

*We wish to acknowledge as a school community that we continue to work, learn and play together on the homelands of the Ktunaxa People.*



**Principal's Message**

Thank you all so much for making the 2025/26 school year successful. Please consider joining us for our commencement ceremony to congratulate the graduating class of 2026! You can join us on Thursday, June 25, at the Fernie Memorial Arena at 10:00 for the ceremony.

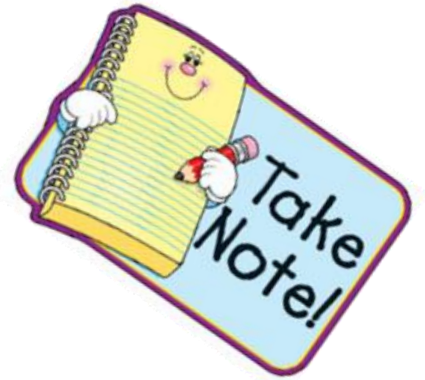
Have a great summer!



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## Upcoming Dates to Note:

- June 19<sup>th</sup> – Monday Day 1 Schedule
- June 22<sup>nd</sup> – Awards @ 10:05 in Gym
  - BBQ at lunch
  - Student Leadership Activities (PM)
- June 24<sup>th</sup> – Learning Update published
- June 25<sup>th</sup> – Grad Commencement @10:00



### **School Counsellor**

Karen Walker – [karen.walker@sd5.bc.ca](mailto:karen.walker@sd5.bc.ca)

Andrea Reed – [andrea.reed@sd5.bc.ca](mailto:andrea.reed@sd5.bc.ca)

Sarah Hallett – [sarah.hallett@sd5.bc.ca](mailto:sarah.hallett@sd5.bc.ca)

### **Indigenous Education Support Worker**

Willow Burk (IESW) [willow.burk@sd5.bc.ca](mailto:willow.burk@sd5.bc.ca)

Deb Springle (Elder in Residence) [deb.springle@sd5.bc.ca](mailto:deb.springle@sd5.bc.ca)

### **Youth Care Worker Support**

Lisa Bax (YCW) [lisa.bax@sd5.bc.ca](mailto:lisa.bax@sd5.bc.ca)

Sherry Bylsma (YCW) [sherry.bylsma@sd5.bc.ca](mailto:sherry.bylsma@sd5.bc.ca)

Ultimate Frisbee and Sr. Girls Soccer





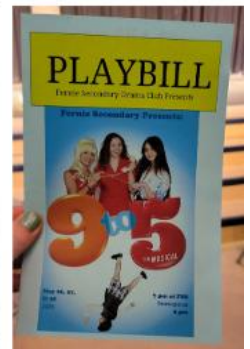
Ms. Wenda's Senior and Junior Art classes recently visited two art exhibitions at the Fernie Art Station.

*Power to Amp It Up* by Beth Gallup and *Stories from the Trails: Unlikely Adventures* by Megan Parker invited us to explore art from different perspectives.

Through Megan's visuals and stories, we learned that the intentions and motivations behind creating art are often rooted in personal experiences and the challenges we face as individuals.

Beth, on the other hand, gave us insight into her artistic practice, drawing inspiration from power poles and electricity and using these elements as the driving force behind her artwork.

# 9 To 5 Drama Production



# 9 To 5 Drama Production



# Ms. Prest Grade 8 – IDES Buddies



The students are practicing writing their names and then again with glue and went foraging outside with the grade 8s to make a little piece of art.

Ryann Majury and her little buddy Willa won the international Haiku contest that they entered in the fall! Yay.



**FSS Student Council**

The student council was lucky to have the opportunity to travel to Victoria this year. During the trip, we toured the parliament buildings, watched an IMAX movie, explored the museum, spent time downtown and enjoyed a picnic together. We all stayed in a hotel together, where we had breakfast together and went swimming in the evenings, which was conveniently very close to the pier where we could watch the sunset. Everyone had a great time and made many lasting memories, and we thank Ms. Webbs for organizing this amazing opportunity for us.



## **Child care in British Columbia has come a long way**

– lower costs, more licensed spaces, and a bigger workforce. And we are continuing to build on this progress.

## **As B.C. plans for the future of ChildCareBC, your voice matters!**

**Take this survey today.**

Scan the QR code or visit the website below.

**[gov.bc.ca/ChildCareSurvey](https://gov.bc.ca/ChildCareSurvey)**

Survey is open from May 28 – July 9.



**Big Energy, Big Learning, and Big Adventures in Mr. Gulyas' PE/Outdoor Education.**



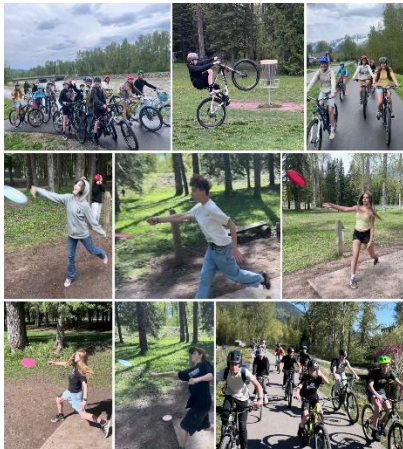
It has been a huge finish to the year in Mr. Gulyas' PE classes, with students stepping up in the gym, on the trails, in the community, and out on adventure. Across the last few weeks, students worked hard, tried new things, supported each other, and showed what active, hands-on learning can look like.

Grade 7 and senior Outdoor Ed students gave back to the community through outdoor learning with the Elk River Alliance and Fernie Trails Alliance.



Students helped care for young cottonwoods, supported trail work on Bacon Bits, learned about stewardship, and saw how small actions can help strengthen the places where we live, play, and explore.

Students helped care for



Grade 7 and 8 students headed to Calgary for live musical theatre at Jubilations and high-energy teamwork at Laser City. Back at school, PE classes transformed the gym into a circus-style adventure course with slacklines, stilts, rola bolas, juggling, devil sticks, swoosh boards, crash mats, and balance challenges.



To wrap things up, nearly 40 PE/Outdoor Ed students headed to Waterton for hiking, camping, waterfalls,



wildlife, and horseback riding. Students managed gear, cooked meals, assessed risk, supported friends, overcame nerves, and learned by doing.



These experiences show how PE/Outdoor Ed learning can happen in many different spaces. Students built confidence, resilience, leadership, teamwork, risk awareness, community connection, and lifelong movement skills through active, hands-on experiences.



A huge thank you goes to the community partners, families, chaperones, and supporters who helped make these opportunities possible. It was a big finish to a big year of movement, effort, resilience, leadership, and adventure.

Nice hustle, Mr. Gulyas



*Join us in celebrating the*  
Fernie Secondary School  
*Class of 2026*  
Thursday, June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Commencement Ceremony at Fernie Memorial Arena  
\*Reserved floor seating, public seating in the bleachers

LIVE STREAM [www.youtube.com/@mckeecdesigns71](http://www.youtube.com/@mckeecdesigns71)



6:00 PM Grad Photos @ City Hall

6:45 PM Grads walk from City Hall to Fernie Memorial Arena

**FERNIE MEMORIAL ARENA**

6:00 PM - 10:00 PM Food Trucks  
\*Flippin' Crepes, Buff's Smokin' BBQ, Mama's Dumplings, Chilango

7:15 PM Grand March

7:30 PM Family Dance Family & Friends Welcome

9:00 PM PROM GRADS & GUESTS ONLY



# Content for Parent Newsletters

## HEALTH PROMOTING SCHOOLS

JUNE 2026

### COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

#### Molluscum contagiosum

Molluscum contagiosum is a viral skin infection that causes small skin coloured bumps. This infection is most common in children. But teens and adults can also get it, often from taking part in sports like wrestling and gymnastics or from sexual contact. And it can occur in people with a weak immune system. The virus can spread from one part of a person's body to another part. Or it can spread to other people, such as among children at daycare or school. It can be spread through skin-to-skin contact, touching objects that have the virus on them, or through sexual contact. The virus is easily spread but **is not harmful**. The infection is contagious until the bumps are gone.

#### How can you prevent it?

To prevent molluscum contagiosum from spreading:

- Wash your hands.
- Try not to touch, scratch, or pick at the bumps.
- Cover the bumps with a bandage, medical tape, or clothing when around other people.
- Don't share towels or face cloths.
- If the bumps are on your face, don't shave.
- If the bumps are in your genital area, avoid sexual contact

For more information, visit [HealthLinkBC File #08i Molluscum contagiosum](#), or visit [BC Centre for Disease Control: Molluscum Contagiosum](#)

### INJURY PREVENTION

#### Safe Kids Week – Parachute



[Parachute Safe Kids Week](#) is an annual awareness campaign designed to bring attention to predictable and preventable injuries in children. Safe Kids Week is from June 1 to June 7, 2026, with the theme of #SafeSpeedsForKids. Did you know that transport incidents, such as motor vehicle collisions, are the **leading cause** of injury-related death and **third-leading cause** of injury hospitalizations and emergency department visits in children from birth to age 14? June has the highest number of child bicyclist

injuries and deaths. Generally, these injuries happen in spring and summer when children are riding most often.

#### As a parent/caregiver:

- **Plan and use safe routes, where possible.** When walking or wheeling, you and your kids are safest away from motor vehicle traffic. Use sidewalks, paths and bicycle lanes when these are available.
- **Travel with your younger children.** Young children can navigate simple street structure. The skills to navigate more complex environments develop around the ages of nine to 11. While your children are developing skills, walk with your children and talk to them about pedestrian safety.

- **Teach your child where and how to cross streets safely.** Practise with them looking and listening for oncoming traffic, crossing once cars have come to a full stop, and crossing at corners or marked crossings. [Learn more about pedestrian safety.](#)
- **Check your ride.** Ensure your child's bike is adjusted correctly for their height. Have them do a bike check before riding to ensure tires are inflated and brakes are working properly.
- **Consider your child's skills before riding on the road.** Help your child build the physical and thinking skills they need to ride safely on the road. [Learn more about cycling safety](#)
- **Choose the right car seat or booster seat for your child and make sure it's used properly for every single ride.** When travelling by car, children are less likely to be severely injured when the right car seat, booster seat or seat belt is used on every ride. [Learn more about child passenger safety](#)

Everyone has a role to play in keeping kids safe on our roads. Creating safer roads for kids means slowing down, staying alert, and being especially cautious in places where children live, learn and play.

## MENTAL HEALTH

### Summer Resources

Summer is around the corner and parents might have children with ongoing mental health concerns. Below are Interior Health resources to help support:

- Call [\*\*310-MHSU \(6478\)\*\*](tel:310-MHSU(6478)) to reach your [local Mental Health and Substance Use Centre](#)
- Connect with [Access MHSU Services](#) for more information and links to services to help people in your care
- [Mental Health Services for Children & Youth](#) webpage contains a list of children & youth services to help young people with their mental health concerns
- [Child and Youth Mental Health & Substance Use Service Directory](#) contains a list of key service providers in the interior region. This resource will help you easily find services in your area.
- [Mental Health Services Overview for Children & Youth](#) is a one-page summary of services offered to young people in Interior Health.
- [Mental Health Services for Children & Youth Snap Shot](#) (linear diagram) contains clickable links. Click a link to see the service description and a list of MHSU Centres offering the service.

### Online Event: Explosive Behaviour in Teens: Strategies to Empower Families (June 4 or 11)

When teens show up in explosive ways, parents sometimes blame themselves, or not know how to respond during those hard moments. Finding help can feel challenging. Kirk Shields-Priddy (MSW/RSW, Group and Family Therapist with Fraser Health START Program) explains some causes of explosive behaviour in teens, and strategies for parents and teens. For more information and registration- [Explosive Behaviour in Teens: Strategies to Empower Families | Kelty Mental Health](#)

