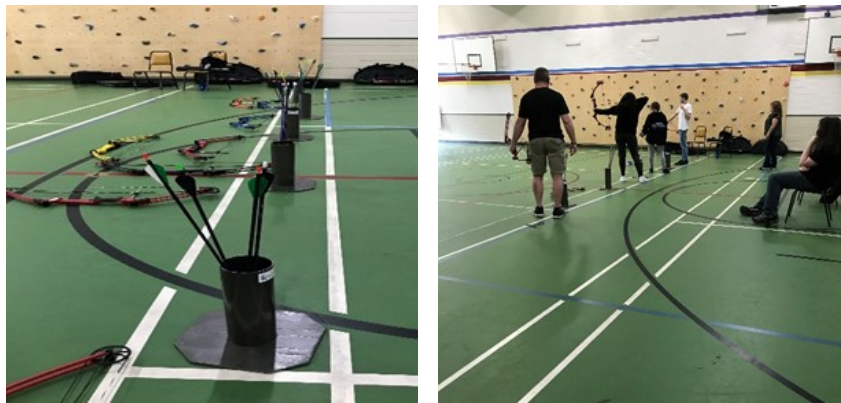


Fraserview Learning Centre—Leslie Jensen—Indigenous Liaison Worker

Ey Swayel Everyone,

In the past few weeks, a lot of focus has been supporting the Grade 12's to graduate in these unprecedented times and for the other students to complete as much schoolwork as possible. Due to COVID, many of the youth are doing their schoolwork from home and coming into the school once or twice a month. I message the students weekly and drop and pick up schoolwork for them.

We were thankful to have Chris's Archery Teaching and the opportunity to use the different bows.



This year's graduates have started to paint their tiles at Fraserview.



I wish for all a safe and healing summer. In gratitude to work with each of you on our journey of pulling together for our past, present and future generations.



Hatzic Elementary—Jacob Firlotte—Indigenous Liaison Worker

Ey Swayel,

I hope every has had a good year. It has been a tough year for everyone so I hope we can all use this time to reflect before summer starts. It was a pleasant finish to the year to have the grade sixes visit Xa:ytem Longhouse for a tour, it was good medicine that was much needed.

The recent archeological find of our 215 children has been very triggering for a lot of First Nations people but far from surprising. I am grateful that the public is starting to learn more about what happened but there is still much more for everyone to do.

I wish that everyone gets an opportunity to get outside this summer because the berries are going to be popping out soon!!

Jacob

Brenda Pierre—Indigenous Liaison Worker & Halq'eméylem

June 9,2021

HALQ'EMEYEM IN 6 SHORT MONTHS

Well a brief rundown of the Language of with two different Middle Schools.

The students were given lessons on my own life experiences growing up in the community of Sts'ailes Band and the struggles our generation has gone through. I began my lessons on how the Nation lost their language and showed them a clip of the apology from then Prime Minister of Canada. The other thing they were show was what a treaty is and who are treaties made between. Hwiw

Some other objectives we accomplished:

Halq'emeylem Alphabet on index cards

Basic numbers from 1 to 12

Learnt how to make changes when referring to money, people and tell time.

Learned basic introductions like good day and how are you?

Classroom learning on Colors with assignments

Pronouns and Verbs to make short statements

Taught about colors

Farm and wild animals

Done reading of stories to learn of history told by my Grand Father

Vegetables and Fruit and words for at the table and feasting

The students learned about head and body parts

House and house room names

We done practicing on how to pronounce the alphabet each day by overview and repeating the words over and over.

Specific stories were shown about Man turned into Stone "T'xwelatsa" getting the stone returned to the Stó:lō Nation

Stories were read that had lessons or morals within the story, and they wrote their own stories

We learnt about Respect for others, equipment etc.

When we needed to relax they watched movies with other tribes and what the meaning of the movie was.

The students done proper meanings of the 4 nations we are situated on in Mission

The students were also allowed on First Voices website so they could learn the online pronunciation of words.

The students were encouraged to work in groups.



I want to thank all those administrative people at both Hatzic Middle and Heritage Park Middle for helping me learn on the fly about getting orders and faxing etc. I thank them for all their time and effort.

“A student asked me one day how and when will you be teaching us about your culture. And my response was our language is our culture.” – Brenda Pierre

HATZIC MIDDLE SCHOOL
Rachel Schooner & Jennifer Snow—Indigenous Liaison Workers
Katy Brookes—Indigenous Success Coach

Ey Swayel, from the Hatzic Middle School team. It is hard to believe that we are about to be wrapping up yet another school year here at Hatzic. We have been so fortunate to have had the opportunity to get to know the many amazing students this year. As this year draws to a close, we would like to wish our Grade 9 students all the best as they continue their educational journey to MSS and beyond.

This year has been full of events and activities within the school as well as virtually.

Peter Gong came to our woodwork and metal work classes to teach west coast form line art which was a huge hit with students and staff alike.



The Salish Weave project is on display in the front foyer of our school. Mr. Blascheck and Mr. Wooley our shop teachers have done an amazing job embedding this into their curriculum.



Our drum group recorded and submitted a video to Drum Across Kanata. This will be available for all classroom teachers to play in their classrooms on National Indigenous People's Day.

Chris Gawthorn taught Archery to various PE classes in April. This was an incredible event where students engaged respectfully and learned how to shoot a bow in a safe and supportive environment.



We are pleased to announce that our Halq'emeylem team took first place in the Middle School category. Our students worked hard and gave up their lunch time to practice with us. Way to go team Hatzic!!!

**Heritage Park Middle School—Katie Cochrane & Sukhi Pangli—Indigenous Liaisons
Katy Brookes—Indigenous Success Coach**

Ey Swayel Student and families of École Heritage Park.

We've made it through the 2020/2021 school year. At times it may have been challenging and many times we have had to learn and teach in a new way. Students of Heritage Park have overcome many challenges and have grown tremendously.

We have 34 Grade nine Indigenous learner's who will be starting their new beginning and final stretch to graduation in the fall. We want to say thank you for allowing us to be a part of your journey, we WISH YOU THE BEST OF LUCK in your new adventures.

Congratulations to our Grade 7's who started out with the most challenging transition. You were all strong and brave and did a fantastic job navigating an unprecedented transition into middle school. See you next year is Grade 8.

Way to go Grade 8's, your grade 7 year was cut short and although we had no idea what this year would look like, you came back to school and did an amazing job adjusting.



One of our teachers, Ms. Brown thought, that in memory of the children found buried in a mass grave near the former Kamloops Residential School, she proposed we attempt to make 215 orange paper ravens to hang in the foyer. Our goal was accomplished, they now fly for all to see as you enter our building.



Our hands are raised to Ms. Brown who brought our school together in a time of mourning.

Last month we had fun collaborating with our Gr. 7 science classes to provide an opportunity for hands-on learning as students germinated and planted seeds of squash, cucumber, tomato, beans, and other plants. Students had to learn what their plants needed to survive and thrive through trial, error, and observations. They were then able to take their plants home to continue to grow over the summer--some said they felt like "proud parents". In keeping with First People's principles of learning, we hope to be able to work with more classes next year to create learning opportunities that are "holistic, reflexive, experiential and relational", and that "involve recognizing the consequences of their actions".



Hillside Elementary—Jacob Firlotte —Indigenous Liaison Worker

Ey Swayel,

I hope you're all doing well, as we wind down on the school year it is a good time to reflect before summer kicks in. The discovery of the '215' children in Kamloops has made this time emotional for a lot of Indigenous folks but it is far from surprising and far from the last to come.

The grade sixes had a lovely visit at Xa:ytem Longhouse for an informative tour; very refreshing. I hope everyone gets to enjoy the sun and find some nice berries this summer !

Jacob

Siyamo:lh Sq'ep

It's been such a great year meeting with these Siyamo:lh (young leaders). The learning has been immense for both the students and myself, I am deeply appreciative for the opportunity.

I hope everyone gets a good rest over the summer.

Jacob

Please Mark Your Calendars:



National Indigenous Peoples Day—June 21, 2021
Last Day for Students—June 29, 2021



Resource Elders

Agnes Giesbrecht and William and Priscilla Wells have volunteered their services as Resource Elders for parents who want support meeting with school personnel.

For further information please contact our office.
604-826-3103

To:lmels ye Kilaksten/ Knowledge of Peggy Janicki

to:lmels means “wisdom or knowledge” as shared by Pipte.

Éy Swáyél Everyone!

I wish to extend my heart and wish everyone strength and joy for June! It is difficult for me to continue as normal when a crime against humanity is shared across many news circuits, meetings, and personal conversations. The topic surrounding Kamloops Indian Residential School and the recent press release of Tk’emlúps te Secwépemc has been profoundly difficult.

In contrast, I am strengthened by family, community, and allies. There has been an outpouring of support and stands of solidarity that has warmed and cared for my heart. I often share that we, Indigenous families, already knew about stories like this. This is not news for us. So, I feel our conversations are quite different than what is happening in public spaces. Also, I am emboldened by the new (to me anyway) allies that are voicing their dismay, heartbreak, and Calls to Actions informed by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. My hope is everyone has a safe and strengthening summer!



Talk Soon,

Peggy Janicki
Indigenous Mentor Teacher
M.Ed – UBC Indigenous Knowledges/Indigenous Pedagogies

I acknowledge that I work and learn on the Traditional, Ancestral, Unceded, and shared territories of Matheqwi, Sq’ewlets, Qwó:lt’el, and Leq’á:mel First Nations.

École Mission Central Elementary—Rhea Paul & Deanna Dettieh—Indigenous Liaison Workers

The students at Mission Central Elementary have been working hard as summer approaches. There have been many cultural presentations recently, but an example of one that stands out was about Star Blankets. The students learned about the origin of Star Blankets and created their own colourful paper versions of the center of the Star Blanket. They did a great job!



The students also really enjoyed the archery presentations.



The students at M.C.E. have also been colouring t-shirts and feathers to pay their respects in memory of the 215 Indigenous children found at the Kamloops Indian Residential School. The coloured feathers are being placed at the entrance to the school to pay respects to the children who couldn't come home.



One of the school projects this year includes the creation of a “Button Blanket” in the form of a wall hanging. The wall hanging is being created in honour of the memory of the children found and will have 215 buttons sewn onto to it by the students, in the shape of a curved trail of stars.

**MSS—Jasmin Wells & Ariel Gienger—Indigenous Liaison Workers
& Don Cosens—Indigenous Student Success Coach**

Jasmin Wells

Ey Swayel!!

We made it to June! Some of Indigenous students have been working on our Table Journey Project with Indigenous artist Peter Gong. Our Final date will be on June 23 and we will have the students use a wood burning tool to sign their name next to their art piece. We will continue this project next year to get more pieces onto the tables!



It is the FINAL COUNTDOWN.- Ariel Gienger

Students at MSS have been working incredibly hard in completing assignments on achieving their educational goal such as graduation, and completing each grade they are in. I am so proud of the students at MSS and all that they have achieved this year. I feel very privileged to be able to work with such fine students this year. As the year comes to an end, I hope and wish the families of MSS well over the summer break and I can not wait to hear about all their summer adventures, come September. Enjoy your Summer and we will see you come September.

**CONGRATULATIONS GRADS OF 2021!
YOU DID IT!**

Silverdale—Marla Mulholland—Indigenous Liaison Worker

The concrete has been poured and set for our outdoor learning area in the shape of a circle. The next steps of this project will be to paint the four colours of red, white, black and yellow onto it. This will be a great outdoor learning area and when the project is complete, we hope to invite Kwantlen Elders to the school. We were so happy to have Kwantlen Elders come to the school's salmon release. It was a great day and a successful trip. A big thanks to Ms. Bout for her work hatching and caring for the salmon fry.



Stave Falls—Marla Mulholland—Indigenous Liaison Worker

In Remembrance of Residential School survivors, the school put this artwork at the entrance of the school. It is important to acknowledge what happened and continue to teach children the history. It is also important to continue teaching and learning about the history of Mission as well.

We are planning for the grade 6 class to attend Xa:ytem in June, and we are looking forward to that.

I also appreciated making beautiful butterflies in Mrs. Prium's class that are hanging on the walls of the school in the main hall.



Summit Learning Centre - Chris Gawthorn, grades K-3 Tiffany Bishop, grades 4-12

Welcome to June, WE MADE IT! As summer is just around the corner and we start to enjoy the sunshine more and more each day remember to continue to work hard and be kind.

For the month of June, we chose to highlight some of our student's schoolwork. We are very proud of all our students and the progress that everyone has made this year.

We look forward to seeing you in the fall, enjoy your summer and be safe!



West Heights Elementary– Chris Gawthorn and Mr. Cinch—Indigenous Liaison Worker

Well we have arrived at the best time of the year, summer! Our outdoor classroom is finished for this year, more will be added but you will have to see us next year to find out. Thank you for all your hard work and help with this project what a wonderful addition to our school.

Have a wonderful safe Summer and see you in the Fall.



**Windebank—Holly Gallant—Indigenous Liaison Worker
Indigenous School Based Administrator: Dr. L. Clarke**

We are coming quickly to the end of the school year. I hope everyone has a safe and restful summer. I am excited to announce that my assignment for next year is again at Windebank. I am busy organizing for a new year in September. My Right hand student, Katie did most.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank **Katie Kubb** for the last few years. She has been an excellent Leadership student and a big help to me. I am going to miss you Katie ! You have grown into a beautiful, warm human being.



Congratulations to **Rachell Burgess and Joselyn Burgess** for receiving Samsung Tablets for their article in Good Medicine and The Canoe.



We have been busy through this year of Honesty and Sasq'ets... We have been following the example of Honesty. We have made Indigenous Salt Dough Decorations. We have played with the puppets of the Seven Sacred Teachings as we have learned about them throughout the school and We have Rocked Our Mocs!

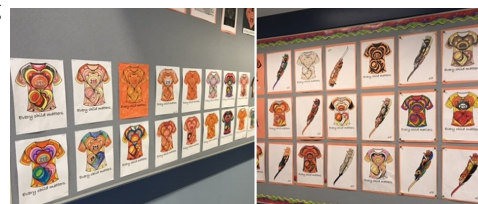


We now have five large panels done by **Peter Gong** of the Seven Sacred Teachings and we look forward to receiving the rest next school year. He has kept some covered for the big unveiling, so I haven't even seen them all.



Lastly, I would like to recognize **Windebank Elementary** in sharing my grief for the **215 Kamloops Residential School Children**, that have been found.

Special thanks to: **Ms. Mariner**, who's class created memorial footprints honouring the children. They were placed in the gazebo at Heritage park. **Ms. Veenstra's** and **Ms. Hallam's** classes for the 215 orange stones they painted and placed in a heart shape at Heritage Park. All the classes created heartfelt art and displayed the support in the windows and in the halls.



**Mitakuye Oyasin (All My Relations)
Holly Gallant**



SD75 Siwal Si'wes Indigenous Advisory Council

- Would you like to share your voice about Indigenous Education in Mission Public Schools?
- Would you like to connect and collaborate with the Indigenous school community about programs?
- Would you like to participate in the creation of the Indigenous Enhancement Agreement?

Come and join us!

Our meetings are on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. Please let us know if you wish to attend in person as we have a room limit. Otherwise, if you give me your email, you can join us on ZOOM

Contact & RSVP: Marcy Buell at marcy.buell@mpsd.ca
Or call, 604 826 3103



NEED TO REACH US?

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