

MAY, 2010



# Whale Tales

## TEXADA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

### Assessment Results - Our Report Card

We have now finished our District and Provincial assessments for the year. We are pleased to report that we have done extremely well in Reading Writing and Numeracy at both the District and the Provincial levels.

Please drop in and take a look at our results on the entrance bulletin board.

### FSA Results

The Provincial FSA assessment showed us at or above the provincial standards in Reading, Writing and Numeracy in Grades Four and Seven. Our District Numeracy assessment revealed that we are well above the District average in Grades 4-7 in Mathematics Concepts and Problem Solving. We will receive the results of our progress in District Reading and Writing shortly and we will give you that good news in our next newsletter. The students and teachers have worked very hard this year and once again we have proved:

**We May be Small, but we are MIGHTY!**





# Swimming

We attended four sessions of lessons and one free swim in May/June. The students worked very diligently to improve their water skills and we were pleased to get them tuned up for summer swimming.



# Track & Field

It was The wettest and coldest Track and Field Meet in recent memory but our intrepid team braved the elements and had a wonderful day.

All the team tried their best and we were proud of their effort and their persistence. We were mighty!

## Our Participants:

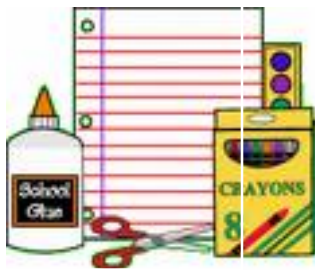
| 100 Meter | 400 Meter | 800 Meter | Relay    | Long Jump | Ball Through | High Jump |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|--------------|-----------|
| Gemma     | Gemma     | Quinn     | Sydney   | Quinn     | Danasia      | Gemma     |
| Sydney    | Sydney    | Ethan     | Quinn    | Jeremy    | Sienna       | Sydney    |
| Danasia   | Jessica   | Tyler     | Gemma    | Jessica   | Tristin      |           |
| Quinn     | Ethan     |           | Danasia  | Ethan     | Ethan        |           |
| Jessica   | Kiyarron  |           | Kiyarron | Jordan W  | Jordan W     |           |
| Tristin   | Jordan    |           | Jordan   |           | Kiyarron     |           |
| Kiyarron  | Tyler     |           | Tyler    |           |              |           |
| Jordan    |           |           | Ethan    |           |              |           |
| Tyler     |           |           |          |           |              |           |

# School Supplies

This coming school year we are again supplying students with their basic school supplies.

We understand how frustrating it can be to obtain the items we ask the students to bring and how awkward it is to re-supply items in mid-year.

Texada School will provide all students, K-7, with basic school supplies at no cost.



We will **not** provide items such as:

Packs  
Lunch Kits  
Water Bottles  
Gym shoes and strip  
Locker locks



But everything else will be ready and waiting for the first day of school.

We hope this will successfully address a number of both teacher and parental concerns.

# Roots of Empathy

Thank you Nicki, Paige and Miss May!

Roots of Empathy was a fun experience and taught a lot of kids new things. We had a baby come in every month. Her name is Paige and her mother's name is Nicki. She was so nice to come in and say hello to all of us. I think that this was beneficial to Paige, Nicki and all of us here at Texada Elementary. Miss May taught us to never shake a baby and to not put a loose blanket on a baby before bed and many more interesting things about babies.

By Quinn Lowdon



## ABOUT ME

**My name:** Rhianna Clark

**I was born** at the Powell River General Hospital.

**My family:** Jennifer, Chay and Hunter.

**My friends:** Raven, Ava, Ella and Adria.

**My Pets:** Kiesha and Nanook.

**Favorite Book:** My Little Pony

**Favorite Toy:** Pet Shop

**Favorite Place:** Texada Island

**Favorite Food:** Hotdogs

I love to play on the swings and I like to play on the computer

# Star's of the Week



## ABOUT ME

**My name** is Ella Stoddard. **I was born** in Victoria, my birthday is on the first day of Spring.

**My family** lives on both sides of Canada. I have a little brother named Cohen. **I have fun with my friends.**

I like going to their houses and when they visit me.

I like to play with my best friend Iliia.

**My Pet:**

I have a dog named Murphy.

**Favorite Book:**

All my Fairy books. I have lots of them.

**Favorite Toy:**

Pet Shop

**Favorite Place:**

My Secret Garden (I can't tell you where it is, it's a secret!)

**Favorite Food:**

Grandpa's cereal (*he fusses when I eat it all!*)

**Favorite Movie:**

Hotel For Dogs



## ABOUT ME

**My name:** Alivia Gussman

**I was born** at the Powell River General Hospital on May 22, 2002.

**My family:** my mom, and dad and two sisters and Gramma and Grampa

**My friends:** Raven, Ava

**My Pets:** dogs, cats and chickens

**Favorite Book:** Charlotte's Web

**Favorite Toy:** The Wii

**Favorite Place:** Texada Island

**Favorite Movie:** Alvin and the Chipmunks the Squeakuel.

**Favorite Place:** Inny's store and my Gramma's house.

**Favorite Food:** Hotdogs



# Grade Seven Farewell

Sadly we must bid our senior students Farewell. This is an exciting time for them and we want to give them a "Whale" of a send off.

We will bid them adieu on June 25.

As you know the whole student body and the Grade Seven parents join together for a lunch and a final goodbye.

The lunch is provided by the parents of the K-6 students by sending along sandwiches and other lunch items.

We will be sending home a sign up sheet for this event.



# Changes



As we are a small school we do not often have too many changes but next year will see a different look to our school. Due to declining enrolment we have become a two division school; Primary (K, 1,2,3) and Intermediate (4,5,6,7).

Ms. Lalani is taking a break for a year and exploring new horizons to see what life without a class is like. Ms. Lalani has been teaching for 24 years, 20 of them at Texada and she is looking forward to a break.

Mrs. Gordon is eager to assume the role of Primary teacher next year and she will move down the hall to embrace grades K, 1, 2, and 3.

I will remain as Principal and teach in the grade 4/5/6/7 classroom.

Mrs. Garvin will continue as our Secretary and Mrs. Robertson will be with us as our SSA and Custodian.

There is still a fair amount of tinkering to be done in the details but this is the main framework for next year.

The BIG change however is in the new vision of a school that meets the needs and wishes of Texada.

With the student population in decline it is obvious that we need to take a different approach to learning in order to continue to offer our students quality education and experiences.



Over the next year we are going to develop a school model to service the educational needs and goals of All our learners on Texada

Some of the plans for our new model include:

- A K-7 school delivering quality education
- Early Learners - Strong Start
- Adult Learners- High School completion
- University -on-line courses in our lab
- Alternate school students- another site to compliment the Powell River campus
- Advanced Placement - a head start for high school students wishing to do advanced courses for university
- Home School Students - access to our facilities, activities and resources
- Community Courses - use of our facilities (gym, shops, kitchen, stage) for short term courses
- Group Retreats and Courses - Music, Arts, Writers, Sewers, Weavers, Potters (yes we have a kiln)

And so many more things it makes your head spin!

The best part of all is that, as we are a public school, there is little or no cost for these activities.

So far the response has been overwhelmingly positive for this concept. Over the next year we are going to work with all sectors of the community and School District # 47 to turn the concept into reality.

This is just the beginning, get out your ideas, and hold on to your hats, here we go!

## Gymnastics

We had a really busy month of extra curricular physical activities in May and we managed to take in four Gymnastic sessions in Powell River.

Here is Jordan Wilson's account of our gymnastic activity.

### The Best Time this Year at Texada

I chose my topic on gymnastics because I thought it would be a fun paragraph to write about.

This year my school and I are going to gymnastics for a part of our PE program. We went to gymnastics every Tuesday for four weeks straight. I like gymnastics because we get more exercise and more trust with things we have never done before.

We got to gymnastics by bus and boat and when we got there we stayed from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm.

The part I liked the most was when we went on the Zunga and I got to jump into the pit. I liked "floor" because we got to do handstands and cartwheels and stretch our bodies. When we went on beam we had to try to keep our balance. It was fun.

In the end when gymnastics was over we all said, "THANK YOU" and then went back to school. We still had swimming left but that is a whole other story of new beginnings.

*Jordan Wilson*



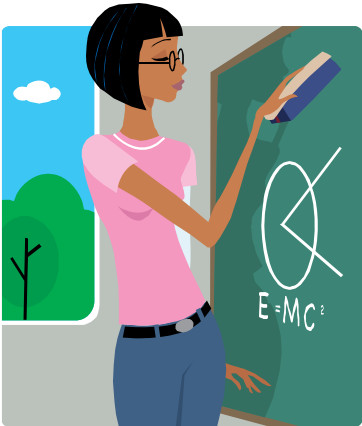
## Texada School Calendar 2010-2011

|           |                   |  |
|-----------|-------------------|--|
| Tuesday   | August 31         | Professional Development Day   |
| Wednesday | September 1       | Professional Development Day   |
| Tuesday   | September 7       | School opens   |
| Friday    | September 24      | Professional Development Day   |
| Monday    | October 4         | Parent Teacher (dismissal 1:00 pm)<br><i>Conferences 1:30 – 4:00 and 6:00 – 8:00 p</i>         |
| Wednesday | October 6         | Parent Teacher (dismissal 1:00 pm)<br><i>Conferences 1:30 – 4:00</i>                           |
| Monday    | October 11        | Thanksgiving Day   |
| Friday    | October 22        | Provincial Professional Development Day  |
| Thursday  | November 11       | Remembrance Day  |
| Friday    | December 17       | Schools close for Winter Vacation  |
|           | Dec. 20 to Jan. 3 | Winter Vacation  |
| Tuesday   | January 4         | Schools reopen   |
| Monday    | January 31        | Professional Development Day   |
| Monday    | March 14          | Professional Development Day   |
| Tuesday   | March 15          | Professional Development Day   |
| Wednesday | March 16 to 25*   | Spring Break– School District #47  |
| Monday    | April 11          | Student Led Conference (dismissal 1:00 pm)<br><i>Conferences 1:30 – 4:00 and 6:00 – 8:00 p</i> |
| Wednesday | April 13          | Student Led Conference (dismissal 1:00 pm)<br><i>Conferences 1:30 – 4:00</i>                   |
| Friday    | April 22          | Good Friday  |
| Monday    | April 25          | Easter Monday  |
| Monday    | May 23            | Victoria Day   |
| Wednesday | June 8            | Professional Development Day   |
| Thursday  | June 30           | Administrative Day   |

*\*Texada will add three minutes per instructional day to adjust instruction for lengthened Spring Break*

# Class Room Chatter

## Division 1



Well, it sure has been a busy time for our class! We had an entire month of weekly swimming and gymnastics lessons while also doing our best to fit in some practise for the annual district Track and Field Meet and make up for lost time in the Roots of Empathy program! Now that those events and activities have come to an end, we can focus on finishing up a few curricular themes during the home stretch of the school year.

Our science topic continues to be "Human Body Systems", and students are busy working on a science project at home. Please note that these projects are due at school no later than June 10<sup>th</sup>. Students have been provided with the details for the project and can request help from me as needed.

In social studies, we have been learning about Aboriginal Self-Government and looking at the historical context in which our country developed.

Our language arts activities have involved a final Literature Circles rotation as well as plenty of writing related to our learning in the content areas.

Math topics during the final bit of the year will likely involve some review, but we do have to wrap up two final topics: probability and statistics. Students will be practicing reading and constructing various graphs for the purpose of communicating statistical data. These curricular highlights will be accompanied by our usual end-of-year activities, so it will be a busy final month!

# Division 2



We had a very busy May with the students doing a splendid job of working very hard and producing their best work to be assessed.

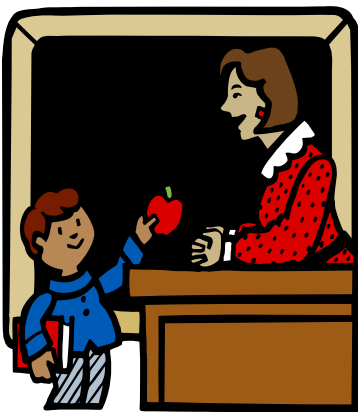
We unfortunately lost our class fish, "Bubbles" to a very strange happening. He lost most of his tail, and without his tail could not stay horizontal in the water and could not swim. We miss Bubbles and hope that he had a good life with us.

We completed our West Coast First Nations (Haida) model village and we are now replicating masks, bent boxes and learning how to draw designs with split U and ovoid forms. We have gained a lot of respect for the skill the First Nations brought to their culture.

The students enjoyed gymnastics and swimming and were a credit to our class and our school with their good behaviour.

We also took the majority of the class to District Track and the effort, sportsmanship and persistence they displayed was enormous. They are a splendid group of students.

# Division 3



We have been very busy! We have finished learning about butterflies and their life cycle. We are now reading about animals on the computer. In Social Studies, we have started learning about Canada and what it means to be a Canadian. In Math, we are continuing to review all of our basic concepts that we have covered so far this year. In Healthy Living, we are discussing ways to be safe in all areas of our lives.

We are so looking forward to the end of the school year.

# Fun Day



Arguably one of the most enjoyable days of our school year.

On Monday June 28, we will bus over to Powell River and enjoy the Complex pool in splendid isolation for 1 ½ hours.

Then, tired and relaxed, we will stroll down to Willingdon Beach where we will picnic on our packed lunches. Refreshed we will jaunt over to Mini Golf for a round of golf and perhaps have a

treat.

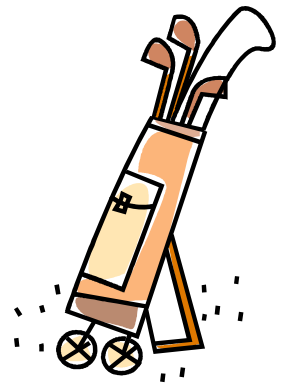
Back over to Willingdon Beach where we will explore the Museum and play in the water Park (weather and inclination permitting).

Down to the ferry and home.

Sounds like FUN to me.

Please feel free to join us on our day of bliss.

The bus unfortunately cannot take non-school district personnel and you will have to make your own way over and back. Carpooling might be the ticket.



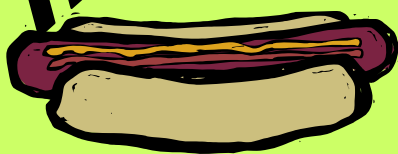
## Hot Lunch

*Yeah! We are in our last month!  
Although the weather lately feels and looks more like  
fall. Here is our final Hot Lunch Menu for the year.*

*June 2 - Hot dogs and soup*

*June 9 - PRO-D no school*

*June 23 - Grilled Cheese*



*Happy Summer Vacation—See you in September*



Please come and join us on  
Friday June 11, 2010

- 11:15 - 12:00: Shared reading with students  
(Gasp at their improvement)
- 12:00 - 12:30: Games on the playground  
(Teach the kids some old favorites and have some fun)
- 12:30 - 1:15: Have a burger on us! And eat some cake too!
- 1:15 - 2:15: The Grand unveiling of our Logging and Mining Mural

Entertainment to follow by: DunKin Donuts Jazz Combo & The Grief Point Junior Jazz Choir

✂

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**There are so many ways to RSVP!  
Please respond by Monday, June 7, 2010**

Emailing [mgarvin@sd47.bc.ca](mailto:mgarvin@sd47.bc.ca) or Call us! 604-486-7616 or Drop RSVP off at the School

I will be attending to read with students

I will be attending the barbeque and the grand unveiling

Sorry I can not make it

Number attending (excluding students)