



Message from the Administration

Mr. Kal Russell
Principal

Mr. David Mark
Vice-Principal

NORTH SAANICH MIDDLE SCHOOL

School Goals 2013-2014

Goal #1—
To improve student achievement in Mathematics.

Goal #2—
To improve student social responsibility.

The Hawk Eye

NSMS Earth Day and Sustainability

We are once again preparing to celebrate Earth Day at North Saanich Middle School. Earth Day used to be a once a year focus day where schools would do something special to help the environment like: picking up garbage at a local park, shutting off the lights for the day or bring a litter less lunch to school. Our students understand that although we celebrate Earth Day once a year with a special event, our commitment to being environmentally friendly never ends.

This commitment to ensure the environmental stewardship agenda remains high profile at North Saanich is an ongoing focus. At a recent assembly, we reviewed the importance of being a Gold Standard LEEDS school. Gold LEEDS schools are environmentally friendly by design, construction and operation. The building contains Geo-exchange heating, wind turbine, solar panels and bio-filters. All these green features help to reduce the foot print we leave at NSMS and also raise awareness of new environmental technologies to our students and staff. In accepting this standard as a school, we have committed ourselves to also reducing and recycling. In fact, we now collect less than two garbage bags per week for the whole school. The school is cleaned only with Eco-friendly cleaners, we use spray bottles that produce a miniscule electric charge to kill over 99% of bacteria without using chemicals.

In Addition to focusing our students on LEEDS expectations, we have invited in a few outside groups to pass along their message of conservation. The Jellyfish Project was a high energy rock concert that shared their message of environmental awareness with us. Music was used as a tool to focus our students on the declining health of our world's oceans and our environment at large.

This week, we have Creatures of Habi-

Dates to Remember

At <http://northsaanich.sd63.bc.ca/> for current information on these activities.

April 2014	
Creatures of Habitat	22/23
Gr8 Band to Whistler	24-27
PAC Mtg	29
May 2014	
Non Instructional Day	12
Gr5s Orientation to NSMS	14
Gr5 Parent Evening	14
Victoria Day (Non instructional)	19
Spring Band Concert	26

tat working with all our grade 6/7 Multi-age classrooms. This full day of hands on conservation activities, is run by Peninsula Streams. All our students will be engaged in a number of indoor and outdoor activities. The indoor activities include a variety of interactive displays (past displays delivered by LifeCycles, CRD Parks, Parks Canada, Victoria Compost Education Centre, etc) along with an EnviroJeopardy presentation. The outdoor component is ecological restoration-based and involves the students in hands-on restoration activities in the forest area adjacent to our school grounds and Lillian Hoffar Park.

The NSMS Greenhouse is being fully utilized in our school. Last week our gardening club made salsa with the tomatoes and herbs they have grown this winter. The rest of the produce and spices are being used in our canteen and home economics classes. The greenhouse is filled with student grown plants and continues to be a vibrant learning area for our students.

We are proud of the many green and environmental features and programs at our school. If you ever want to learn more about our LEED features, please let us know at the office and we will arrange a student led tour.

Please
DO NOT PARK
IN THE BUS ZONE,
after school.

Particularly between 3:15 and 3:40. Our bus drivers are having a difficult time pulling in safely to pick up our students. Thank you for your help.