It's hard to believe we are just about to start the last week of January! Students & parents/guardians should make sure that they are in close contact with teachers to make sure they complete their courses with a strong finish on February 1st.

Grade 11 and 12 students are also encouraged to engage in <u>post-secondary information events</u> if they have not done so already. Don't forget to also continue to apply for the many scholarships available! Your <u>Counsellor</u> and <u>Careers</u> teachers are there to help you with that process.

Be sure to stay in the loop with the list of important dates in each of weekly newsletters, on our website <u>http://emcs.web.sd62.bc.ca/</u>, the Wolverines App, and the District website <u>https://www.sd62.bc.ca/</u>.

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:

Jan 25th – Jan 29th – Literacy and Numeracy assessments window #2

February 1^{st} – Course selection opens on the <u>Student Portal</u>, and a High School Planning and Course Selection video presentation will be <u>posted to our website</u>

February 2nd – Octa 5 courses begin

February 8th – Academies Registration opens for 2020-21 Secondary Students (click here)

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

February 12th – Non Instruct Day

February 15th – Family Day holiday

February 16th and 17th – Grad photo retakes – book them at <u>schedule.prestigeportraits.ca.</u>

February 17^{th} – Online Q&A with EMCS counselors at 7pm. The MS Teams link will be posted soon!

February 22 – Deadline for submitting course requests on the Student Portal

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

Course Selection for 2021/22

All 2021/22 EMCS students will be selecting their courses for fall 2021 in 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: <u>http://emcs.web.sd62.bc.ca/students/course-selection/course-selection-catalogue/</u>

EMCS Counsellors will be available to greet students and parents/guardians<u>online on February</u> <u>17th at 7pm for a Live Grade 9 through 11 Q&A session</u>. This will be an opportunity to briefly review the requirements for graduation, and ask any questions you might have about selecting your courses. Watch the weekly newsletter for the MS Teams link.

THIS WEEK'S DEPARTMENT FEATURES: Careers & PHE, Hockey & Soccer



Career Life Education is a key part of each student's education at EMCS. Students study Careers in a blended format in all four of their years. **Grade 9** students work primarily with their core teachers to complete assignments that help them think about their place in the world and their future. **Grade 10, 11 and 12 students undertake a course each year**, which culminates in a **Capstone Project in Grade 12**. These are part of the graduation program requirements. This course is studied in a blended format – they meet with their Teachers in group assemblies, learn about Career-Life Education thorugh their core classes, and occasionally meet one on one with their Careers Teacher.



EMCS has a great selection of Physical Health and Education courses! All students in Grades 9 and 10 study **Physical and Health Education**. They take this as a stand-alone course, or as part of their **Hockey or Soccer Academy** programs. Grade 10 students also have the option of meeting this requirement through our amazing **Active Living** program!

In addition to these great courses, students can also enroll in **Superfit10**, **Active Living 10-12**, **Fitness and Conditioning 11/12**, **Sports Performance Rugby 9-12**, **and PE Recreation 12**. They can also enroll in **Hockey and Soccer Academies** all four years they are at EMCS.

Find all the <u>PHE course descriptions here</u>.

Great Learning at EMCS!



Students enjoy one of the many books in their Composition course, as well as the Salish weaving tour in the Learning Commons this week.

Student Parking Passes go ONLINE!

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

Student 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 four windows: November 2-6, 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 during the current window we will send you an email. We strongly encourage you to look at the following link for further information and sample questions:

<u>http://emcs.web.sd62.bc.ca/students/provincial-examinations-transcripts/</u>. If you have any questions, please contact John Lyall (Vice Principal) at <u>ilyall@sd62.bc.ca</u>

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

Octa 5 Schedules

While it seems like we just begun Octa 4, we are 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.

Opportunities for Everyone!



Leadership Opportunity for Grade 11/12 Students

The Rotary Club of Sooke usually sponsors a student or two to attend the Rotary Youth Leadership Conference in Tacoma. This year the event is virtual and there are additional spots available. This Leadership conference is a great opportunity, and the costs are covered. It will be a series of meetings and challenges during March, and students won't need to miss any school. Participation would be an excellent learning experience and it would look good on scholarship applications. Students must be in Gr. 11 or 12 and must be under 18 yrs old as of March 28. Here is the link: <u>http://rylanw.org/students/</u>. Please email Mr. Phipps at <u>aphipps@sd62.bc.ca</u> if interested.

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

Grade 12 Grad Updates!

Grads who missed the deadline to report their height for grad gown orders need to contact Ms. Williams **immediately** at <u>rwilliams@sd62.bc.ca</u>. She will be placing the order for grad gowns very soon!

Do you need retakes/first takes of your grad photos??? Retakes will be on **Tuesday, Feb. 16 & Wednesday, Feb. 17.** To sign up for your Grad portraits, go to: <u>schedule.prestigeportraits.ca</u>. 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 <u>brgibson@lifetouch.ca</u> and Bruce will assist you.

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

Exploring Post Secondary Opportunities

Grade 12 students are reminded to check the calendar on the EMCS website (Grade 12 <u>Timeline | Edward Milne (sd62.bc.ca</u>)) for the early scholarship and bursary deadlines. This year's <u>CUPE Bursary</u> is "here" and due April 15th.

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

Wednesday, January 20th at 5pm, or

Wednesday, January 27th at 5pm

Vancouver Island University: Experience VIU online events for anyone interested in postsecondary studies. Register using this link: <u>Vancouver Island University: Experience VIU</u> <u>online event</u> Thursday, January 21 from 1:00pm to 6:30pm

Book a private meeting with UVic Recruiter Stephanie Parker by clicking here! <u>Book an</u> <u>appointment</u>.

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

Inursday, January 21, 2021, 1:00pm-2:30pm (<u>register here</u>) OF

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



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

Wednesday, January 20th 4:00 and 7:00 PM (PST) and

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

