

# Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw School Newsletter

Strong Together In All We Do



October 2019

## News from the Principal

Gilakas'la

October was another jammed packed month of learning and experiences! We kicked off the month with singer and songwriter Norman Foote visiting the school. His energy and enthusiasm and his way of engaging and involving the students was wonderful to see. We also practiced our earthquake preparedness during the Great B.C. Shakeout Drill. Teaching our students how to react immediately and appropriately during an earthquake will hopefully allow them to be safe in these situations. We capped off the month with Halloween. Students participated in a costume parade and school dance. Seeing all the students all dressed up in their costumes is one of the highlights of the year!



The ground breaking for the Gukwdzi in October was truly a memorable moment for our school and community. Our students danced during the ceremony and witnessed this historic day for the Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw. We are looking forward to construction of the big house!

This past month was also filled with unimaginable loss. Again, on behalf of the school we would like to send our condolences to the family of Tyrese Wilson. He was such a huge part of our school for so long. We know that no words can ease this loss, just know that you are not alone. We are all there to surround you and you with support and love.

I look forward to seeing many of you at our annual indoor soccer tournament.  
All the best to our families,

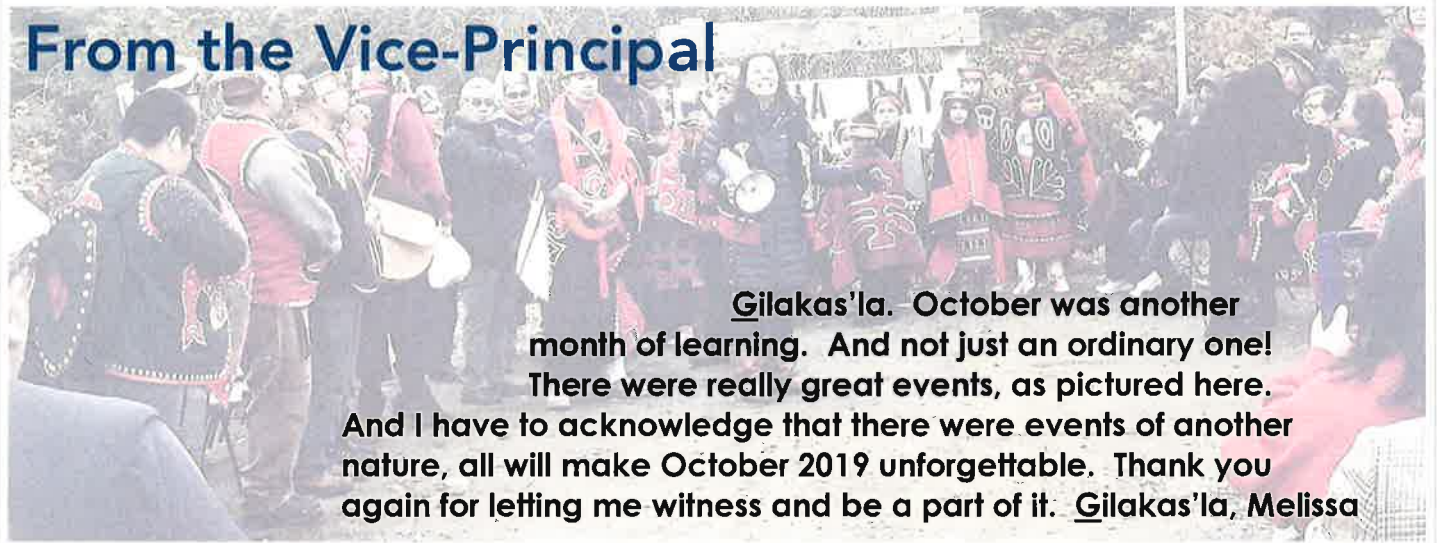
Reed Allen



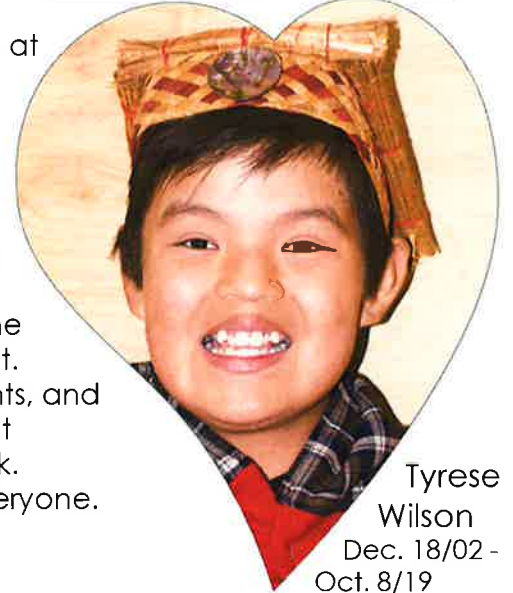
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# From the Vice-Principal



**Gilakas'la. October was another month of learning. And not just an ordinary one! There were really great events, as pictured here. And I have to acknowledge that there were events of another nature, all will make October 2019 unforgettable. Thank you again for letting me witness and be a part of it. Gilakas'la, Melissa**



Learning happens. Sometimes in small moments like out in the at'ti. Sometimes in big moments like at the Gukwdzi groundbreaking ceremony. Sometimes with others while BBQing salmon, sometimes alone at the carving shed, sometimes in doing like singing with Norman or in watching and listening. Sometimes it's about finding the right moment, or waiting for it. Sometimes it's in sad moments, and sometimes in fun times, like at Halloween or on the fire truck. Wonder is everywhere, in everyone. Learning happens.



**Tyrese Wilson  
Dec. 18/02 -  
Oct. 8/19**



# News from Dianne's Grade 6/7 Class



What a beautiful day... the ground breaking ceremony for Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw's Big House!



Student Vote - 2019



Future Councillor Caleb



Community Garden Helpers



Connecting to Nature

## Our Voices Question: If you were the Prime Minister what would you do for your community?

Louie would make Canada the safest and best country in the world.  
Brooke would make sure everyone cleans up and does their recycling.  
Phillip would like all drugs and alcohol be not allowed on the reserve.  
Robert would like to get rid of drugs.  
Tyrell would get rid of gas powered vehicles.  
T'Neil would get rid of drugs and alcohol.  
Amira would give the poor people houses.  
Vincent would get bullying out of the community.  
John would get rid of school.  
Blaze would give money to the poor people.  
Caleb would give poor people houses.  
Marshall would have the cops arrest people.  
Bella would travel and meet celebrities.  
Have a wonderful November!



What is the math in baking?



Titanic Restoration with Louie



Woodworking 101



Halloween Panda Parade



# News from Karen's Grade 6/7 Class

October has been a busy month for us. We have been participating in Outdoor Education every Wednesday afternoon and the kids are enjoying getting out for some great learning from Davis. We completed the BC Hydro Power Smart lessons, and have learned some great tips on how to save cost in the use of energy. The intermediate students participated in a Canada-wide student vote for the federal election, and our students voted the same as our riding, smart kids! This week we were able to participate in a historical moment with the blessing of the big house grounds. The some students danced and celebrated this important event. The students demonstrated in their writing how important the big house is to them and are all excited to be able to be able to witness the construction of the big house. Halloween was fun with a quick trip to Port McNeill to check out the haunted house, the kids had a chance to hear how loud I can scream. With Halloween behind us and all the ghouls and goblins put away for another year we will be focusing the next month on our upcoming soccer tournament and getting ready for the Yayuma in early December. The intermediate students are working on Applied Design Science and Technology (ADST) each Friday afternoon - students are learning about woodworking, metal work, textiles/sewing and robotics/coding. Please check out our Facebook site for lots of pictures as well as information that is sent home on a regular basis.





# News from Jen's Grade 4/5 Class



## To Our Residential School Survivors

The students from my last years classes and this years painted a small block to commemorate the survivors of residential school. With Mr. Allen's and Teacher Michael's help, we were able to finally put it together. The students will be presenting their piece to our Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw Elders on November 26th, during our Elder's lunch at the school. It is a moving piece that the students collectively put so much thought and love into. Reconciliation is a topic of discussion that we continue to discuss and reflect on.



## Our Work in the Atli

Students have been working hard in the forest to help make a great learning space for all students in our school. Our latest project was making the fire pit. We also wrote letters to local businesses asking for supplies and financial support to build a shelter.



# News from Allyson's Grade 4/5 Class

Gilakas'la! Students spent October growing as musicians, explorers, actors, skaters and writers. We said halakas'la to October in spooky style with our Hallowe'en crawl and dance. Happy birthday to our October babes, Rhyan and Andrew!



Definitely worth the sore feet!



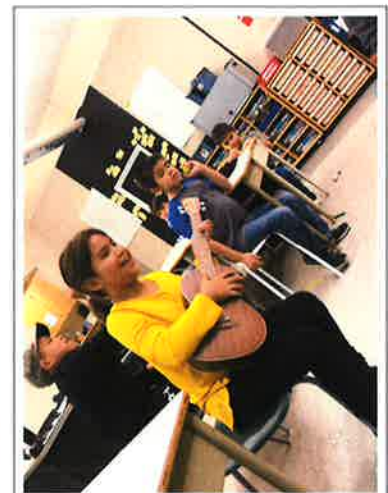
Happy Hallowe'en!

Photo credit: Avery



Straight to the top!

Admiring the forest art installations.



Malakai, Mackenna, and Francine practice their ukulele skills.



# News from Michelle's Grade 2/3 Class

Gilakas'la. **'Magwabo'yi** (October) was a difficult month for those whose lives were touched by Tyrese. I will always remember his curious, kind and generous nature, and hope that some comfort is felt through the good memories you all have.

We continue to highlight **bakwamkala** every day. It feels like baby steps so far, but we are moving forward together. Gilakas'la to the elders who bring patience, joy and incredible knowledge to our classroom. They are leading the way with the teachings of our ancestors.

Look at all the black cats!



**Duxw'ida's xux da kinam  
tsitsula busi.**



Granny Gertie and Granny Kathy helped us celebrate Halloween.



**Wi'xan's kas'ida'**



Hands-on, experiential learning: making **'manatsi** with animal hide. Gilakas'la to Wade Charlie, who led the students through this process. Learning also included seeing the difference between winter and summer coats on deer, skinning of the deer and respecting animals.



We love choosing new books at the public library.



We play math games on Thursdays.



## News from Jenn's Grade 1/2 Class

Yo! Gilaska'la. October was so fun! We were thankful for Thanksgiving. Then we were happy for Halloween. We learned there are many different types of pumpkins. We learned whether they will sink or float.



**Mia, Alice, Carla, Mitchell and Ezra practice for the Yayuma.**



**Storm reading a Halloween story.**



**Happy readers!**



# News from Erin and Mary Louise's Grade 1/2 Class



Gilakas'la! Our class has had a wonderful time over the past month exploring our outdoor learning spaces and learning through observation and play. We focused on colours, the changing seasons and playing cooperatively. The children are learning to see themselves as writers, readers and artists and have no shortage of creative ideas. Next month, we will begin to look more closely at our waterways and beaches and the children will continue to develop a sense of themselves as protectors of our water. Students are getting used to wearing boots every day as tools to help us investigate outdoors and as winter approaches, we'll soon start to wear rain suits too.





# News from Sheri-An's Kindergarten Class

Gilakas'la! October was a month of fun and excitement gearing up for Halloween. Our focus this month outdoors was spiders and salmon. We started the month with a tour of the Quatse hatchery and learned about traditional fishing methods and salmon preparation. The highlight of our salmon learning was making kawas for the elders. The children were all very engaged, from exploring the guts to picking bones, and squishing out the oil, they all helped out. We were lucky to have a few days of very rainy weather. The children loved jumping in puddles and getting soaked, all while observing the changes in our forest. They were so exhilarated by the rain they excitedly exclaimed, "this is the best day ever!" The children had a blast on Halloween at school and were excited to play games, participate in a dance and have a Halloween lunch. This coming month our inquiry focus will be on peace, bears and drum making. The children will also be focusing on preparing for the Yayuma.

Quatse Hatchery.



Rainy A'tli



Best Day Ever!



Kawas with Trish.



Yummy Kawas.





# News from Robin's Preschool Class



Happy Halloween - We had so much fun dressing up and dancing in the gym!



Widi'le ganganānām?



Umas La'ga'e



Łaxwalaḡa



Wixan's laxa wabidu!





# News from Culture Class

Gilakas'la Li'taxwala

In preparation for our Winter Yayuma 2019. Our main teaching is maya'xala - we teach all the sasam to respect self, others and our environment. With maya'xala as a guide they can learn our Gwa'yi'lelas - (our ways): language, history, songs, dances in a healthy way.

We teach our sasam that we are bringing bakwam medicine to our family, friends, and community during the Yayuma. We have been sharing history of our Tseka Ceremony with the sasam.

Every child in our school participates in culture class. As we prepare for our Winter Yayuma our sasam have different roles to play: We have greeters, speakers, dancers, singers, attendants, artists, food helpers. We ask the sasam where they think their strength is for the winter Yayuma 2019. Some sasam prefer to be an attendant instead of a dancer. An artist instead of the speaker and so on. Each role in the Yayuma is important, we want every child to feel a sense of belonging and connection to our rich tseka ceremony. Most of all we want our sasam to feel a sense of pride in who they are and where they come from. We share the message that our Yayuma gives each one of us strength for our bakwine (spirit).

We encourage all our families to support our sasam as they prepare for the Winter Yayuma.

Encourage your child to participate with an open heart and mind in learning our Gwa'yi'lelas - (our ways.) If you have questions please pop by and visit us.

Gilakas'la

Andrea - 'Namnasolaga

Darren - Kwamxala'galis



# News from Physical Education Class



Students love spending time in P.E. class or at sports club. We continue to focus on athletics at our school. Playing sports and staying active has so many benefits. They teach important personal and interpersonal skills such as self-discipline, teamwork, organization and communication. Athletics can teach your child lifelong healthy habits, motivate them to perform well academically and who knows maybe one day ever pursue a career in sport.

We continue to provide a wide range of experiences in sport both in the gym and community.





# Parental and Community Engagement



Learning with  
our elders is  
empowering for  
our education.  
Hugs are special!



We enjoyed having parents and community join us at our costume crawl and dance.



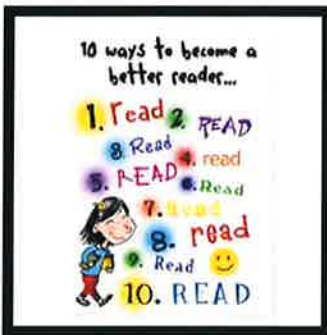
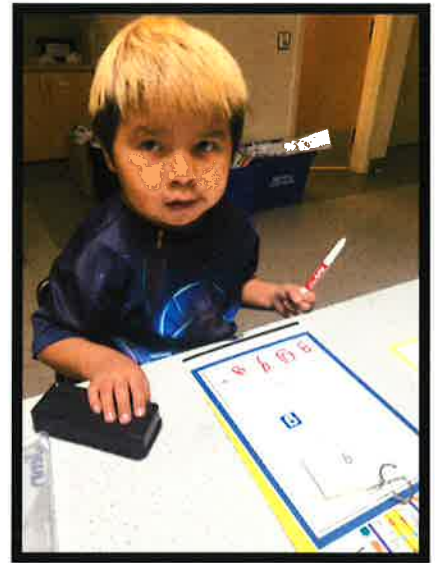
Gilakas'la to all who came to the movie "The Grizzlies." A special shout out to the elders that shared their experiences with us. Thank you to our volunteers who helped cook.



## News from Jackie



What a great month of October! We have accomplished so much this month: all classes completed their Acadience benchmarking, Primary Blitzing is off to a great start, and Intermediate students are working on their fluency with Michael using Six Minute Solution!



We would like to welcome Hannah Henschke and Maia Bishop to our team. They are very enthusiastic Grade 12 students who will be reading and playing literacy games with our Primary students.



## Learning in Action



Naomi sharing her knowledge with art and making our school beautiful.



## More Learning



Lots of learning happening outside the classroom. Taking advantage of some beautiful weather!



Students voting in the federal election.



Students learning GN history at the Kwa'lilas.



## **Volunteers Needed**

**Our annual indoor soccer tournament is November 12, 13 and 14. We are looking for volunteers to help in the concession, ref soccer games or generally help out around the school. Do you know how to make bannock? All the fundraising goes towards our student field trips.**





# Halloween



Halloween never disappoints. So many amazing costumes. Lots of fun was had at our costume crawl and dance. FUN, FUN, FUN!



# Soccer Tournament

## INDOOR SOCCER SCHEDULE

### November 13 - Grade 2/3

11:30	GN	vs	K
12:00	EV	vs	FR
12:30	GN	vs	W
1:00	K	vs	EV
1:30	FR	vs	W
2:00	GN	vs	EV
2:30	W	vs	K
3:00	GN	vs	FR

### November 14 - Grade 4/5

10:30	GN 1	vs	W
11:00	GN 2	vs	FR
11:30	EV	vs	T
12:00	K	vs	GN 1
12:30	GN 2	vs	W
1:00	FR	vs	T
1:30	EV	vs	K
2:00	GN 1	vs	T
2:30	FR	vs	W
3:00	GN 2	vs	T
3:30	EV	vs	K
4:00	GN 1	vs	GN 2

### November 15 - Grade 6/7

10:00	GN 1	vs	W
10:30	GN 2	vs	FR
11:00	EV	vs	T
11:30	K	vs	GN 1
12:00	GN 2	vs	W
12:30	FR	vs	T
1:00	EV	vs	K
1:00	Half Time Show		
2:00	GN 1	vs	T
2:30	FR	vs	W
3:00	GN 2	vs	T
3:30	EV	vs	K
4:00	GN 1	vs	GN 2



## Teams:

Gwa'sala-Nakwaxda'xw (GN 1)

Gwa'sala-Nakwaxda'xw (GN 2)

K'akot'lats'i (K)

Eagle View (EV)

Fort Rupert (FR)

Wagalus (W)

T'lisalagi'lakw (T)

Concession open each day





# Monthly Calendar



## NOVEMBER 2019



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Intermediate Homework Club / Reading Club / Sports Club - M, T, Th 3:00 - 4:00  Intramurals - T & Th @ 12:20  Intermediate & Primary Sports Club - everyday @ 8:30	<b>Lego Club</b> M @ 12:20  <b>Running Club</b> M @ 12:00  <b>Garden Club</b> F @ 12:20				<b>1</b>  Professional Development Day No School for Students	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b>  Daylight Savings Time ends  	<b>4</b>  Cedar Weaving - K & PreK	<b>5</b>  Div. 6 Library 9:55  Div. 5 Library 10:45	<b>6</b>  Gr. 6 Immunizations  Happy Birthday Jaycee Wilson	<b>7</b>  PreK & K Swim	<b>8</b>  Gr. 1-7 Swim  Happy Birthday Lorraine George	<b>9</b>  Happy Birthday Dusty Dawson Jr.
<b>10</b>   REMEMBRANCE DAY <i>Left we forget</i>	<b>11</b>  Remembrance Day - School Closed	<b>12</b>  Div. 8 Library 9:55  Div. 2 Library 2:15	<b>Annual Friendship Soccer Tournament</b> Gr. 2/3      Gr. 4/5      Gr. 6/7 Cedar Weaving - Gr. 1-5			<b>16</b>  Happy Birthday Dusty Dawson Jr.
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>  Cedar Weaving - Gr. 6/7	<b>19</b>  <b>INTRUDER ALERT DRILL</b>  Div. 3 Library 1:15	<b>20</b>  Div. 4 Library 1:15  Happy Birthday Louis Isaac	<b>21</b>  Parents' Club - 12:00  PreK & K Swim  5:00 - Family Movie Night	<b>22</b>  Division 5 STEAM with VIRL  Happy Birthday Silva Brouwer	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b>  Happy Birthday Robin Rosborough	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>  <b>Elders' Lunch</b>  Happy Birthday Konner Walkus	<b>27</b>  Happy Birthday James Williams	<b>28</b>  PreK & K Swim  Div. 1 Library 1:00	<b>29</b>  Gr. 1-7 Swim  Happy Birthday Perry Charlie Jr.	<b>30</b>  NOTE: Tsoka Red Cedar Bark Ceremony Yayuma - Tuesday, December 3