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## World Down Syndrome Day - March 21



Celebrate World Down Syndrome Day on March 21! Our students embraced diversity by colouring mismatched socks, symbolizing the extra chromosome associated with Down syndrome. Through colorful conversations, we raised awareness and fostered inclusivity. Join us in spreading love and understanding by wearing mismatched socks on March 21. Let's celebrate uniqueness and acceptance together! Look up [World Down Syndrome Day](#) for more information.

### Important Dates

Mar 18 - 29	Spring Break - no school
Mar 21	World Down Syndrome Day - Rock your mismatched socks.
Apr 1	Easter Monday - no school
Apr 2	School Re-opens
Apr 12	Grade 4/5/6/7 Swim Trip
Apr 25	Regional Science Fair in Port Hardy
Apr 30	Enhancement Agreement Signing Ceremony in Port Hardy
May 3	District Pro-D - no school
May 8	Ready, Set, Learn event for 3 - 5 year olds
May 20	Victoria Day - no school
May 28	Magician, Leif David Performance 1:00 - 2:00



# Alert Bay School Newsletter

March 2024

## Principal's Message

Hello Families,

As we reflect on the events of this month and look forward to the coming weeks, there are a few important updates and reminders I would like to share with you.

Firstly, caregivers of our Grade 4 and Grade 7 students should have received information about the 2024 Student Learning Survey. Your feedback is invaluable to us as we strive to continually improve our educational practices. We encourage you to take the time to complete the survey, as your input is crucial to shaping the future of our school.

I hope Spring Break provides everyone with an opportunity for rest and rejuvenation, and that we will come back ready to dive into the exciting learning experiences that await us. Additionally, I encourage our school community to observe World Down Syndrome Day on March 21st by wearing mismatched socks to raise awareness and foster inclusion.

A rescheduled event to mark on your calendars is the signing of the Aboriginal Enhancement Agreement, which will now take place on April 30th in Port Hardy. Families are warmly invited to attend this important ceremony as we celebrate and reaffirm our commitment to supporting Indigenous education and reconciliation efforts.

Looking ahead to the Spring season, we are excited to announce plans to get our school garden up and running. Students will learn firsthand about growing food and gain practical insights into biology.

March has been a bustling month filled with academic exploration and achievement. Our recent Science Fair was a testament to the hard work and dedication of our students. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all the families who supported their children in their projects, as well as to the Jamie and Vicky Taylor and Janine Croy who generously gave their time to serve as judges. Your involvement is truly appreciated.

As we move forward, I would like to stress the importance of punctuality and attendance. Consistent attendance ensures that our students do not fall behind in their learning and I urge families to prioritize this aspect of their child's education.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out. Wishing you all a wonderful Spring Break and I look forward to seeing everyone back at school on April 2nd.

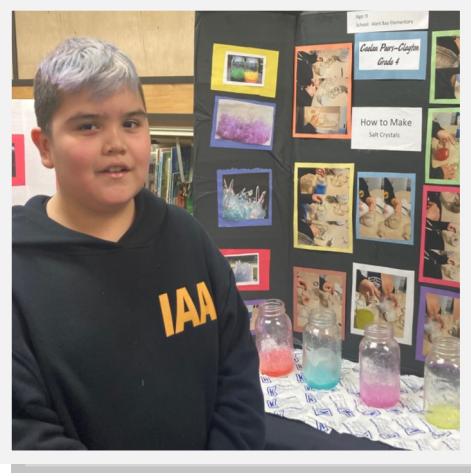
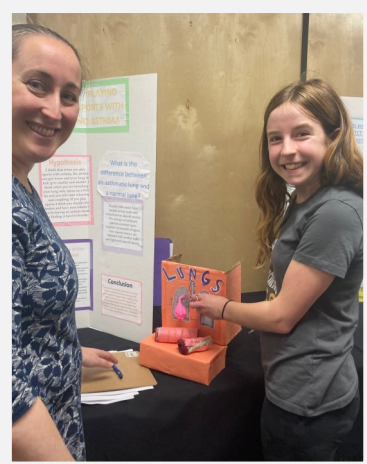
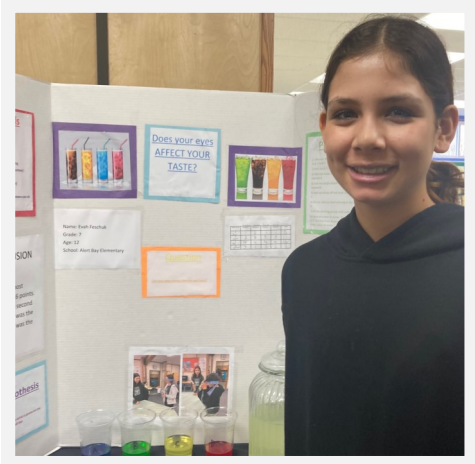
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Roberta Harris, Principal

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Season

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### Science Fair



We want to commend all students for their hard work and dedicated learning showcased in their projects at our Science Fair. Our thanks to all parents and families who contributed to the success of the Science Fair on March 13. Your enthusiastic support and involvement truly made a significant impact on our young scientists. Witnessing the dedication and creativity displayed by our students was inspiring, and your encouragement undoubtedly fueled their passion for exploration and discovery. Thank you for being an integral part of our school community.

Kindergarten Display:  
1st – Elliot Govereau, Black Panther  
2nd – Darren Henderson, Lion

Grade 1 Display:  
1st – Catlin Stewart, Alligator  
2nd – Holly Lessard, Fox

Grade 2 Display:  
1st – Lily-Blog, Cheetah  
2nd – Charlie Smith, Sea Lion

Grade 2 Experiment:  
1st – Maggie Croy, Balloon Cars

Grade 3 Experiment:  
1st Evan Brown, Colourful Cabbage

Grade 3 Display:  
1st - Zayden Nelson, Bears

Grade 4 Experiment:  
1st – Meadow Govereau, Lemon Battery  
2nd – Haekin Pitton-Faren, Chemical Reaction  
3rd – Caelan Peers-Clayton, How to Make Salt Crystals

Grade 5 Display:  
1st – Tony Wilson, Space

Grade 5 Experiment:  
1st – Brees McKinney, How Dirty is Our School  
2nd – Brent Stewart, Acid Attack

Grade 6 Display:  
1st is a tie between:  
Leeland Govereau, Bombardier Beetles & Wynne James, Asthma and Sports  
2nd – Mason Alfred, Bats

Grade 7 Experiment:  
1st – Ondre Stewart, Which Math Games Increase Skill  
2nd – Anna Payne-Javier, How Medicine Gets Absorbed  
3rd – Evah Feschuk, Do Eyes Affect Taste

### Coho Fry Release at Quatse River



Mrs. Bragan's class brought the coho fry they raised to the Quatse River on March 6. The field trip included a visit to the [Quatse Salmon Stewardship Centre](#). Photo credit Janine Croy.



### Performance by Tom and Kalissa Landa



Tom and Kalissa Landa, best known for their work with Paperboys, performed for the school on March 8. Musically, they genre hop from Folk to Latin to Celtic to singer-songwriter and Roots music.



### Strong Start Opening

On March 8, we joyfully inaugurated the new Strong Start Program. Vera and Natalie officially opened the Strong Start room with a cedar ribbon cutting. Our students danced marking the program's launch. StrongStart BC offers enriching environments for early learning, fostering language, physical, cognitive, social, and emotional development. Qualified early childhood educators facilitate play-based activities, encouraging interaction and friendship among children aged birth to five. Join us Friday mornings from 9:30 - 12:30 for stories, music, and art in this no-cost program, preparing children for Kindergarten success.

