



**MISSION STATEMENT**

We at Ruth King Elementary School work together to provide a safe and caring learning environment where respect, responsibility and co-operation are valued.

**Congratulations**

- ◆ To students, parents, and staff for a fabulous and energetic start to the school year. Students are settled into their classrooms, making new friends, setting goals, and working hard to reach them.
- ◆ To our Newsletter Draw winners, Evan C. and Leighton J., we hope they enjoy the books they received. Remember to turn in the newsletter tear off for this month's draw.
- ◆ As mentioned, we are focusing on social responsibility and our ROCKS! We will be acknowledging students when they demonstrate ROCKS behaviour, which parents will have reviewed with students at home. Thanks for your support, as we CATCH students being GOOD!
- ◆ The Terry Fox Run was a huge success last Friday. Students participated with great energy and modeled safe behavior while off of the school grounds. We reached our goal of \$300.00!!

**Dogs on School Grounds**

Please be aware that dogs are not allowed on school grounds, especially during the school day. Once school is finished, and you happen to be walking your dog on school property, please make sure you have baggies to pick up after your dog "does his business". Thanks for your cooperation in keeping the grounds clean for all students. Remember the playing fields are classrooms and it is important that they remain clean.



**Student Teachers**

Two student teachers, Ms. Beil and Ms. Lund, are learning the craft of teaching at Ruth King this fall. Ms. Beil will be working with Mr. Dranchuk, while Ms. Lund will be mentored by Mrs. Alton. Both student teachers were here in the first week of school getting to know the students they were going to be working with. They bring tremendous enthusiasm for working with students, and we wish them well as they work over the next two months. If there are any questions, parents are encouraged to dialogue with them or contact their mentor teachers.



**Service**

Our students are amazing! Under Mr. Dodd's direction, a very dedicated group of students are helping out around the school in a number of capacities. Students can be found being Office Helpers, Classroom Lunch Monitors, Recycling Monitors, and Computer Lab Helpers. It's great to see our senior students giving back by volunteering to help the younger students learn the expectations, and support of our goal of recycling.

**Calendar Dates**

Picture Day	Oct 5
Fire Safety Expos for Grade 4	Oct 6
Interim Reports Home	Oct 9
Thanksgiving Day, No School	Oct 12
PAC Meeting	Oct 13
Pac Food Day	Oct 21
SPEAC Meeting	Oct 21
Professional Learning Day No School	Oct 23
PAC Carnival	Oct 28
Halloween Safety Assembly	Oct 28

**OUR SCHOOL GOAL**

Ruth King's goal is Literacy and to improve the reading ability of students

## **PAC News**

Thanks to the parents that volunteered for Safe Arrival as it now up and operating. The PAC continues to plan a number of exciting events to benefit students and parents. The next meeting is Tuesday, October 13th beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the Library. Thank you to everyone that attended the September meeting, and we look forward to seeing all of you at this month's meeting.

## **Student Progress**

Reporting on student progress is part of the work that we do at Ruth King. Assessment of student learning is continuous through out the year, and parents are encouraged to have regular conversations with their child's teacher. Interim reports will be distributed on Friday, Oct. 9th. This snapshot of student's learning will provide parents with an early indication of how their child is doing. A more detailed, formal report card (parent teacher interviews as well) will come home in November. Stay in touch throughout the year, not just at reporting times to maximize student learning and parental involvement. An involved parent is an informed parent.

## **Immunizations**

Last week our Grade 6 students received their first round of vaccinations. If your child is receiving theirs at the health clinic, parents are reminded to make sure they book an appointment soon. This is a good time to remind parents about the benefits and the importance of getting children their immunizations at the appropriate times. This will help to protect them against many disease over their lifetime. Our Health Nurse, Christine Havers, is available to answer questions, or parents can contact the nearest health unit. Parents can also visit [www.immunizebc.ca](http://www.immunizebc.ca) for valuable information.



## **PAC Pizza Lunch**

The first hot lunch put on by the PAC is coming up on Wednesday, Oct. 21st. Order forms will be coming very soon, please fill them out and return them quickly if you would like your child to receive lunch that day. Thanks to Mrs. Scown and Mrs. Miner for putting on the first lunch of the year, and we know that PIZZA is always a favorite with students.

## **Rainbows**

Registration for Rainbows is October 8th from 6:30 - 7:30 @ 3307 Wishart Road for additional information contact Claire 474-7591.

## **Trick or Treat**

When it comes to Halloween candy and dental health, the "all or nothing" approach is best. Giving children their Halloween candy over days or weeks is not the best choice. The risk of tooth decay increases with the amount of sugar and the number of times teeth are exposed to it.

Tooth safe suggestions for enjoying Halloween treats are:

Serve a healthy dinner (or snack) before trick-or-treating. This will leave less room for sugary snacking. YOU will know your child has eaten **something** nutritious on this exciting night. Cut down on the number of times teeth are exposed to sugar by limiting candy to once a day after a meal, followed by a thorough tooth brushing. Reduce the number of sugary treats by handing out "tooth-friendly" options like stickers, temporary tattoos or fancy pens and pencils.

And of course, remind your child to floss and brush with fluoride toothpaste before going to bed, or there could be some very *scary* results!

For more information contact:

VIHA Child, Youth and Family Community Health Dental, Victoria, 250-519-5100.

## **Kindergarten Screening**

Students may have unknown vision and hearing concerns and in order to ensure that all kindergarten students have a good start to the school year the Public Health Nurse, Christine Havers, arranges the screening; a letter will be coming home soon. The date for this will be announced.

## **Fire Prevention**

Next week, October 4 through October 10, is Fire Prevention Week. The majority of fires start from cooking, heating, electrical and smoking material. Fire spreads fast and a quick prepared response is required. Take time to make a plan with your family and practice it.

This is a good time to review emergency procedures, and set a meeting place with family members. Parents are reminded to check the batteries in the smoke detectors, and make sure everyone is aware of your safe meeting place.

The school will be conducting fire and earthquake drills to ensure that students are prepared and know how to evacuate the building safely.

## Floor Hockey

Play has begun at lunch, and the competition is fierce and the sportsmanship is superb. Thanks to Mr. Bull, as four teams compete. The Vipers players are **Brandon D., Daniel St. L., Lucas M., Emma W., Jacob D., Jordan A., Zac I.**; the Toon Squad players are **Sam C., Jared H., Tamra W., Parker S., Nathan P., Blake D., Kyle S.**; the Cyclones players are made up **Kyle M., Kaden M., Raven W., Isaac I., David N., Lucas S., Aidan C., Craig D., Wesley St. P.,** ; and the Mexican Monkeys players are **Miguel E., Cody W., Logan D., Dominic C., Britney H., Jared H., Caitlin B.** Good luck to everyone!!

## Cross Country

Another cross country season began with two races at Juan de Fuca, and our students, as usual, did extremely well. Congratulations to all of the runners, thanks to Mrs. Alton and Mrs. Verdal for coaching, and to the many parents who helped drive students to the races. This is a great example of team work, and why Ruth King continues to be an outstanding school. Participants names will be published after next week's race. I know they will try their best and demonstrate excellent sportsmanship.

## Basketball

The Eli Pasquale Club Basketball is available for students aged 11 through 15. The season operates from Oct. through to March, with one game per week. If students and parents are interested in this opportunity, they can get further details at [programs@piseworld.com](mailto:programs@piseworld.com), or by phoning 250.220.2510.



## Leadership

A highly motivated group of about twenty Grades 4 - 6 students have begun meeting with Ms. van der Leeden. These students play a very important role in making Ruth King the exciting and vibrant school that it is. Leadership is instrumental in putting together school activities such as Spirit Days and Christmas Hampers. All students support these activities by giving up their time to make Ruth King a great community for learning and caring. Leadership students ROCK!! Your efforts are greatly appreciated.



## Reading ROCKS at Ruth King

We are continuing the at home reading program (for primary and intermediate students) again this year because of the benefits it has for student learning.



The primary students' parents are asked to make time for their child to read to them, or read with them for 20 minutes every night. This nightly routine can be recorded and returned to the classroom teacher. Students receive a ribbon in their class, and a certificate which will be presented at our Monday Morning Assembly to recognize their participation. Reward/Certificate levels begin at 25, 50, 75, 100 nights, and so on. While students will want to read more than that each night, please record the reading as one per night.

For the intermediate students, staff will be meeting to see what kinds of motivation will increase their participation in the at home reading program. We know our students are reading but they may not be recording it. As well, to increase student participation we will be getting input from the students themselves. Watch for details, and thanks for supporting reading at Ruth King.



## Picture Day

Students will have their pictures taken on Monday, Oct. 5th in the school gym. This year, Life Touch is offering the "proof method" of choosing pictures; students will bring home the proofs of the pictures taken, and parents can select the pose they wish and send in the payments then.

Parents can have pictures of their pre-schoolers taken prior to the classes on Monday morning. Parents can bring their children in at 8:00 a.m.



## Book of Winners

Congratulations to all of our Book of Winner students, (listed below) who have been recognized at our Monday morning assemblies during the past month. It is their modeling of ROCKS expected behavior and their focus on academic goals that sets a great example for others to strive towards. Again, congratulations to **Josh E., Nafeesa A., Halle W., Logan C., Graydin L., Camryn C., Eric K., Nathan P., Kianna H., Kathren C., Kaitlyn G., Gavenna N., Amelia L., Cadence V., Brooklyn V., Sydney W., Emma W., Parker S., Avery C., Tyson C., Mia S., Caleb H.**

*Ruth King Rocks!*

## Ruth King Staff

We are pleased that most of the staffing is in place at our school. Listed below is the complete list.



Div. 1	Grade 6	Mr. Dodds
Div. 2	Grade 5/6	Ms. van der Leeden
Div. 3	Grade 5	Mrs. MacDonald
Div. 4	Grade 4	Mr. Craig
Div. 5	Grade 3/4	Mrs. Adamek
Div. 6	Grade 3	Mrs. Leboeuf
Div. 7	Grade 2/3	Mrs. Denton
Div. 8	Grade 2	Mrs. Verdel
Div. 9	Grade 1/2	Mrs. Alton
Div. 10	Grade 1	Mr. Dranchuk
Div. 11	K (a.m.)	Mrs. Hjermstad
Div. 12	K (p.m.)	Mrs. Hjermstad
Secretary		Mrs. Salter
Integration Support		Ms. Diercks
Cousellor		Mrs. Owen
Computer Lab/PE		Mr. Krawetz
Librarian		Mr. Morris
Library Assistant		Mrs. Wass
Speech Pathologist		Ms. Santilli
First Nations Teacher		Ms. Beswick
Education Assistants		Mrs. Burows
		Ms. Hesse, Ms. Martin
		Ms. Tedford,
		Mrs. Kroeger
		Mrs. Dillon, Mrs. Kilduff
Lunch Supervisors		Mr. Tranter, Mrs. Pinay
		Mr. Kammermans
Strong Start		Mrs. Melanson
Journeys of the Heart		Ms. Morgan
First Nation EA		Mrs. Fetherston
Health Nurse		Mrs. Havers
Lunch Program		Mr. Bull
Vice Principal		Mr. Dodds
Principal		Mr. Manhas

## Reading and Success

Our school focus is literacy. Our students are excellent at reading fluency, so we have shifted our focus to reading comprehension. We are teaching students to be able make sense of what they are reading. Parents can support their child by helping to apply the following strategies;



- √ To think about what I already know
- √ To predict what will happen
- √ To think about my reading and fix my mistakes
- √ To make a picture in my head
- √ To connect what I am reading with what I know
- √ To figure out the important ideas
- √ To get information from pictures and words
- √ To identify the parts of the story
- √ To summarize the reading
- √ To reflect and respond

## Our Lady of the Rosary

Once again, we would like to recognize and acknowledge the work that the ladies of the Catholic Women's League do in supporting Ruth King's morning breakfast program. They have generously donated \$300, which will go towards buying snacks for students that need it first thing in the morning, or at snack time. We know that when students are nourished and full, they are better able to focus on their learning. There is a direct correlation with having a good breakfast and being a successful learner. Thanks to these wonderful ladies for supporting the students at



## NEWSLETTER DRAW (please cut off this part and return to school)

We will be having a Primary and Intermediate draw for each newsletter sent home.

Winners of the draw will receive a storybook. **Our draw will be on Friday, Oct. 9th.**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Please help us go green. Include your email so that the newsletters can be sent electronically to you.

