



St. Elias Community School

Box 5494, Haines Junction, YT Y0B 1L0
Tel: (867) 634-2231 Fax: (867) 634-2921

September 21, 2016

We are almost 1 month into the school year and it's shaping up to be a very busy, productive and exciting year. We encourage parents to visit our website to see the latest information on school activities and events, and to visit the School Council page for notices and minutes from their meetings.

<http://sec.yukonschools.ca/>

If you would like to be added to our school newsletter email group, please call the office and let us know, or email shawn.allen@gov.yk.ca and request to be added.

Student Safety – Student Drop-off Zone

Student safety is a priority at our school. The student drop-off zone created in front of the school on St. Elias Street is in place to increase the safety of our students being dropped off and picked up from school.

Parents are asked to enter onto St. Elias Street from Karmen Street, and pull into the drop-off zone in front of the school. Please use the parking lots at either end of the school if you need to get out of your vehicle to enter the school. Please do not park in the drop off lane.

To ensure the safety of students getting on or off the School Bus, parents who use the parking lot at the west end of the school are reminded to please **enter from St. Elias Street and exit onto Bakke Street**. Thank you for your cooperation and commitment to our students' safety.

Bus Permission Reminder:

To ensure safe and timely delivery of bus students, our bus monitor and the bus driver account for every student on our authorized list prior to departure. Not knowing if a student is not on the bus can cause delay in bus departure. We would like to remind parents of students who travel to school by bus to please inform the school office if your child/youth will not be taking the bus.

We also ask that parents of students not on our bus list call the office, to authorize their child to be on the bus. Students not on the bus list and without parent authorization will not be permitted to travel on the bus.

YTA Conference:

St. Elias School staff will be attending the YTA Conference on **Thursday September 29th and Friday September 30th**. There are no classes for students these two days. Regular classes resume on Monday Oct. 3rd.

Upcoming Events:

- Sept. 28: Terry Fox Run
- Sept. 28: Orange Shirt Day at SECS
- Sept. 29-30: YTA Conference, no classes for students
- Sept. 30: Earthquake Machine
- Oct. 3: High school Interim Reports sent home
- Oct. 10: Thanks-giving Day holiday

Welcome to Ms. Workman who returns as our Native Language Trainee this year!

Continued on next page...

Terry Fox Run

Dust off your running shoes and join us for the annual Terry Fox Run this **Wednesday Sept. 28th**. We will meet at the Muffin at 1:00pm with a 1:10pm start time. Donations are accepted at the school office. If we meet our goal of raising \$1,300 this year, some of the teachers have agreed to be bombarded with water balloons.

Parent volunteers are invited to join our run with our elementary classes accompanying them along the route. Please let your classroom teacher know if you can help out. We look forward to seeing you at this worthwhile community event.

Orange Shirt Day, Every Child Matters

Friday Sept. 30th is National Orange Shirt Day to honour the children who survived the Indian Residential Schools and remember those that didn't. We wear orange shirts in recognition of the harm the residential school system did to children's sense of self-esteem and well-being, and as an affirmation of our commitment to ensure that everyone around us matters.

Because there is no school on Sept. 30th, staff and students will commemorate Orange Shirt Day on Wednesday September 28th. We invite everyone to run the Terry Fox event wearing orange! **Every Child Matters.**

Earthquake Machine:

The Department of Homeland Security will be in Haines Junction on Friday September 30th. They will have a forty-two foot trailer mounted cabin attached to a machine capable of producing an earthquake up to magnitudes of 8.

The earthquake machine and its operators will be set up in the municipal parking area during the day of September 30th and students, families and community members are invited to "take a ride."

Assessment for Learning – Helpful Literacy Tools:

During the months of September/October staff and students will be working with two literacy assessment tools. The D.A.R.T. – which is a reading assessment and our School Wide Write assessment help to inform our instructional practices and provide direction in terms of how we best meet the literacy needs and development of all our students. Both tools are useful 'assessment for learning' tools in that the results from these assessments help to create a profile of our students' strengths and areas to work on throughout the year. Please discuss with your children the importance of completing these tasks to the best of their ability. Student learning and achievement is our focus!! Please feel free to chat with your child's classroom teacher later in October regarding the outcome of these assessment tools.



The **Yukon Imagination Library** offers free books to babies and preschoolers. All Yukon children are eligible to receive one age appropriate book every month until they turn 5 years old. If you or someone you know would like to enroll in this program, please do so at www.yukonimaginationlibrary.ca or pick up a brochure at the Haines Junction Health Center, Shawkwunlee Daycare, the public library or the school.