



Mark R. Isfeld Secondary
**Indigenous
Education**



Indigenous Education

Mark R. Isfeld Secondary School
School District 71
1551 Lerwick Road
Courtenay, BC V9N 9B5
T: 250-334-2428
F: 250-334-0659

Jeannie McDonald &
Holly Johnstone
Indigenous Support Workers
jeannie.mcdonald@sd71.bc.ca
holly.johnstone@sd71.bc.ca

A Word from the ISW

Dear Parents,

WOW! Can you believe that we are already into March?! We've been super busy this past month, but as they say "time fly's when you're having fun".

February

Throughout the month we had a number of cultural presenters visit the classrooms to share their personal stories and wealth of knowledge. Presenters included Mavis Aubichon, Fernanda Pare, Daryle Mills, and Barb Whyte. The following is a photo of Barb explaining to students about the cultural importance and purpose of the Healing Wand.



On February 21st we were able to take some of our students to North Island College to learn about Indigenous services for their students. At this event we enjoyed crafts, lunch, and drumming. We were privileged to hear the Am'lala sa Kumuxse, which was written by William Wasaden Jr. This song was released this month into the School District to celebrate Kwakwaka'wakw culture and is encouraged to be sung by our students.

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On February 27th we had the opportunity to take students on a tour of Vancouver Island University. Each of the students were able to participate in two faculty open houses of the programs of their choice. Prizes, music, and lunch were just some of the highlights of our day.



March

March is a little shorter this month with the break, but we have a few activities planned. We are going to be working on a dreamcatcher project during the lunch hour. We will be starting the project on Tuesday March 5th and 12th. Our hopes is to have lots of students participate and hang the project in the school as a display. Mavis Aubichon will be coming to teach some classes on Medicine Wheel teachings. Beading club will continued for all those interested.

Throughout the month we will be practicing our drumming and learning the Am'lala sa Kumuxse song. We encourage students to come and learn with us!

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us. We hope everyone has a safe and wonderful holiday!

Sincerely

Jeannie McDonald & Holly Johnstone
Indigenous Education Workers
Mark R. Isfeld Secondary School
(250)-334-2428

