The Horse Lake Herald

Horse Lake Elementary

Our School News ♥ Celebrations ♥ Upcoming Events

December 2026

♥ A Message from the Principal

Dear Horse Lake Families,
It has been a pleasure getting to know our students and families during my first weeks at Horse Lake Elementary. I am continually impressed by the kindness, hard work, and positive spirit of our students.
As we head into the holiday season, I want to thank our families and staff for their support. I am especially looking forward to experiencing the Christmas Concert, a cherished Horse Lake tradition.

Wishing everyone a joyful Christmas, a restful holiday break, and a wonderful New Year.

Mrs. Alina Cameron
Acting Principal

★ School Highlights

- Students have been actively engaged in literacy, numeracy, and inquiry learning.
- Thank you to families for supporting regular attendance.
- Please review the Code of Conduct and Family Handbook on our website.
- We continue to incorporate Indigenous perspectives and learning throughout the school year.
- Books over dues notices are going home. Please return all books by Dec. 14

▣ Upcoming Dates

❄️ **Nov. 30-Dec 4-** PAC annual **Christmas Store**

🟣 **Dec. 3** - Grade 6 Volleyball Tournament at Horse Lake Elementary
🟣 **Dec. 4** - Grade 7 Volleyball Tournament at Mile 108 Elementary

👛 **Dec. 8-** Learning Updates Available in MYED.
🎄 **Dec.15** Christmas rehearsal am (School and Staff only) , Christmas Concert 12:30 pm (Doors open at 12:15)

🎄 **Dec. 16** - Christmas Concert 12:30pm (Doors open at 12:15)
🍽️ **Dec. 17** - Christmas Luncheon *Thank you to our PAC for their support!*
🎉 **Dec. 18** - School-Wide Holiday Fun Activity
🔔 **Dec. 18** - Last Day of School Before Winter Break (PJ Day!)
👛 **Jan. 4** - Back to School! Welcome back and Happy New Year! 🎉

❄ Winter Reminders

Please send your child dressed for the winter weather with a warm coat, snow pants, boots, mittens, and a toque so they can stay warm and comfortable while enjoying outdoor activities. Time outside supports children's health, well-being, and learning, and we look forward to helping them enjoy the fresh air and winter fun each day. ❄️ ⛄

🎄 PAC & Community News

- Our **Fruit Program** is now underway. Each week, baskets of fresh fruit are delivered to the school and divided among classrooms for students to enjoy.
- We will be hosting a **school-wide Christmas Lunch on December 17** for all students and staff.
- **Christmas Basket lists** will be sent home soon by individual classroom teachers with information about classroom holiday activities and contributions.
- We are looking for donations of **larger-sized ice skates**. If your family has gently used skates that are no longer needed, please consider donating them to the school so that students who do not have skates can participate in skating activities.
- Our annual **Christmas Store** will run **November 30 to December 4**. More information will be shared with families soon.

Wishing all Horse Lake families a safe, happy, and restful holiday season!

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OUR SCHOOL IN PICTURES • DECEMBER MEMORIES

Click a photo box, delete it, then choose Insert → Pictures to add your school photo. Resize as needed.



Mrs. Thomson's *Tree of Teachings* is growing in our foyer, showcasing student learning and artwork as we journey from **Truth** to **Respect** through the Seven Sacred Teachings. 🌳 ✨



🐟 **Mr. Foote's Kindergarten Class** is caring for 25 Chinook salmon eggs and will observe their development from egg to alevin to fry before releasing them into Williams Creek in May, with support from Martin Kruus of Scout Island Nature Centre.



Thank you to Ms. Posnikoff, our class, Ms. Dickson's class, our parent volunteers, and the South Cariboo Recreation Centre for making this a fantastic experience! 🌟



Our first Code of Conduct Assembly was a great opportunity to come together, build community, and learn how we can help make Horse Lake Elementary a safe, respectful, and inclusive place for everyone. 🐴 ✨

Thank you for being part of our Horse Lake school community! ❄

DARKER MORNINGS
Stay Safe!

With B.C. moving to permanent daylight-saving time, winter mornings will be darker. Families are encouraged to take extra precautions to keep students safe on their way to school.



Please follow the link below for important safety information and tips:
Helping Students Stay Safe



ONLINE SAFETY FOR FAMILIES

SD27 has released a new video resource to help parents and caregivers recognize concerning online behaviour, talk openly with their children, and know when and how to report concerns. The guide offers practical tips for keeping children safe and getting support early.

Families are encouraged to follow this link to learn more: Online Safety for Families



ERASE Safer Schools Together

ERASE Family Sessions:

- Establishing Safe, Caring, & Respectful Digital Communities
- Establishing Family Practices for Safeguarding Against Cyberbullying and Sextortion

Sign Up Here

erase | EXPECT RESPECT & A SAFE EDUCATION

you're not alone – everyone needs to ask for help sometimes

The Provincial Proficiency Scale for K-9: For students in grades K-9, there will not be letter grades on their report cards/learning updates. Instead, you will see information on where your child is on the Provincial Proficiency Scale. The scale uses the terms "Emerging," "Developing," "Proficient," and "Extending" to describe student learning. The scale maintains high standards for student learning.

Emerging	Developing	Proficient	Extending
Emerging means your child is beginning to understand something in an area of learning. They are still learning but may need more support to move ahead. Emerging doesn't mean your child in unsuccessful in this area.	Developing means your child understands some things in an area of learning but still has other areas to work on. Like Emerging, it doesn't mean your child is unsuccessful in this area.	**Proficient is the goal for your child.** It's also the goal for all students. When your child is Proficient, it means they fully understand the required learning. But it doesn't mean their learning stops.	Extending is when students show a deeper understanding. It's when your child is able to apply their learning in new and different ways. Extending is not the goal for all students in every area of learning.

What will my child's report card look like?

Each written update will include:

- information on how your child is doing in each area of learning
- written comments (descriptive feedback) on your child's strengths and areas they need to work on, as well as their work habits and behaviour
- information on the communication, thinking, and social skills that your child needs to be successful (Core Competencies) and your child's goal setting
- information about your child's attendance

How often will I get updates from my child's teacher?

During the school year, you should expect to see 5 learning updates about your child. This will include 3 written learning updates (that could look like report cards), and 2 informal learning updates (could include conferences with a teacher, and phone calls or e-mails from a teacher).

Schools set the schedule for when learning updates happen. However, your child's teacher may connect with you at any point.

If your child has an Individualized Education Plan (IEP), you will receive learning updates in the same way as all the other parents and caregivers do. But your child may also get additional updates based on their IEP.


HORSE LAKE ELEMENTARY
Christmas Concert
Two Days of Holiday Cheer!
Tuesday, December 15
Wednesday, December 16
Both days
Doors Open: 12:15 PM
Concert Begins: 12:30 PM
Come and enjoy our Christmas Celebration and our incredible children!

HORSE LAKE ELEMENTARY

VOLUNTEER DO'S & DON'TS

Helping create a safe, caring and inclusive school



✓ DO

- **Check in and out at the school office.**
- **Complete required volunteer paperwork and screening before starting.**
- **Follow the supervising staff member's directions.**
- **Be kind, patient, respectful and inclusive.**
- **Protect student and family privacy.**
- **Report injuries and safety concerns promptly.**
- **Ask staff when you are unsure.**

⊗ DON'T

- **Don't share student information or gossip.**
- **Don't take or post student photos without school authorization.**
- **Don't discipline students; ask staff for support.**
- **Don't arrange private student meetings or messages.**
- **Don't transport students without school approval.**
- **Don't offer food, gifts or medication without authorization.**
- **Don't access confidential student records.**

KEEP INFORMATION PRIVATE. KEEP STUDENTS SAFE.

Report safety concerns promptly to staff. Confidentiality does not prevent required child-protection reporting.

Thank you for sharing your time and talents!

SD27 REFERENCE: AP 240 – Volunteers in Schools

School District No. 27 (Cariboo-Chilcotin)

Amended July 24, 2023

Read alongside AP 240 and school-specific expectations. This handout does not replace the administrative procedure.

Code of Conduct

The Mane Points

Safe - Kind - Ready to learn



EVERYONE deserves to feel **safe, welcome,** and **respected**
At Horse Lake Elementary.

The full Horse Lake Elementary Code of Conduct is available on our website. Please visit Horse Lake Elementary School to review the complete document.