



Stz'uminus Education Society

Yu-qw'iqw'ulus (June) 2022 Newsletter

*The monthly teaching for Yu-qw'iqw'ulus is: 'Tl'i' to' mukw' mustimuhw (Each person is important).'
Summer weather is coming!*

HAPPY Yu-qw'iqw'ulus (June)

'uy' skweyul, siiem, nu sul-hween, nu siiye'yu (good day, respected ones, my elders, my friends). We are so grateful for the warm weather, the sound of the sqw'ulesh singing, and the excitement of all our year-end activities. We are so grateful to be laughing, learning, and celebrating on the traditional sacred lands with you.

punhwe'num was a busy month, the staff participated in an amazing *Play is the Way* workshop, there were many field trips to Ladysmith, around Stz'uminus, Elk Falls, Coombs, the golf course, Humble Hooves, and Duncan to name a few. We also celebrated our athletes, coaches and parent volunteers at an Athletic Banquet, had Dwayne from ISPARC join us for some Physical literacy workshops, and had a fun Sports day for the Primary School.

Yu-qw'iqw'ulus promises to bring us many exciting events and celebrations, an SCS sports day, an honoured trip to Ahousaht for a potlach, a trip to Parksville for SPS, Camp Imadene trips, a graduation class trip, Awards day, special events on June 22, SCS sports day, grade 4 celebration and grade 12 graduation ceremony! Few! We are exhausted just listing all the exciting events coming up! We can't wait to see you at these events.

We are also excited for all the possibilities for the 2022-2023 school year. We will launch our Hul'q'umi'num' immersion program, a Take A Hike program, a new timetable for grades 8 to 12, creative class organization for grades JK to 7, we will get an update to the SPS classrooms and playground and have a culinary arts program. So many exciting projects all coming for the voices of the Stz'uminus community and Elders!

Kelly and Colleen want you to know that their "doors" are always open. We want to hear from you and meet you and welcoming you to the schools any time. This is your school for your xe' xe' smun'eem and we are honoured to serve you. We hope you have a restful, memorable, and adventurous summer break.

Huy tseep q'u sii'em nu siiye'yu!
Colleen Mullin and Kelly Hall



****NEW** STZ'UMINUS HUL'Q'UMI'NUM' Junior Kindergarten/ Kindergarten IMMERSION PROGRAM: September 2022**

We are so excited to start this journey with you, our first-ever Immersion program. This year will be open to our junior kindergarten and kindergarten families (birthdays between 2019 - 2017). Here are some important details:

- The classroom team will have a Hul'q'umi'num' speaking teacher, an educational assistant and an Elder. The program will run out of the SPS schools.
- We will enrol on a first come first served basis
- We will enrol 16 students
- Priority will be given to Stz'uminus band members
- We will hold a wait list
- **Registration OPENS Monday June 6th at 8 am**

This is a brand-new program, there will be lots of learning and growing together as this program will align as best as possible to the Stz'uminus language and culture.

Please reach out to Kelly Hall should you have any questions at kelly.hall@stzuminus.com

****NEW** TAKE A HIKE PROGRAM: September 2022**



Another program we are excited to share with you is the Take a Hike program. This program is for students going into grades 10 to 12. Take a Hike empowers youth with intentional, continuous clinical counselling, outdoor experiential learning, and community. The program will be built from the foundation of the Stz'uminus cultural calendar, learning will be deeply immersed in culture and on the land. The SCS team will provide high-quality education, and together with Take a Hike, we empower youth with the skills and resilience they need to graduate high school, build healthy relationships, and achieve success – however they define it.

<https://www.takeahikefoundation.org/about-us>

The details:

- Full time graduation program
- Maximum 18 students
- Grade 10 to 12 students
- Program will be located out of the newly renovated building on Silverstrand Road
- Students will go through an interview process for acceptance.
- Priority will be given to those from Stz'uminus First Nation
- Students must maintain 80% attendance or more
- **Registration OPENS Monday June 6th at 8 am**

NEW SCS TIMETABLE

The students have asked for a new timetable for grade 8 to 12! After much collaboration we are excited to share what they have come up with!

Structure:

Block 1 (1 hour, core subject)
Block 2 (1 hour, core subject)
Block 3 (1 hour, core subject)
Lunch
Superblock (2 hours, 7 weeks, elective, 4 terms/courses)

Advantages of new timetable:

- This will allow students to rotate to different teachers and teachers will be able to teach in their specialty areas.
- Math, English and Hul'q'umi'num' will run all year long (linear)
- With superblocks being 2 hours long, students can dig deeper into their learning skill (such as science labs, shop projects, or art projects) and/or students will be able to leave campus for their learning (such as fishing, canoeing, harvesting, clamming, hiking, hockey or rock climbing)
- School day start and stop times may need to be adjusted slightly

Course selections are happening now!

We will be running many new electives next year, most of which were derived from the voices of the student body and from our elders. We hope that our community members become more and more involved in our teachings either at SCS or within the community.

Please contact Colleen Mullin if you have any questions.

NEW REGISTRATIONS and PRIZES!!



- It is so important that the office is aware of how many students will be in our programs as soon as possible. We need this information to build classes, hire staff and set up classrooms.
- To get as many registrations in June as possible (as opposed to September), we will enter in all new registrations in June to win one of several prize draws. You can register at the office at SPS or SCS. If you can't make it in, you can have us email you the package.
- Some great days to come in are June 15th (Canoe Day), June 20th (SCS sports day), June 22nd (Tzinquaw-cultural performance) and June 23rd (awards day). These dates are awesome opportunities to sign up for our JK/K Immersion program, Take a Hike, or our regular programs at SPS or SCS.

AWARDS DAY IS BACK



On the morning of June 23rd, we will celebrate all our students and their many strengths and gifts at our annual awards day. The event will run all morning at the SCS gym. More details to come in your inbox and via Facebook.

CAMP IMADENE INFORMATION



Stz'uminus students are going to visit Camp Imadene this week. On Monday grade 8-12 will be at camp and Tuesday grades 3-7. Activities will include swimming, kayaking, canoeing, paddleboarding, water inflatables, blaster ball and pedal go karts. Buses will leave by 8:50. Students will need a water bottle, active clothes, runners and swim gear.

HUL'Q'UMI'NUM' AND CULTURE UPDATES

- June 22, 2022, National Indigenous Celebration Day, our students will be gearing up to perform a spring concert on this day. Please stay tuned for further information.
- Braiding Knowledge is a Youth-Elder After-School Program for SCS students in Grades 9-11 focused on building relationships, learning hul'q'umi'num', and sharing cultural teachings. This is happening after school on Tuesdays in June and again in September. Talk to your teacher for a permission form.

JUNIOR KINDERGARTEN AND KINDERGARTEN 2022-2023



Spring registration for 2022-2023 school year

- The junior kindergarten and kindergarten registration for Stz'uminus Primary school opened on April 4, 2022.
- We are planning a few events for the spring to support the transition of our day care students to the junior kindergarten programs and for new families to our primary programs. Please look out for events and dates that are coming soon.

There will be a new September schedule for our JK and K programs for 2022-2023

- September 6th to 8th there will be no classes for junior kindergarten or kindergarten students.
- The week of September 12 will be a gradual entry.

UPDATE FROM JUSTIN MAGNUSON, EDUCATION ADMINISTRATOR

Hi Stz'uminus,

It's that time of the year when our students and staff start to wind down school and get excited for grad and wait patiently for summer to begin. We have had a year of challenges and celebrations and our executive team is now in the stages of creating an amazing 2022-2023 school year.

June 1st we will celebrate our awesome students that have graduated over the past 3 years. Even through COVID these students have persevered and stayed on the course to complete their education goals and dreams. I raise my hands to them and their families that have supported them through this journey.

We will also honor our own Stz'uminus Community School grads with a much-deserved night of recognition on June 24th. This will be a night to celebrate their accomplishments with their teachers and families. We are proud of the work these students have done to graduate and wish them well in their future education goals.

Next week we have a group of students, teachers and staff embarking on a cultural experience to Ahousaht. This group will be staying within the Ahousaht community sharing our Stz'uminus ways with their community. Our students will immerse themselves in the remote Ahousaht culture and teachings and ways of being.

Through fundraising efforts, our SCS grads will be traveling to Tofino for a week of fun and celebration. They will stay in cabins on the beach and explore what Tofino has to offer. This is a trip that is well earned and well deserved.

Stz'uminus Education Society has partnered up with Hope and Health to offer a custom designed outdoor learning program that will be based out of our community school and run four days a week- ALL SUMMER LONG! (See attached flyer). This program ran last year and was a great success. We are excited to work with Hope and health to offer this program to our students and the Stz'uminus community this year.

Justin Magnuson

Education Administrator

Stz'uminus Education Society

SPORTS



On Thursday May 26th we had our Athletic banquet. The open room at the Community School was full of supporters for our student athletes. Thank you to everyone who attended and who made the night special for our students. Huy'ch'qa to the elders and to Chief Harris for attending. Huy'ch'qa to Kaya and grade 12 student Calvin for cooking our meal.

We hosted Cowichan Secondary School in a soccer game and cultural song and dance June 3rd. Huy'ch'qa to everyone who helped but this event together. There will be more events like it in the future.



Stz'uminus Athletics had an incredible year, we are actively searching for supporters of the program for next school year. If you are interested in coaching basketball, volleyball, soccer or another sport or if you would like to support our teams on game days by driving, score keeping or preparing snacks, please reach out to Justin, Colleen, Kelly or Brad. The help is welcome and very much appreciated.

Community School Sports/Activity Day is June 20th.

Brad Toporowski
Athletic Coordinator

A DAY IN THE LIFE

JUNIOR KINDERGARTEN



KINDERGARTEN

The kindergarten has been an exciting place to be! We have visited Yellow Point Farms to see the baby animals, gone to the swimming pool in Duncan, continued to study our potatoes and bean plants, and decorated a picnic table that will soon be put outside. Every day we rush into the classroom to check our butterflies that arrived on May 9 as larvae, then grew into bigger caterpillars and are now chrysalis in our butterfly habitat. Today we had two that emerged as butterflies!



GRADE 1

May was a busy and exciting month for the grade 1 class. We went on a field trip with the grade 2's to Hamilton Hobby Farm, where we spent time with 3 very cute bunnies, feed the goats and chickens, saw new-born baby goats and went on pony rides. The kids were excited and had a blast! We have been learning about the life cycle of a butterfly, after reading the story "The Very Hungry Butterfly" by Eric Carle. The kindergarten class was lucky to have 10 caterpillars and over the days invited us to watch the caterpillars transform into painted lady butterflies! We have also been doing buddy reading with the grade 4's which everyone is enjoying! As we wind down the school year, we have a more fun activities planned as well as continuing to work hard on our reading and writing!



GRADE 2



GRADE 1&2 AT THE ARTS COUNCIL OF LADYSMITH





GRADE 3



GRADE 4

Beach life!

Grade 4 took a close look at clams. We went to Kulleet Bay at low tide, got advice from an expert, and did a little digging of our own. We brought the clams back to the classroom and each student had a chance to dissect (cut up) a clam and find the **siphon** (for intake and elimination) the **foot** (for escaping into the sand) and the two halves of the bivalve (the two shells). We examined the clams under a microscope and created labeled diagrams of the clams in our nature journals.

We talked about how this resource has been in Stz'uminus for thousands of years, and we discussed how important it is that we all do our best to keep the oceans and beaches healthy, because we are all part of the food chain.

I have really enjoyed my time with this beautiful group of students. Huy tseep qa to all the families for your support as I worked with your children over the past two years. I look forward to sharing more memories and a trail book we are creating with Riley at the upcoming grade 4 graduation awards ceremony. See you then!

Respectfully, Lesley Lorenz



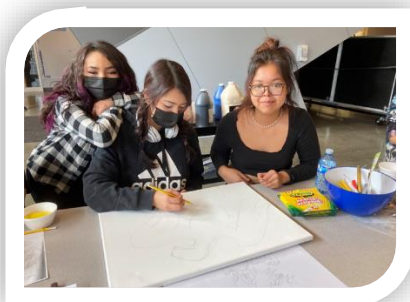
GRADE 7

Learning our Stz'uminus art with Elder In-Residence John Jim. Also grade 7s did some mini drum making.



GRADE 10&11

It's hard to believe another school year is coming to an end. These last few weeks in grade 10&11 will be filled with finishing up important projects for the term & fun activities. Please help make sure your children attend school every day so that they don't miss out! Next high school field trip = Camp Imadene Monday June 6. Finding pictures for this last newsletter of the year reminds me of just how far all the students have come this year & I'm super proud of all of them!



GRADE 12

- Grade 12s will be going to Strathcona park lodge outdoor education retreat June 13-17, 2022
- Graduation date is June 24, 2022, 1pm to 4pm at the SCS gymnasium



Yu-qw'iqw'ulus (June)

IMPORTANT dates to remember

- June 6th, Camp Imadene, grade 8-12s
- June 7th, Camp Imadene, grade 3-7s
- June 8th –11th, Grade 5's and dance team trip to Ahousaht
- June 9, Parksville Beach trip JK–4
- June 14th, SPS bowling trip
- June 15th, grade 4s to visit SCS AND Canoeing (more information to come)
- June 16th, celebration for Delia Johnson at SCS
- June 20th, SCS Sports Day, parents invited to cheer kids on! (Register a new student to be entered in a prize draw!)
- June 21st, NO SCHOOL, Indigenous Peoples Day
- June 22nd, Cultural activity stations and Tzinquaw Performance (in field between SPS and SCS)
- June 23rd, Awards Day AND Report cards go home (register a new student to be entered in a prize draw!)
- June 23rd, LAST DAY OF SCHOOL
- June 24th, Grade 12 Graduation Day 1pm-4pm at SCS Gym
- June 24th to June 28th, Report cards can be picked up from SPS or SCS office