

# SOUTHEAST KOOTENAY PATHWAYS TO LEARNING



Steeple Elementary School honours the 215 Indigenous children discovered buried at the Kamloops Indian Residential School. We would like to credit Michelle Stoney, Gitksan artist for her feather design.

June, 2021





## School District 5 (Southeast Kootenay)

### PATHWAYS TO LEARNING

Vision	Mission	Values
Students love to learn here, staff love to work here, families love to gather here	Our students will graduate with dignity, purpose and options	Respect, Vision, Fairness, Collaboration, Integrity, Inclusion

#### Engaging All Learners

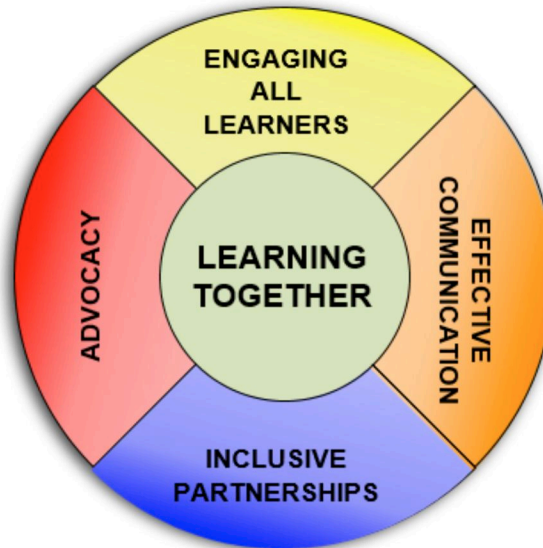
**Goal:** To inspire all learning partners to create and contribute to an engaging, personalized educational experience for our learners.

- Provide a safe, supportive environment that fosters continued growth in a rapidly changing environment
- Honour all pathways to graduation
- Acknowledge deeper learning opportunities based on individual strengths and abilities

#### Advocacy

**Goal:** Advocate for specific needs in our District and for public education in general.

- Encourage governments to fully fund public education
- Advance the replacement of aging schools through Ministry and community partnerships
- Provide a forum for the development and celebration of innovative practices



#### Effective Communication

**Goal:** Continue to foster two-way, ethical communication between the District and all learners, students, staff, parents and community in a timely, concise and inclusive manner.

- Ensure information is current
- Provide user-friendly platforms
- Create opportunities for meaningful dialogue

#### Inclusive Partnerships

**Goal:** Cultivate opportunities for shared community awareness, engagement and resources to enhance student learning.

- Engage community participation in providing meaningful student learning opportunities
- Promote educational partnerships that enhance student learning and are beneficial to the community
- Advance active community engagement in real-world learning opportunities for students

# Engaging All Learners

## HIMU Disc Golf Course

Fernie Secondary School has completed the HIMU Disc Golf Course! Within walking distance of both Fernie Secondary and Isabella Dicken, it can be utilized by both schools during school days as well as the public after 4pm. A map of the course can be found below in addition to the rules of the course.



**WELCOME**  
to HIMU  
Disc Golf  
Course!

Here are a couple of pointers for your enjoyment of the space:


- \* The course is colour coded! Number 1 can be found on the Art Room side of SS, near the opening of Himu forest.
- \* This is our space, please tidy up after yourself!
- \* The baskets are for disc, not clothing hangers, or kit hangers or anything else hangers!
- \* Open to public after 4pm and on weekends only.
- \* Please park in Student Parking.
- \* The gravel area and bus loop are no parking zones.

**\*HAVE FUN!** This is a great place to spend time as a family or a class! If we all respect it, we will all be able to enjoy it for years to come!

# HIMU


Disc Golf Course

Origin of the Himu (him-oh) name:  
Ponderosa Pine/Red Pine (Pinus ponderosa) in Kṛunaxw: Himu



We would like to acknowledge that we are grateful to learn, share, grow and play on the Homelands of the Kṛunaxw people

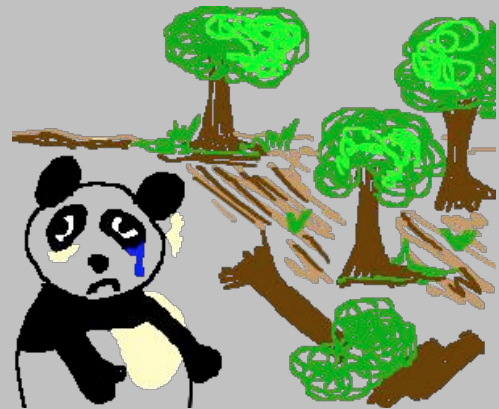
**COLOUR CODED MAP**





### Green Thumbs

Mme. Holmes at Parkland Middle School took on the climate and created prototypes that could combat deforestation. They learned about the impacts of deforestation and made their own connections between the loss of different species and their own lives. They demonstrated how planting and supporting forests could be possible with robotics and automation.



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# Engaging All Learners

## Changing Results for Young Children (CR4YC)

Changing Results for Young Children held their virtual Provincial Gathering on May 12th. This virtual session was on The Science and Practice of Resilience with special guests Dr. Kimberley Shonert-Reichl, Goldie Hawn and Monique Gray Smith. School District No. 5 had 5 teachers and 3 StrongStart Coordinators participate in this session.

## Small Secondary School Think Tank

Sparwood Secondary School participated in the 7th annual Think Tank: Imagining the Futures of Small Secondary Schools on May 27 & 28 hosted by The University of British Columbia.



## CBT Basin Plays Grant

"With the Columbia Basin Plays Grant, the PE department at Elkford Secondary School was able to purchase 17 pairs of MSR Evo Trail Snowshoes. These snowshoes are durable and versatile. They will allow students to go off trail and find their way through their local backcountry. These snowshoes are primarily for the PE department; however, they can be easily shared with the school populace for outdoor classes and events. Student will learn to snowshoe in PE, which could allow classes like English, to seamlessly go into the wilderness and develop their sensory writing during winter weather. These snowshoes are strong and durable, it is hoped that they will give access to all students to the local backcountry."



Check out the sitting stones at the front of Fernie Secondary School by the bus loop! Amanda Lavoie and other AESWs from the Elk Valley have brought sitting stones to a few Elk Valley Schools in May. Amanda continues to work with the Elders to have the area traditionally named. Thank you, Amanda!



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# Engaging All Learners

## MANDT Training

More MANDT Physical Skills were learned this month with Student Services Teachers, Education Assistants and Youth Care Workers. Again, due to COVID and the physical distancing rules, we used inflatable aliens to administer this training. Valuable skills were learned with a few laughs mixed in!



## Earthquake! Hold on, Don't LEGO!

A couple different classes explored the earth at the Design Lab. Students learned about the different layers of the earth and plate tectonics in augmented reality, a technology that displays images in the room when looking through an iPad or other digital camera. Students then had to build an earthquake machine and build a robust structure that could withstand a magnitude 10 LEGO earthquake. They didn't just get to grab their LEGO though. They first had to mine and deliver it by creating a robotic delivery system using the new Design Lab Ozobots.

Once their prototype building had passed the test, students took their designs to the next level of scale and built bigger buildings for the larger earthquake machine. There were a ton of failures at first but with the successful designs, the ideas started spreading and most groups were able to create a robust structure that could withstand the violent shaking.

## Game Designers

Students at Parkland Middle School returned to their coding roots and created some amazing scratch games. Most of the students in Mrs. Tichauer's class, have explored coding for a few years now in class and through the Transformative Learning program. They were led through some of the introductory lessons and then shown some additional resources to help them advance their coding. Some creative and fun games spun out of the crowd. Check out a couple of the games here!

Pickle Poppers: <https://scratch.mit.edu/projects/529765090/fullscreen/>

Zombie Survival:

<https://scratch.mit.edu/projects/516949104>

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# Engaging All Learners

## Inclusive Education Working Group

The Inclusive Education Working Group met for the final time this year. We are thankful for this group of people who helped to build a 3-year roadmap for the future of Inclusive Education. The group will meet once or twice per year to track progress and set further direction.



## Follow that Map

Students from Ms. Spergel's class at EIDES and Ms. Hindlet's cohort from KDS learned about their local community, mapping basics, and robotics. We read the story called "Follow That Map" that explained the different types of maps, and what is included on a map. The story also included finding two animals named Max and Ollie that were hiding somewhere on each map. After the story, we brainstormed places to include on a map of Fernie. Each group drew a map using special markers and line types, and then drew where Max and Ollie were hiding in Fernie. They then had their Ozobot drive through to the different places on the map to find Max and Ollie. At the end, we connected the maps together to make one massive map.



## Abstract Art and Robotics

Students in Ms. Traverse's class briefly learned about a famous abstract painter named Jackson Pollock whose one painting sold for over 140 million dollars in the 1980's. Students then created their own abstract art using a Sphero robot.

## Virtual Reality

Students in Ms. McMullan's class at RMES and Ms. Woeszczak-Macvicar's Technology Club from EIDES had the opportunity to try their hand at using virtual reality. Each student experienced an ethereal world where their arms turned green and stretched like plastic, they could teleport within the world. Their experience involved solving puzzles, watering plants, and collecting seeds. Students used problem-solving strategies to move to each new section in the experience.

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**Legends and Spheros** Students in Ms. Lewis' class at FJMES retold a legend using a Sphero. They designed a story map and then coded the Sphero with speech to summarize the main parts of the story. Students worked hard with the timing and speed of their Sphero to match the story map sequence.



## Lego Robotics

Students from Ms. Holmes class from Jaffray spent part of the day at the Fernie Design Lab. Each group chose a different robotic challenge to build and code. Some groups made robotic grabbers, others made chomping robots and a couple groups created interactive music machines and a talking robot.

## Shelter Building in the Community Forest

Ms. Kirkpatrick's grade 5/6 class and Mrs. Johnson's grade 6 class spent time in the Community Forest practicing their shelter building skills. The students worked in groups to construct shelters using only materials found on the forest floor.



## Laurie Middle School Compass Adventures Continue

The Compass class at Laurie Middle School adventured in the Kimberley Nature Park on May 27. Students spent the day experiencing nature through hiking, novel reading and reflecting.



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# Inclusive Partnerships

## Ready, Set, Learn 2021

Ready, Set, Learn is an initiative that recognizes that families need positive connections with the school system and community agencies that provide relevant resources and information. All our Elementary Schools in School District No. 5 (Southeast Kootenay) offered an opportunity for all 3-to-5-year olds and their parents or guardians to receive an information/activity package. The event this year again looked a little different, but kids were able to see their Kindergarten Teacher, Principals, and Education Assistant's in a variety of ways. Some met them at the school bus for their packages and a wave, others met at their school. We saw many happy and excited faces as Ready, Set, Learn events were held in Cranbrook and the Elk Valley in April and May.



## District Resource Centre now offering shelter building kits!

Ms. Malmberg at the District Resource Centre is pleased to announce that shelter building kits complete with tarps, different types of bungees, parachute cords, carabiners, tent pegs and mallets are available now.



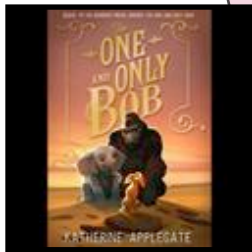
## Disc Golf

Disc golf is so much fun and the resource centre has portable disc golf target that are easy to set up and take down. The targets are a fun way to create an outdoor course anywhere. Disc golf improves hand-eye coordination and encourages movement.



## Teachers ask and we listen

By popular request, the District Resource Centre has added the novel "The One and Only Bob" to our library. Thank you for your thoughtful requests that make our library even better!



## June means returning materials to the District Resource Centre

Teacher Librarians across the district are gearing up for the busy month of June. It is the time of year to collect all those materials that have been used and enjoyed throughout the year. The DRC is pleased to be able to help make collection and inventory a little easier with our portable handheld scanners available for loan.

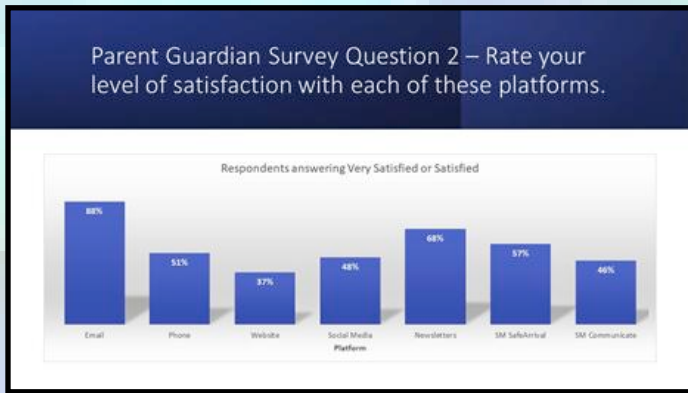
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# Inclusive Partnerships

## Communication Survey Results

Thank you to staff, parents and guardians for completing the brief communication survey at the beginning of May. This data helps us to evaluate our current district communication practices. Email still appears to be the top communication platform for school to home communication and parents/guardians are very satisfied with this form of communication. Full survey results are available upon request.



## East Kootenay Community Credit Union (EKCCU) sponsors Outdoor Learning Classroom Kits in School District 5 (Southeast Kootenay)

A few more photos from our schools to thank CBEEN for putting together a proposal to East Kootenay Community Credit Union (EKCCU) to sponsor fully customizable [Outdoor Learning Classroom Kits](#) for all elementary schools in School District 5. EKCCU generously donated \$500 for each kit. These kits will help our schools kick off the spring season with outdoor learning.



*Thank You*

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# Inclusive Partnerships

## Foundry Leadership Table Update

Things are progressing well at the Foundry Leadership table. The Foundry has now secured a site near downtown and the group looks forward to construction starting soon. While Foundry does have an online component, the ability for our youth to connect face to face in real time for support is the premise on which the Foundry model is based. Exciting times!



## DSAC Update

This past week saw our 'wrap up' DSAC meeting for the year. Special thanks to our Grade 12 members who will be moving on to exciting opportunities after graduation. Their leadership in this difficult year made the meetings as fun and productive as they could be. Thanks as well to Trustee Bellina, David Doll, Ian Jarrell and Gail Rousseau for their time and energy this year!



**HR Update-** With the latest news of the BC Restart Plan, Human Resources has started the work involved to put together a retirement celebration to recognize and honor our retirees. This year we have 9 teachers and 13 support employees retiring. Retirees and a guest will be honored on June 22, 2021 following all the latest COVID guidelines that were included in the May 28 BC's Restart Plan. During the first week of June, retirees can expect to receive a personal call from the Human Resources Department inviting them to this event.

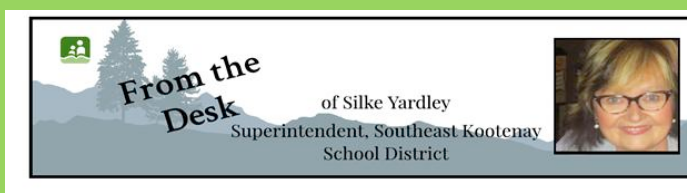
School District 5 has many new exciting opportunities including a principal posting at Frank J. Mitchell Elementary School and a vice-principal posting at Elkford Secondary School. These jobs will be closing mid June and it is hoped we will have these new administrators in place for August 1, 2021.

In addition, HR is actively recruiting in a number of areas for work within School District 5 including Plumbers, Mechanics, Bus Drivers, Teachers Teaching On-Call, Teachers, Education Assistants, Youth Care Workers and Custodians. Next year will see our Youth Care Worker opportunities grow by 11 new permanent positions with equal opportunities in both Cranbrook and the Elk Valley. These job opportunities and many more positions within our district can be found on our website.

In addition to hiring new employees June is the time to assist Education Assistants with the transfer request process. Emails went out June 1 to all Qualified Education Assistants to start the process. HR will be working on placing all our Education Assistants in positions for the next school year as early as the beginning of July.

## District Scholarships

This past week saw the end of our scheduled District Scholarship presentations for this graduation year. As usual, we saw some outstanding presentations, and the decisions on who to award scholarships to will be a challenging one as always for the scholarship committee. Every year we see something new and unique, and this year was certainly no exception. We have 47 Provincial awards of \$1250 to award, and we have so many deserving candidates! Thanks to Trustee Kitt and Directors Diane Casault and Jason Tichauer for making these hard decisions!



**A year end letter from the Superintendent will be coming out separately for all students/parents and staff! Stay tuned!**

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# Ministry of Education Update



**COVID-19 INFORMATION:** [May 25 News Release BC Restart Plan](#) These changes **do not** impact the existing COVID-19 [Operational](#) and [Health & Safety](#) Guidelines for K-12 settings, which remain in place and must continue to be followed for the remainder of the school year.

**Graduation** [guidance document](#) to support graduation ceremony planning aligning with the current PHO-**Updated May 28** [Gatherings and Events Order](#) and the [Provincial COVID-19 Health & Safety Guidelines for K-12 Settings](#).

•A program for children & youth (which can include events such as a safe grad held at a community centre). Requirements include but are not limited to:

- ❑ Up to 50 people total (including event staff/volunteers). No spectators. People maintain 2 metres from those outside of their household.
- ❑ Measures are put in place to avoid congregation.

•An outside, seated event (can include events such as group dinners). Requirements include but are not limited to:

- ❑ Up to 50 people total (including event staff/volunteers).
- ❑ People maintain 2 metres from those outside of their household.
- ❑ There is a chair available for every person and people remain seated except to obtain food or drink or to use the washroom.
- ❑ Community-organized events must also have a [COVID-19 Safety Plan](#).

BCCDC has released new materials about vaccines for 12-17 year olds:

- ❑ Summarized key information in a PDF for easy sharing: [COVID-19 Vaccination Information – Children Aged 12-17](#)
- ❑ Updated information about [children and young people](#) on the BCCDC website
- ❑ New FAQs on the BCCDC schools website re: vaccines for [parents and students](#), [school staff](#) and [administrators](#).

Updated information on how to register and book/attend an appointment for those 12-17 is available at:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/covid-19/vaccine>

[News Release Youth Can Get Vaccinated](#)

**Mask Exemptions** Email [educ.covid@gov.bc.ca](mailto:educ.covid@gov.bc.ca) for questions or assistance.



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# Schools

## Ready, Set, Learn 2021



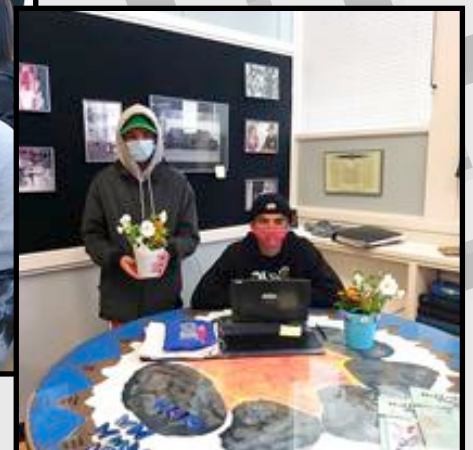
Here is a poster that was done by Ms. Gorka's grade 8 class at Laurie Middle School around a discussion on Missing and Murdered Indigenous women.



**Backcountry Hiking for Elkford Secondary Grade 9 Students** - PE 9 students at Elkford Secondary showed their grit and strength as they climbed into their wilderness. Students explored 9.5 kilometers of their backcountry, investigating Josephine Falls, Lost Lake and Lilly Lake.



The Cottage Restaurant in Cranbrook kindly asked our MBSS art students to brighten up the cement blocks placed around their outdoor seating. Artists Jada Heywood, Chantel Hennessy, Hailey Dawson and Maclean MacKay volunteered. It is coming along nicely!



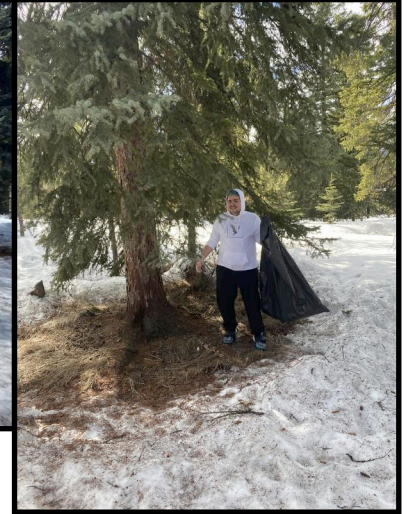
Slack line fun at Frank J. Mitchell Elementary School!

Mount Baker Secondary students making their moms' momma day gifts at school!

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# Schools

Before spring break, the senior year book class and Social Studies 10 class at ESS did a cleanup of the area behind the school and the trail area leading to Chauncey Ridge. Students were provided gloves and bags by the Aboriginal Education department (thank you Brenda!). The students all showed great attitudes and were able to take pride in a job well done! Each pair of students collected a bag of garbage to help clean up our school!



For SSS, the classes competed in a class by class challenge to help clean up their community during (and a few days after due to crazy weather) Earth Day. The students and staff picked up more than 75 large bags of garbage around Sparwood! The winning class was Mrs. Olesen's grade seven Blue group with 12 bags!



Frank J. Mitchell Grade 4s making moccasins with Faye O'Neil!



Here are a few pictures of the grade 5 classes at Amy Woodland Elementary School working on a STEM challenge during Wilderness Wednesday. They had to build household items using materials found in the forest.



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# Schools

Mme. Pamela read a book to her Kindergarten class that Mme. Sartorel showed on the announcements called "If Rocks Could Sing" and then they went on a hunt at Jim Smith Lake for letters made of natural objects. The T.M Roberts Elementary School students found lots of letters, but will look for more next time they are back at Jim Smith. They hope to find all the letters A to Z.



Students at F.J. Mitchell got to explore some Maker activities!

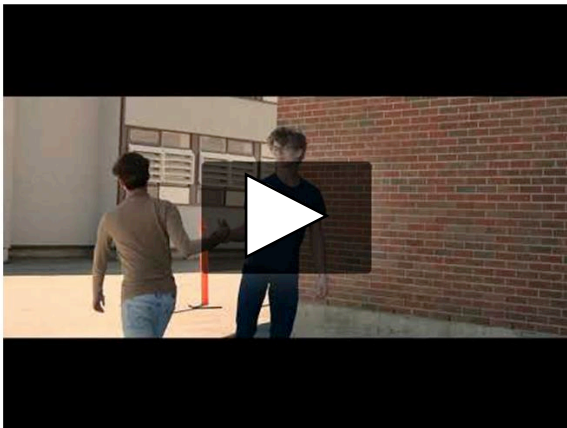


## [Highlands Got Talent Trailer](#)

Enjoy a sneak peek of a few of the acts from the talent show!

### Bronze Winners

[Yaj Lavarias & David Steiner | Mount Baker Secondary](#)



Congratulations to the Bronze medal winners for the Skills Canada BC Video Production Virtual Competition. For this year's project the students were asked to create a 60-90 second video using the genre their choice, to portray the message "How Covid-19 changed the world in one month".



Here is the meal worm lifecycle and the frog lifecycle shown here by Gordon Terrace Elementary school students.



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# Schools



On May 27, Ms. Traub's Outdoor Ed class from Sparwood Secondary had the opportunity to go stand up paddle boarding and kayaking at Surveyors with Canyon Raft Company. The students developed new skills, practiced water safety, and experience place-based learning while having a great time in the sunshine. Thank you, Canyon Raft!



Here are a few pictures of Amy Woodland staff and students dressed as their favorite book characters in recognition of Children's Book Week.



MBSS Rock Circle



Here are just a few photos from shop class where Mr. Olorenshaw built cutting boards and condiment holders with our senior students at Elkford Secondary School.

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Congratulations to our own "Baker's Dozen" who have just been announced as the winners of the Senior High School Choir division of the BC Performing Arts Festival.

After receiving top honours at the East Kootenay Performing Arts Festival held here in Cranbrook this past March, the group was sent on to represent our region at the provincial competition, which is permitted only by special recommendation of the regional judges.

The provincial virtual concert and adjudication was held in Comox this past weekend and involved participants from 34 regional festivals from all over British Columbia.

Although the panel of national judges presented a very detailed and demanding adjudication, they gave the students a great deal of inspiring new ideas and concepts to work on in future performances.

Normally, winning at the provincial level would mean that the group is automatically entered into the nationals, which this year was going to be held this July in Saskatoon. Sadly however, the event has been postponed until next year due to COVID complications.

Recordings of their performance will be made available soon.

If you see any of our crew in your travels, please give them a shout!

- Beth Gartside
- Rachel Cleland
- Layla Gross
- Ashlyn Patterson
- Blaise Edmonstone
- Cyndel Fisk
- Naomi Hall
- Chloe Van Hesteren
- Austin Dolan
- Jacob Berry
- Issac Grasdahl
- David Menning (bass)
- Erin Adams (piano and vocals)
- Chase Currie (drums)



The Kindergarten and Grade 1's at Gordon Terrace Elementary School got a visit from Officer Neilson!



Elkford Secondary PE 9: Whole Class Golfing



Deklin Stevely from Highlands Elementary School took some amazing photos of living organisms in our ecosystem on his class field trip to Wycliffe Regional Park. Thanks Wildsight Education for a fantastic day!

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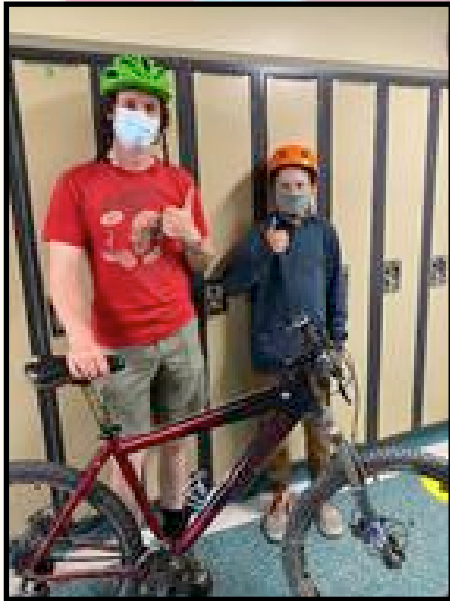
At Laurie Middle School, in Cranbrook, we jumped into the GoByBike challenge with both tires! Most students are riding their bikes to school with distances between 2 and 4 km round trip. One of our out-of-town students who takes the bus each day challenged his teacher (who also lives out-of-town) to ride their bikes to school this week. The teacher, not to be fooled by a potentially 'false' challenge, said "You ride first and then I'll ride the next day".

So on Tuesday, Mac Salvador, did not take the bus to school and instead rode his bike the **17 km** round trip from home to school. The challenge was REAL!

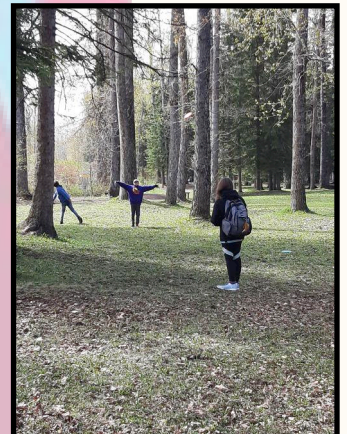
This left Mr. Hall with no choice but to get up 2.5 hours earlier on Wednesday to ride the 33km **ONE WAY** route from home to school. The students and staff at LMS are enjoying the fun of riding to school for GoByBike week, but Mac and Mr. Hall will always remember this week and we have the picture to include in our yearend slide show.



Nasukin Joe Pierre with students from the Mount Baker Warriors Leadership Program setting up a tipi on May 11th as part of Warriors culture, teamwork, service, and leadership.



FJMES Gr 6 Block X shelter building



Grade 6 FJMES Disc golf trip



Eco - therapy offered everyday free of cost at FSS! Thanks to our amazing maintenance and caretaking crews for our lovely outdoor spaces!



TMRES outdoor enthusiasts!

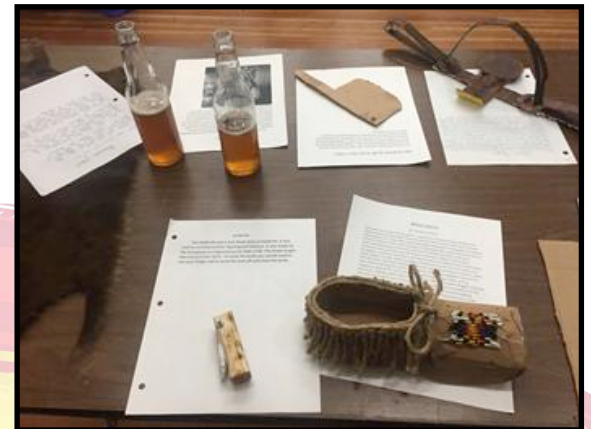


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# Schools



Jigging at Amy Woodland Elementary School.



Compass Students at LMS created trade items during the times when Europeans encountered the lands of the Indigenous Peoples.



Mrs Willumeit's Kindergarten class From Gordon Terrace spent the day at Kikomun Creek Provincial Park participating in nature walks and CBEEN's Turtle Truths with Ayla Bennett.



Three girls in Mrs. Mac's class at FJMES wanted to help the Earth by cleaning up garbage around a play area. They called themselves Earth Rangers and picked up a lot of garbage in 45 minutes.



Soap stone carvings at Amy Woodland Elementary School.



The grade 5 classes at AWES held their DARE Grad ceremony during Wilderness Wednesday at Jimsmith Lake.

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# Schools



Mrs. Boehm's Outdoor Leadership 10 students from JEJSS biked rails to trails from Cranbrook to Wardner.



At FJMES, Mrs. Mac's kids took math outside.

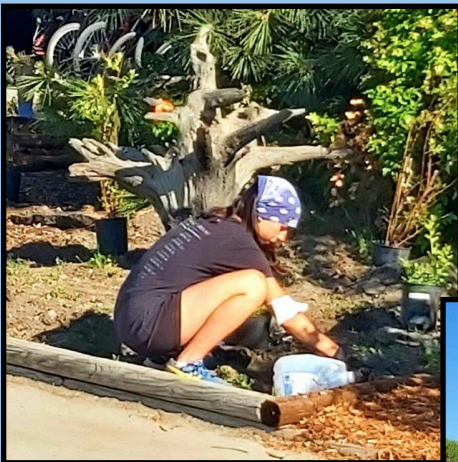
Mud kitchen at FJMES.



Bird feeders at FJMES.



*Happy Summer*



Mrs. Cormier's Leadership Outdoors class in consultation with Gerald Puhach and staff from Nupqu Native Plant Garden did a tidy up and planting of our Garden at MBSS.



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