

It was wonderful to see the sun shining today! Students are well underway with their Octa 4 studies. Please make sure to [contact teachers](#) early in the course if you are not already aware of how your student is progressing or what they are currently learning. Transition and the course selection process is in progress with Grade 8s, and just about to get started with grades 9-11. The weekly newsletter will continue to feature departments and contain information about upcoming events and deadlines. Do not hesitate to reach out the front office or your student's counsellor with questions as students plan their 2021/22 programs.

While it seems like we just began Octa 4, we are already just 3 weeks away from starting Octa 5. We are carefully placing students in am and pm cohorts to accommodate bus routes, keep class sizes balanced, and in some cases keep curricular grades together. This is a tricky process and we will not be able to accept requests for changes. The first priority of students during the half day that they are not at the school should be their self-directed course work. We will email families once class lists are finalized.

Course Selection for 2021/22

All 2021/22 EMCS students will be selecting their courses for fall 2021 this February. Current Grade 8 students will complete their selections by February 16th, and current Grades 9-11 students will select their courses by February 22nd. Check our website for updated information: <http://emcs.web.sd62.bc.ca/students/course-selection/course-selection-catalogue/>

THIS WEEK'S DEPARTMENT FEATURES: Science and Mathematics

There are so many great opportunities in our Science and Math departments!

At EMCS, we value the experience of being outdoors and learning in a deep, project-based manner. The Science Department offers three amazing programs that allow students to take advantage of the wonderful local environment that surrounds Sooke: [ECO Academy](#), Marine Biology and Environmental Science/Outdoor Education!

In Grade 9, students study:

- **Science 9 or Sciences 9 (French Immersion) or Science 9 ECO Academy**
- **Mathematics 9**
- Students also have the option of studying **Introductory Mathematics 9** if they feel they need extra confidence before moving into Mathematics 9.
- **Marine Biology** is also available as an elective!

In Grade 10, students study:

- **Science 10 or Sciences 10 (French Immersion) or Science 10 ECO Academy**
- **Foundations of Mathematics and Pre-Calculus 10 or Workplace Mathematics 10**
- **Marine Biology** is also available as an elective!

In Grade 11 and 12, students must study at least one of the following sciences. Students can choose as many as they like! Many Post-Secondary programs require more than 1 science course.

- **Chemistry 11, Chemistry 12**
- **Environmental Science 11 / Outdoor Education 12** – An exciting hands-on program!
- **Life Sciences 11, Anatomy and Physiology 12**
- **Physics 11, Physics 12**
- **Science for Citizens 11**

In Grade 11 and 12, students must study at least one of the following mathematics courses. Students are encouraged to study mathematics to the grade 12 level.

- **Workplace Mathematics 11**
- **Foundations of Mathematics 11**
- **Pre-Calculus 11, Pre-Calculus 12**
- **Calculus 12**
- **Calculus 12 Dual Credit** - Dual credit courses offer both high school and post-secondary credits.

Learning at EMCS!

Photography students participate in a photo scavenger hunt....



...and Sustainability students start their winter work in the school garden!



Black Shirt Day – Friday, January 15th

EMCS is proud to be a part of the first ever Black Shirt Day, a day of recognition to promote education on anti-racism and civil rights. Started in Vancouver by the Anti-Racism Coalition this year, who specifically chose this date because it's Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday, this day is meant to get more conversations started about all forms of racism and civil rights, all leading into February, which is well-established as Black History Month. "Black Shirt Day is an important step in raising greater awareness of the civil rights struggle, and help foster solidarity against all forms of racism and hate." ARC Vancouver

<https://vancouversun.com/news/local-news/vancouver-anti-racism-advocates-calling-for-black-shirt-day>

Student Parking Passes go ONLINE!

Please fill the form out here: <http://emcs.web.sd62.bc.ca/students/parking-passes-student-vehicle-registration/>. Once submitted, the completed form will be automatically sent to the administrative team. After processing, a parking pass sticker will be sent to your current classroom for you.

Grade 10 Assessments

In order to graduate, students are now required to write two provincial assessments in grade 10: a *Literacy Assessment* and a *Numeracy Assessment*. The Literacy Assessment 12 is postponed this year. So, *ALL* grade 10 students will write a Literacy and Numeracy Assessment this year. They will do so in windows: January 25 - 29, April 12 -16, and June 14-23. Students will write these assessments with their Science 10 (Numeracy) and Social Studies 11 (Literacy) classes. Grade 11 students that did not write their Numeracy and Literacy Assessment in Spring 2020 will also be scheduled to write their Assessments this year. If you are scheduled to write an assessment we will email you the time.

We strongly encourage you to look at the following link for further information and sample questions:

<http://emcs.web.sd62.bc.ca/students/provincial-examinations-transcripts/>

If you have any questions, please contact John Lyall (Vice Principal) at jlyall@sd62.bc.ca

Learning Surveys

We will be conducting Learning surveys for all EMCS students in grade 10 & 12 from January 18-22. We encourage parents to participate in the survey through the link below. Follow the parent link where there is no password required. You can complete this on your own time until April, 2021. We use the results to guide our preparations for school years ahead.

Satisfaction Survey

Information on the Satisfaction Survey for B.C. students and their parents

www.awinfosys.com

Grade 12 Grad Updates!

Online Course Completion Deadline for Students Who Have Applied to UVIC - Grade 12 students who are taking an online course (e.g. through WestShore, SIDES, etc,) required for admission to UVIC, must have the course completed by **May 31**.

Attention Grads: It is time for you to measure and report your height for your Grad ceremony gown. Please fill out this [Google Form](#) by Friday, January 15th. You can contact Ms. Williams with any questions.

There are still some available spaces for GRAD PHOTOS. To sign up for your Grad portraits, go to: schedule.prestigeportraits.ca. Be sure to select Sooke as the city.

Please note that there are some changes due to COVID-19 protocols.

- We do provide white shirts and ties for the gentlemen but we recommend they bring their own white shirt if they have one.
- There are no "Buddy photos" this year and we are limiting only 1 set of casual cloths due to cleaning time in between sittings.
- Grads are welcome to bring in a prop such as musical instrument, sports jersey and stick etc.
- 1 person at a time in photo area, no family members or friends allowed.

If you have a problem signing up, please call 250-744-4100 ext. 1 or email at brgibson@lifetouch.ca and Bruce will assist you.

Exploring Post Secondary Opportunities

2021 Vancouver Island Post Secondary Virtual Tour with recruiters from UVIC, VIU, NIC, and Camosun.

Tuesday, January 19th from 6:30pm -7:30 pm on Zoom (<https://uvic.zoom.us/j/88684194746>)

UVIC Gustavson School of Business Virtual Information Sessions – learn about the Bachelor of Commerce program, application requirements, etc. To register, email bssclerk@uvic.ca

Wednesday, January 13th at 5pm, or

Wednesday, January 20th at 5pm, or

Wednesday, January 27th at 5pm

Vancouver Island University: Experience VIU for anyone interested in post-secondary studies. Register using this link: [Vancouver Island University: Experience VIU online event](#)

Saturday, January 16 from 9:00am to 2:00pm, or

Wednesday, January 20 from 1:00pm to 6:30pm, or

Thursday, January 21 from 1:00pm to 6:30pm

Book a private meeting with UVic Recruiter Stephanie Parker by clicking here! [Book an appointment](#).

Justice Institute of BC Law Enforcement Studies Information Sessions for students interested in the Law Enforcement Studies Diploma and/or Bachelor of Law Enforcement Studies programs.

Thursday, January 21, 2021, 1:00pm-2:30pm ([register here](#)) OR

Thursday, February 11, 2021 7:00pm-8:30pm ([register here](#))

Canadian Universities Event, where 48 post-secondaries from across Canada will be available to BC high school students to answer questions and provide information. Register at cuebc.org.

Wednesday, January 20th and

Thursday, January 21st between 4:00 and 7:00 PM (PST),

(These sessions are Q&A style - presentations will not be offered. Students are encouraged to drop in and ask questions to representatives from institutions. Students who registered for CUE in Fall 2020 can continue to use the same login information to access CUE in winter through cuebc.org.)



More Opportunities for Everyone!

GO GIRLS!
ONLINE YOUTH GROUP
FOR FEMALE IDENTIFYING YOUTH AGED 11-15

What is Go Girls?
This is a fun, safe, virtual program that promotes active lifestyles, reducing stress, self-love/self-care, spreading kindness and improving social connection! Groups will be sharing recipes, exploring new hobbies together, crafting, learning yoga, playing games & much, much more!

Days & Times
Once a week for 10 weeks
Choose either:
Mondays
Tuesdays
Wednesdays
Thursdays
3:45pm-5:30pm (afternoon)
6:30pm-7:45pm (evening)

FREE VIRTUAL, USING ZOOM JOIN WITH A FRIEND FREE SUPPLY KIT GAMES, CRAFTS & MORE!

TO REGISTER, EMAIL TAYLOR @
taylor.watson@bigbrothersbigsisters.ca
OR CLICK HERE TO REGISTER ONLINE
<https://victoria.bigbrothersbigsisters.ca/register/>
Groups will begin 3rd or 4th week of January

Big Brothers Big Sisters
OF VICTORIA AND AREA
This program is run through Big Brothers Big Sisters of Victoria and monitored by trained staff.

[Canadian Coast Guard College Virtual Presentations](#) - January 28, or February 9 at 4:30pm (Sooke time). Learn about the Coast Guard's Officer Training Program! Register online by [clicking here](#).

PISE has some wonderful new scholarship and bursary opportunities available for youth developmental athletes. The deadline to apply is January 17, 2021. Click on this link for more information:

<https://www.pise.ca/scholarship-opportunities/>

School District No.62 (Sooke) requires Noon Hour Supervision Assistants to work on-call immediately. [Click here](#) for more information!

Stay in the loop

You can find updates on our website <http://emcs.web.sd62.bc.ca/>, the Wolverines App, and the District website <https://www.sd62.bc.ca/>.

We continue to encourage parents and guardians to reach out to the school via phone (250-642-5211) and email (emcs@sd62.bc.ca) with any questions you may have!

Important dates:

January 15th - Black Shirt Day

Jan 25th – Jan 29th – Literacy and Numeracy assessments Window

February 9th – PAC Meeting on MS Teams ([click here to join](#))

*The EMCS Wellness Center is open each Wednesday, 12pm-3:30pm