

# Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw School Newsletter

Strong Together In All We Do



October, 2020

## News from the Principal



Gilakas'la,

Wow, we have now completed the first two months of the school year! Our staff and students continue to be vigilant when it comes to following COVID-19 safety protocols in our school community. We greatly appreciate parents who have kept their children home when their child was not feeling well. Parents are urged to continue this practice for the protection of everyone in our community. Just a reminder to families to also send your children to school close to our start time at 8:55 am to help avoid student's from different learning groups mingling before school.

October was again a busy month with lots of learning for students and staff. Along with the learning that's been happening in the classroom, we had photo day, our students participated in our first fire drill, *The Great BC Shakeout Drill*, and of course Halloween! Congrats to Dianne and Sheri-An's classes for winning the Halloween Door Decorating contest. Our teachers also virtually participated in the provincial professional day on October 23. Despite the pandemic there are many amazing things happening at our school.

We would like to wish Heather Hawley and Sara Grover all the best in the coming year as they leave on maternity leave. We will all miss you greatly and can't wait to meet the new additions!

As we move in to November we are bit saddened that we had to cancel our annual indoor soccer tournament. This is always a highlight for us! Moving forward we will continue to look at ways that we can engage our parents and families as we remain committed to keeping everyone involved.

All the best to our families. Stay safe.

Reed Allen - Principal



# News from Karen

Masks, masks, masks, hand sanitizer and daily health checks are just some of the ways that we are working hard to keep our students and staff healthy and safe. All staff are wearing masks in public areas to keep everyone safe. Hand sanitizer is available in every classroom and in key locations throughout the school. Every morning all staff members must complete a health check which is very similar to the one we are asking parents to do with your children before coming to school. When you call in about your child being absent we are now asking a few extra questions regarding their illness to support staying home and being healthy.



Some ways to support staying healthy is lots of hand washing, eating a healthy balanced diet, exercise and getting enough sleep. See the recommended amount of sleep that your child may need. Arriving to school on time helps with routines and allows your child to get all the benefits of their education. Remember Dr. Henry's words, be kind, be calm and be safe.



Wishing Teacher Sara and Teacher Heather best of luck with the births of their babies! Can't wait to meet the little ones!

## At what time should your child go to bed?

| Age | Wake-up time  |         |         |         |         |         |         |
|-----|---------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
|     | 6:00 AM       | 6:15 AM | 6:30 AM | 6:45 AM | 7:00 AM | 7:15 AM | 7:30 AM |
|     | Sleeping time |         |         |         |         |         |         |
| 5   | 6:45 PM       | 7:00 PM | 7:15 PM | 7:30 PM | 7:30 PM | 8:00 PM | 8:15 PM |
| 6   | 7:00 PM       | 7:15 PM | 7:30 PM | 7:30 PM | 8:00 PM | 8:15 PM | 8:30 PM |
| 7   | 7:15 PM       | 7:15 PM | 7:30 PM | 8:00 PM | 8:15 PM | 8:30 PM | 8:45 PM |
| 8   | 19:30         | 7:30 PM | 8:00 PM | 8:15 PM | 8:30 PM | 8:45 PM | 9:00 PM |
| 9   | 7:30 PM       | 8:00 PM | 8:15 PM | 8:30 PM | 8:45 PM | 9:00 PM | 9:15 PM |
| 10  | 8:00 PM       | 8:15 PM | 8:30 PM | 8:45 PM | 9:00 PM | 9:15 PM | 9:30 PM |
| 11  | 8:15 PM       | 8:30 PM | 8:45 PM | 9:00 PM | 9:15 PM | 9:30 PM | 9:45 PM |
| 12  | 8:15 PM       | 8:30 PM | 8:45 PM | 9:00 PM | 9:15 PM | 9:30 PM | 9:45 PM |



# News from Shannon



Yo Everyone! Who would have thought last year that we would be celebrating Halloween during COVID 19? That is pretty scary stuff! Luckily, our students and staff are very resilient and are definitely making the best of it. Door decorating, costume wearing, pumpkin carving, playing games, and

celebrating with safe treats are just some of the things we are doing this year. We all miss the costume crawl and dance - hopefully we will be back to normal next year!



Next week brings more IEP meetings for some of our students. Again due to COVID, we will be having meetings with parents over Zoom or phone. Thank you in advance for your willingness to be flexible during this time, and thank you to our Ravena for always working hard to help find a way to include our parents and caregivers.

Head checks started up again last week with Alice and Nurse Jess. Head checks will take place every Tuesday morning at the school. There are also upcoming flu shot clinics at the Hall. We are encouraging everyone to get a flu shot this year - and with 4 clinic days, it shouldn't be hard to fit it in. You can also get a flu shot at Public Health and at the drug stores in town.



I hope everyone has a safe and HAPPY HALLOWEEN! 🎃 🧛

Gilakas'la



# News from Dianne's Grade 7 Class

## Happy Halloween from the Grade 7's

Here are the student's favourite memories of Halloween.

**Marshall** - I remember getting two bags of candy. It took years to get it eaten. Halloween is fun. **Amira** - I remember getting three bags of candy one year. My mom asks all of us if we wanted to share all the candy - the older kids said, "No!" Me, Perrys, Peter and Perry said, "Yes!" So we put all the candy in a bin! **Aaron** - My favourite thing is scaring my brother. I scared him by my face in general. Then I showed him my face again then he past out! **Tom** - My dog got into my candy. His name is Zippy. He ate like 6 or 7 bags of candy. He was just laying there, like for a long time... too long. He just did nothing and we had no candy - haha. **Carm** - I lost my balloon on "Get a balloon for free day!" It was very traumatic and scary. I couldn't get another one because the balloon cart was gone. **Jaycee** - My best memory was last year when my best friend Brae-Lynn went to the hall for a party. We were playing musical chairs and when the music stopped Brae-Lynn pulled me down and my shirt opened up and I was wearing nothing underneath. No one saw anything and we ran into the bathroom and laughed a lot after that!



**Destiny** - My favourite memory is from Pre-K. I was mini-mouse and we played lots of games. **Hazel** - I remember going to a haunted house with Aurora and Nat grabbed my leg on the way out and Aurora cried. **John** - My favourite was getting three bags of candy. **Bella** - Last year was my favourite Halloween. My friends and I went trick or treating then Jason bought fireworks and lit them off at the waterfront. It was really fun. **Xanius** - In River's Inlet we would always have a party at school. We would play games and fool around in the Culture room then go in a van to trick or treat. **Blaze** - Last year was fun. Rob, Ethan, Zuri, Bella and I got to do fireworks and went to a few doors. **Miley** - The best thing is when we were wearing costumes and getting skittles. **Caleb** - My only favourite part about Halloween is that it is my mom's birthday! **Vince** - I like the fireworks. Darryl got scared of them. My legs got sore from going to houses. My favourite candy is kitkats, coffee crisps and pop. **Zuri** - Halloween is one of my favourite holidays because I get dressed up with friends and walk around. But, I love seeing peoples' decorations or cool costumes.

Halloween Memories

By James

Stealing candy from my siblings  
Pushing Albert into a fake haunted house  
Eating all the candy  
Scaring kids

## News from Allyson's Grade 6 Class

Happy Hallowe'en! This month students sponged up some new Hallowe'en language, began exploring their identity and their roots, practiced their C major scale, and participated in the democratic process. Terrisa and I are so proud of the students as they also practiced their teamwork skills and let their compassion and care for their peers shine. Be sure to ask your child which Hogwarts house they were sorted into by Professor McGonagall's Sorting Hat!



Div 2 nails our BC shakeout drill; finding a decomposing guta'la; decorating our spooky Gugwot door.



Taking a photo op by the salmon run (and a nap!) & scrutinizing ballots and using our voting power;



Letting the Sorting Hat  
decide our Hogwarts fate;  
sharing our results.



# News from Jen's Grade 4/5 Class

## NEWS FLASH!!!



## INTRUDER ENTERS THE GRADE 4/5 CLASSROOM ON THE WEEKEND!

Something suspicious is happening in Division 3. On the evening of October 23rd, an intruder entered the Gwa'sala-Nakwaxda'xw school, located on Tsulquate reserve, and left some interesting evidence behind. Broken guitar string, water bottle spilled, broken pencils, and a suspicious note. A team of students have been assigned to the investigation. Here is what they think so far....

"I think it was my Papa Michael, because he keeps looking at the class." Says **McKayla McLean**, a Grade 5 student who is in the class. Finger prints were taken using a special app on the student's iPads. "I was shocked to see so many finger prints around the candy bin and the cupboard." Says Grade 5 student **Wilfred Williams**, who is known to be the critical thinker in the class. "Hannah was acting 'sus.' I think she came in at night and wanted to trick us." **Eliza Williams-Paul** believes it may be her own teacher!! "No one can touch Teacher's water bottle or anything that is Teacher's." Eliza's best friend **Jessica George** concurs. "The person was reading so they must like reading...Wait! Teacher likes reading and she's the only one who knows where the candy is!" **Mattias Charlie** believes that the intruder may be linked to Halloween. "Maybe it's Freddy

Kruger or the other guy with the white mask, Mike Myers who did it." Surveillance crew member **Dusty Dawson** plans to hide cameras inside the classroom at night. He feels that the outside camera don't indicate what is actually happening inside the school. **Perrys Charlie**, is distraught. "I just want to know who did it!" Investigative teams are working around the clock to solve this mysterious intrusion. **Dodie Humchitt** throws the class a curve ball and states "I think Teacher's daughters or her husband Dean did it because they love candy." **Jared King**, a Grade 4 student believes that another teacher in the school may be to blame. "Teacher Michelle did it because she is the only one who would write a nice note like that." One thing is clear. The students in the Grade 4/5 class are determined to find out. If you know any information please call the school at once.

## News from Jenn's Grade 4/5 Class

Yo! Another month has flown by! This month we practiced super sentences. We learned about the moon phases, and tides in Science. We had lots of fun decorating our door, the students worked together as a team! We've been reading lots of jokes and riddles to keep our class laughing!



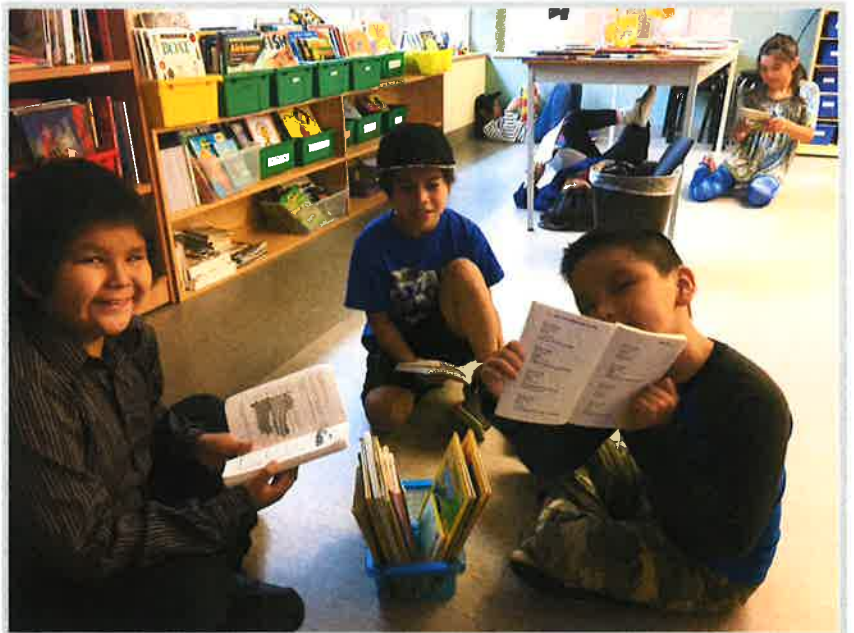
*Rain gear on!*



*Rain gear off!*



*Sticks can be anything!*



*Our comedy team!*

# News from Jackie's Grade 2/3 Class

Wow, it's hard to believe that October is over! The students are settling nicely into our classroom routines. It's so awesome that many of our children are practicing reading at home with the Read Well homework! One of the key successes to reading is repetition, repetition, repetition! Keep up the great work everyone!

Not only has our class been working hard inside, but they've also been exploring outside: we walked the Fort Rupert Commuter Trail, explored Storey's Beach as well as our own backyard beaches.

We finished off the month with a fun-filled day celebrating Halloween: carving pumpkins, eating, playing bingo, dancing and making

## Carving Pumpkins



## Halloween Party



# News from Michelle's Grade 2/3 Class



Gilakas'la Families! October has been full of art, books we love, pumpkins and ghosts! As we spend more time together, the students are beginning to shine with their unique interests and strengths. We are always learning from each other. We miss you Connie!



Trees in Autumn



Our Halloween Party was well by attended by these happy creatures. We had a blast dancing, snacking, drawing and playing games.



# News from Erin's Grade 1 Class

Gilakas'la families! We have been having a great fall in Grade 1. We continue to do lots of outdoor learning- building structures, noticing seasonal changes, identifying and making patterns, and many other activities! Next month we will be looking at water sources in our community and beginning to learn about measurement.

We recently started working on reading little books and learning about what good readers do. We're working on building independence in getting ourselves dressed for outdoor play and keeping track of our own school supplies.

We've started doing field trips most Friday mornings to special local outdoor places. In October, we went to Storeys Beach and the Beaver Lake forest trail.



# News from Sheri-An's Kindergarten Class

Gilakas'la! October was a month of fun and excitement gearing up for Halloween. The children are becoming confident nature explorers and are very inquisitive and are keen observers of their surroundings. They notice the changes that are occurring in our atli, especially the changes in the season. We were very fortunate to be able to observe the final stages in the life cycle of the salmon in Little Tsulquate River. We were able to see the salmon spawning and living out the end of their days. In the spring we will visit the river and see if we can see any salmon fry. The children had a blast on Halloween at school and were excited to play games, participate in class dancing and have a Halloween lunch. This coming month our inquiry focus will be on peace, bears and wherever nature leads us.

Teamwork!



Bone yard



Turkey Art



Spawning Salmon



Patterns



Ahoy!



# News from Robin's Pre K Class

Gilakas'la! We have been busy in Pre-K this month. We have eight students and they are all so full of energy and curiosity. They enjoy puzzles, building with blocks, colouring and playing in the park.

In our morning circle we are focussing on animals, weather, feelings, size and colours. One of their new favourite songs is "U'mas, Amabidu". Lyrics posted below.

## Bakwamkala

U'mas (clap clap clap)

U'mas (clap clap clap)

U'masux da 'waitsi

U'mas (clap clap clap)

## Translation:

Big

Big

That dog is big

Big

Amabidu' (clap clap clap)

Amabidu' (clap clap clap)

Amabidu'wox da waxes

Amabidu' (clap clap clap)

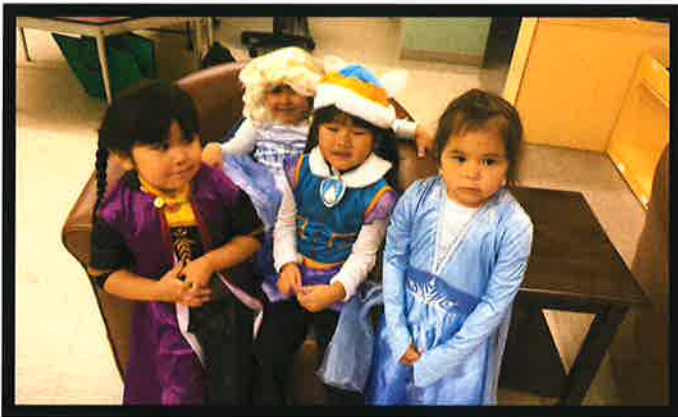
Small

Small

That frog is small

Small

\* change the animal names for additional verses.



# News from Culture Class

Gilakas'la to all our families and sasam,

We have had a busy October in the Culture Class. Every class starts with a Hawax'ala which connects us to our creator and we give thanks for our day. We have themed days in Culture Class covering many Bakwam topics: Dlexsala and Kwakwala/ Bakwamkala games, and Gwa'sala 'Nakwaxda'xw history. We also have a dance day, singing day and art day. Each day has new teachings and is always fun and exciting. We had a Kwakwala Halloween Unit which the sasam enjoyed. Look forward to our new month Gwaxsam - dog salmon time - November. Be well and stay healthy.

Gilakas'la Andrea & Darren



Kwakwala / Bakwamkala  
Halloween word list

Dligam:

1. Lo'linuxw - Ghost
2. Daxdaxglut - Owl
3. Yayakitinega - Spider
4. Atli - Forest
5. Bakwalawi - Bat
6. 'Makwala - Moon
7. Xawikw - Skull
8. Gago'l - Witch
9. Busi - Cat
10. Li'lo'linuxw - Ghosts
11. Gugwo'l - Old House
12. Kingam - Lots, many
13. Ayandzistu - Orange
14. Tsula - Black
15. Laxa - Green
16. 'Mala - White

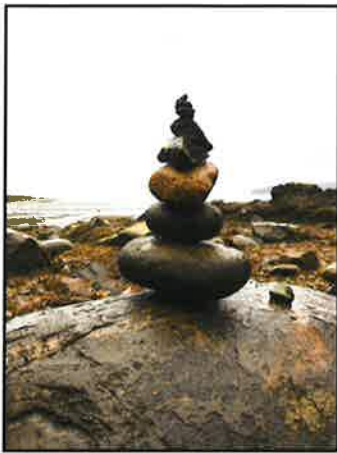
Created by Andrea Cranmer Cultural & Language Teacher

2004

Cultural Knowledge is passed down by :Hutlilala - Listening, Participating, Doing  
AC/ ASC 2020

## News from Physical Education with Sara

October has been such a blast in P.E. because it has taken place both inside and outside! The students are learning that P.E. (physical education) doesn't just have to mean being super physically active where you leave sweating and exhausted (though that usually means fun games)! It can also mean slowing down and doing things to improve our mental health. With COVID still around it is important for the students to understand that they can be healthy by going on hikes, playing in the forest or on the beach, or (as you can see below) in the ridiculous amount of rain! Some of the students took a liking to stacking rocks as a mindful, healthy activity as you can also see in the pictures below!



Rock towers created by Destiny and Amira (above) and Maison, Buddy, and Hunter.



William, Rhyan, and Peter taking advantage of the rain and puddles!



K's showing off their teamwork skills in the avm!



# Parental and Community Engagement



My name is Ravena Coon for those new parents who might not know me. My position at the school is Parental Engagement.

I love my job because I get to work with families, your babes, elders and the community.

My job at the school is very unique and I am blessed to have a position like this here. Working with families has always been my passion. I love the connection and relationships with parents/caregivers are important to both me and to our school.

Some of the things I can offer my families are:

- Meeting you at home or at a coffee shop to chat about your needs and concerns
- Advocating for your babes
- Helping bridge school and home
- Parents Club
- Liaison for parents and teachers
- Providing extra support for a variety of areas such as:

- referrals to outside services

- sitting in on Individual Education Plans

I can be reached at 250-230-0949, Facebook messenger and my email is [rcoon@gwanak.bc.ca](mailto:rcoon@gwanak.bc.ca)

I look forward to hearing from you and spending time together.

Please watch our for more virtual fun! These are some winners from the Orientation draw.

# HAPPY HALLOWEEN



# **NOVEMBER 20**

## **pro-d day**



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## ***BE READY FOR FALL/WINTER WEATHER!***

The weather is changing; it's cold and wet. Please make sure that your child is dressed to be outdoors for learning, as well as recess and lunch.



## Birthdays this Month

Happy October Birthday to  
Hunter, Kenna, Rhyen, Xanius,  
James, Eve, and Miley



# **COVID-19**

## **SAFETY PROTOCOLS**

Ensuring a safe return to school means we all have to be COVID wise to protect ourselves and others from the transmission of COVID-19.

**We've noticed that students are arriving extra early for school. We love their enthusiasm to be at school, but ask that children do not arrive too early in the morning to avoid mingling amongst learning groups.**

**\*\*Late arrivals enter at the front door\*\***



# NOVEMBER 2020



| SUNDAY  | MONDAY  | TUESDAY  | WEDNESDAY   | THURSDAY   | FRIDAY  | SATURDAY   |
|---|---|--|---|--|---|--|
| <b>1</b><br><div>Daylight Savings Time ends</div> <div>TURN YOUR CLOCKS BACK</div>    | <b>2</b>  | <b>3</b><br>Happy Birthday Cristian Hunt   | <b>4</b>  | <b>5</b><br><div>Div 6 to Storey's Beach 12:30</div> <div>Kindergarten Hearing Screening - morning</div> | <b>6</b><br><div>Div 7 &amp; 8 to Storey's Beach 9:30</div> <div>Div 1 &amp; 2 to Beaver Lake 10:30</div> Happy Birthday Jaycee Wilson                                  | <b>7</b>   |
| <b>8</b><br>Happy Birthday Isaac-Mackenzie Williams<br>Happy Birthday Lorraine George | <b>9</b><br><div>Community Flu Clinic Mon: 11-5</div> <div>Div 5 to Storey's Beach 9:30</div> Happy Birthday Dusty Dawson Jr. | <b>10</b><br><div>Community Flu Clinic Tues: 11-7</div> <div>Call Jessica for appt: 250-230-1129</div> | <b>11</b><br><div>REMEMBRANCE DAY Left We Forget</div> <div>Remembrance Day - School Closed</div> | <b>12</b><br><div>Community Flu Clinic Thurs: 11-7; Fri: 11-7</div> <div>Div. 5 Library 1:45</div>       | <b>13</b><br><div>Div 7 &amp; 8 to Storey's Beach 9:30</div> <div>Div 1 &amp; 2 to Beaver Lake 10:30</div>  | <b>14</b>  |
| <b>15</b>   | <b>16</b><br><div>Div 5 to Commuter Trail 9:30</div> Happy Birthday Dusty Dawson Sr.  | <b>17</b>  | <b>18</b>   | <b>19</b><br><div>Div 6 to Commuter Trail 12:30</div>  | <b>20</b><br><div>Professional Development Day</div> <div>No School for Students</div>  | <b>21</b>  |
| <b>22</b><br>Happy Birthday Iliyanna Dawson<br>Happy Birthday Silva Brouwer           | <b>23</b><br><div>Div 5 to Storey's Beach 9:30</div>  | <b>24</b><br><div>INTRUDER ALERT DRILL</div> Happy Birthday Robin Rosborough                           | <b>25</b><br>Happy Birthday Andrea Cranmer  | <b>26</b><br>Happy Birthday Konner Walkus  | <b>27</b><br><div>Div 7 &amp; 8 to Storey's Beach 9:30</div> <div>Div 1 &amp; 2 to Beaver Lake 10:30</div> Happy Birthday Bunny Brown<br>Happy Birthday Kaelyn Williams | <b>28</b>  |
| <b>29</b><br>Happy Birthday Perry Charlie Jr.   | <b>30</b><br><div>Div 5 to Commuter Trail 9:30</div>  | <b>Dec 1</b>   | <b>2</b>  | <b>3</b><br><div>Div. 5 Library 1:45</div>   | <b>4</b><br><div>Professional Development afternoon - Students dismissed at 12:00</div>   | <div>Div 1 Dianne</div> <div>Div 2 Allyson</div> <div>Div 3 Jen Hunchuk</div> <div>Div 4 Jenn</div> <div>Div 5 Michelle</div> <div>Div 6 Jackie</div> <div>Div 7 Erin</div> <div>Div 8 Sheri An</div> <div>Div 9 Robin</div> |