



Gina 'waadluxan gud ad kwaagid | Ginn 'wáadluwan gud .ahl kwáagildang

Everything Depends on Everything Else

DECEMBER SCHOOL CELEBRATIONS

SK'AADGAA NAA

Our annual turkey lunch was a hit with students and staff alike. Our former food coordinator, **Gail Russ**, helped organize an amazing holiday feast with our current food coordinator, **Mel Russ**, and several volunteers.



We had our Winter Concert on December 14. All the classes presented a song or skit. We had a great turnout of very proud family and community members.

GIDGALANG KUUYAS NAA

An annual tradition at GKN is our Winter Feast. Leading up to the feast, students brought non-perishables throughout December to donate to local Food Hamper programs. The school was transformed into a banquet hall for the feast to which guests were invited. Following an excellent meal, guests were entertained by a talent show. After two years of not being able to do our feast due to Covid restrictions, this was the first year we returned to pre-Covid practices and had Elders from the **Skidegate Haida Language Program (SHIP)** as guests.



AGNES L. MATHERS

If you are in need of a smile and have access to Facebook, please click [HERE](#) to watch our talented principals, **Will Bedard** and **Behn Cochrane** (providing the music) in a duo with a student singing Blue Christmas. Standing applause to you both Behn & Will!



MASSET SCHOOLS PROJECT UPDATE

The [January 10th 2023](#) update on the Masset Schools Project has just been released. Parents are encouraged to visit the [SD50 Masset Schools Project page](#) to read the monthly updates, look at building drawings and read through minutes from



previous Masset School meetings.

Find out more at:
HR@sd50.bc.ca

**we are
HIRING**
join our team

Good wages and benefits. -
Training provided

Custodians

Bus Drivers

JOIN THE SD50 TEAM

Like many organizations both on Haida Gwaii and across British Columbia, we are experiencing a challenge in recruiting people to various positions. If you would like to learn more about potential employment opportunities with the school district, please email hr@sd50.bc.ca to find out more.



HAIDA LANGUAGE & CULTURE AT SK'AADGAA NAAY

Recently we had the pleasure of welcoming **Erica Ryan** into **Josina Davis'** class to do some signing and drumming with our grade 3 students. In addition to our weekly Xaayda Kil language program taught by **Joan Moody**, Sk'aadgaa Naay teachers are thinking about how students might present pieces of Haida history to the school at future assemblies. We are also exploring and talking about how we might begin Gud Gaa Lis (talking circles) along with using the drum as a teaching tool in our classrooms.

SALMONIDS AT PORT CLEMENTS



Our school is excited to be participating in the Department of Fisheries [Salmonoid Enhancement Program](#) to help reinforce the importance of Salmon as a traditional food. Learning how to be stewards of this important resource is a key learning objective for our students.



WORKING TOGETHER

AGNES L. MATHERS HOSTS SK'AADGAA NAAY FOR A BASKETBALL PLAYDAY

Grade 4 – 7 students from Sk'aadgaa Naay and ALM have been busy preparing for a basketball playday at Sandspit on Jan. 27th. Sounds like a great day!



NUTRITION IN OUR SCHOOLS

Food programs in our schools continue to be an important part of helping to ensure that all our students have access to adequate nutrition. Thank you to all SD50 staff that help to support these important programs. To learn more about the food program at your child's school, please get in touch with your principal.

In having some fun with the daily lunch, Port Clements students were challenged to bring their lunch in anything *other* than a backpack. You can see by the picture that we have some very creative students!



GUDANGAAY TLAATS'GAA NAAY STUDENTS EXPLORE POST-SECONDARY OPTIONS

A group of grades 10 – 12 GTN students have just returned from a week of exploring BC post-secondary institutions. Thank you to Gwaii Trust for helping with the costs of this very important opportunity that has not happened for the last few Covid years!

DISTRICT PLANNING DAY – FEB. 3RD

School districts in British Columbia use a District / Ministry Day once a school year to focus on a topic related to their school district. This year, SD50 staff will be gathering at Port Clements School to listen to a keynote by [Dr. Evan Adams](#) in the morning. In the afternoon, individual schools will be gathering with their principal to begin the process of school planning for the 23 – 24 school year. The intent is to have these school plans, all of which will include specific goals for each school community, published on school and district websites to be easily sharable with parents. We are excited that the staff of Gudangaay Tlaats'gaa Naay and Tahayghen will work together to participate in a new school visioning process facilitated by [Dr. Leyton Schnellert](#) from the University of British Columbia.

STUDENT WELL BEING

CLASS REVIEWS AT SK'AADGAA NAAY

To help incoming principal Will Bedard learn more about Sk'aadgaa Naay students, staff decided to hold a second **class review** day. This means that a substitute teacher covers each teacher for 45 minutes while they review their students with the principal. Classroom strengths, routines and challenges are discussed to help ensure that school resources are being targeted as needed. These types of collaborative structures are very helpful in ensuring that we can help to support individual student learning in every classroom. Hawaa to Sk'aadgaa Naay teachers for doing this to welcome Will to the school.

STUDENT REPORTING IN BC PUBLIC SCHOOLS WILL BE CHANGING

Beginning in the 2023 – 24 school year, student reporting (report cards) will be changing as a new BC Reporting Order will be implemented. More details about the changes will be sent home from schools and the district in the months to come but some of the changes and similarities are described below:

What's new

- Student reporting practices that align with B.C.'s curriculum and provincial assessment system
- Ensuring timely and responsive feedback on student learning that parents can understand
- Provincial Proficiency Scale at Grades K-9
- Graduation status update at Grades 10-12
- Student self-assessment and goal setting in all grades in the 3 written reports
- Changing the "I" reporting symbol to "IE" to denote "insufficient evidence" of learning instead of "incomplete" learning
- All learners, including students with a disability or diverse ability, will receive regular communications of student learning in the same way as their peers in any other program

What's the same

- 5 communications of student learning; 3 written and 2 of flexible format
 - Written descriptive feedback to accompany scale or letter grade/percentage
 - Letter grades and percentages at Grades 10-12
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