

**EMCS WEEKLY MESSAGE FOR September 21st 2018**

**Thank you to everyone who joined us for Meet the Teacher last night;** it was fantastic to see all of the new and returning faces. As we move into the school year, maintaining communication between the school and families is important. We are always looking for different opportunities to connect with you and we’re happy to share that our school now has its own app! Download the EMCS app to get events, messages and notifications sent right to your phone or tablet. You can check our school calendar and even link up with your child’s class or programs.

The app is a free download on your smart phone or tablet and you can find the app here:

<https://emcs.appazur.com/help/flyer>

All district-wide messages and very important messages will still be sent to your email. The purpose of this app is to compliment the various means of communication we use and to let you control the type of notifications you receive.

**Congratulations!**

Best wishes to Lucy Bridal who was awarded the Governor General’s Award last night. This award is given to a grade 12 graduate who the highest average upon graduation from a secondary school. Not only was Lucy a superb academic, she was also fully engaged in all aspects of EMCS while she was as student here. Way to go Lucy!

The Leadership Class organized as 12-hour spin-a-thon yesterday to raise money for Cops for Cancer. It was a fantastic event that supported am important cause and also brought to gather our school community. Thank you Leadership!

**Important Information for All Students**

We are very excited to have added **Focus Blocks** to our weekly schedule. Our first focus block was this Wednesday. Students will sign-up for next week’s focus block on Monday. Focus Blocks are the primary vehicle for the new Careers curriculum, allowing students to meet with face to face with our Careers teaching team. They also help students to further develop their ability to take responsibility for their own learning by choosing how to spend their Focus Block. In addition to exploring the Careers curriculum, students will get extra help, make up test or assignments, get ahead in course work, work on projects, and pursue their passions for deeper learning in their studies. Focus Blocks are NOT an extra class, nor an extracurricular activity. They are built in to the school day. Please see the [Focus Block FAQ](http://emcs.web.sd62.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/8/2018/09/EMCS-FINAL-Focus-Block-FAQs-Aug2018.docx.pdf) on our website for more information.

**School Consents -** A friendly reminder for guardians to please complete student consents on “School Cash Online” at <https://consent.sd62.bc.ca/apps/OnlineConsent> *.* Annual consents need to be redone each school year, perpetual consents are valid as long as the student remains enrolled in Sooke School District. When you log in to the portal, if you have already provided consent for the perpetual items, they will show as checked, and the annual items will show as unchecked.

**Exciting Trips Sponsored by the Rotary Club of Sooke -** See the attached document for all the details!  Deadline to apply is October 1.

* ***Rotary Youth Leadership – Vancouver Island***, Crofton (Gr. 9-10)
* ***Adventures in Film***, Powell River (Gr. 11-12)
* ***Rotary Youth Leadership***, Tacoma Washington (Gr. 11)
* ***Adventures in Technology***, Saskatoon (Gr. 11-12)
* ***Adventures in Healthcare***, Prince George (Gr. 10-11)
* ***Adventures in Forestry & Environmental Studies***, Prince George (Gr. 11-12)

**Ladies are you interested in attending WE FOR SHE November 15 to 16 in Vancouver?** The Forum is one of North America's largest gatherings of equality advocates including business leaders, entrepreneurs and young women. The goal is to advance equality and grow the Canadian economy by championing gender diversity in leadership. We invite senior secondary students in grades 10, 11 and 12 to attend a fully integrated youth program. The majority of the conference, which includes food, transportation, registration fee and hotel, will be funded but students will be responsible for paying $50 each.

* Learn how to Speak up, Step up and Act up in support of gender equality.
* Learn about skills that provide a foundation for leadership and future career paths.
* Participate in round-table mentorship discussion with business leaders.
* Hear inspiring presentations and stories of success.
* Discuss and commit to a personal action plan to achieve your goals.
* an excellent leadership opportunity to add to your resume and scholarship applications.

If you are interested in attending or would like more information, please see Lisa in the office. Deadline for registering is September 28, we are limited to 40 spaces, priority will be given to those who have not attended the conference previously.

**Any students interested in becoming a fire fighter!**   Pender Island Fire Rescue hosts a 5½ day camp during March break.  Students must be between the ages of 15 and 18.  There will be a pre-training camp one Saturday before the main camp.  This is an amazing opportunity!  EMCS has sent several students in the past.  Applications must be completed and submitted before October.  Please contact the Career Centre for more information.

**Important Information for Grade 9 Students**

Watch for immunization consent packages for grade 9 students that will be sent home early in the fall. Please discussthe information in the consent package and involve your child in the decision to provide consent to immunization. This should be used as an opportunity for adolescents to start making decisions about their own health.

Although a child may be immunized with the consent of a parent/guardian or representative, a grade 9 student can make an informed decision regarding immunization regardless of parental consent or refusal. This is referred to as “mature minor consent.”

For more information:

* Refer to HealthLinkBC file # 119 “The Infants Act, Mature Minor Consent and Immunization” available at: <https://www.healthlinkbc.ca/healthlinkbc-files/infants-act-mature-minor-consent-and-immunization>.
* A short video presentation on mature minor has been created for grade 9 students. It is available at: <https://vimeo.com/231149258> or by going to [www.viha.ca/health\_info/immunization/](http://www.viha.ca/health_info/immunization/) 🡪 Additional resources 🡪 *View our video on grade nine immunization and mature minor consent.*
* Contact the local Health Unit at 250-519-3490 to discuss further.

**Important Information for Grade 11 Students**

**Numeracy Assessment & Grade 11's**

One of the new graduation requirements is completion of the Provincial Numeracy Assessment.

Students will be registered for the Numeracy Assessment Monday January 21, 2019. Students will also be scheduled into Focus Blocks in December/January to prepare for the Numeracy Assessment.

**Important Information for Grade 12 Students**

**Numeracy Assessment & Grade 12's**

**1)** Grade 12 students that **did not write** the Numeracy assessment last year will be registered for a Numeracy Assessment in the November 5th - Wednesday November 7th window. They will also be scheduled into Focus Blocks October 3 and 17th to prepare for the Numeracy Assessment.

**2)** Grade 12 students that would like to **rewrite** the Numeracy assessment last year should see Mr. Lyall to register for a Numeracy Assessment in the November 5th - Wednesday November 7th window.

They may choose at attend Focus Blocks October 17th and 24th to prepare for the Numeracy Assessment.

In order to access Numeracy assessment scores, students will need your PEN (Provincial Education Number).  Please go to the office or look at a past report card to access your PEN.     
 You can then log on to the provincial Student Transcripts Service (STS) can be found under the *Students* tab on the EMCS website.  Before accessing the STS, students will need to create a provincial online account called a BCeID.  Instructions are on the website.

<http://emcs.web.sd62.bc.ca/students/student-transcript-service-sts/>

**Important Information for Grade 11 & 12 Students**

**UVIC Gustavson School of Business Info Session**

* @ lunch Thursday, Sept. 27
* in the office seminar room

Interested in learning about studying Business at UVIC?

Grade 11 / 12 students are welcome to attend.

***Please sign up on the sheet on Mr. Phipps’ office door.***

***SIGN UP ASAP.  IF THERE IS NOT SUFFICIENT INTEREST, THE SESSION WILL BE CANCELLED.***

**Attachments**

**EMCS Program Office** – new classes are beginning soon.

**Exciting Trips Sponsored by The Rotary Club of Sooke**

**An invitation from Vancouver Island University -  Experience VIU.**

**UVic Edge Open House**

**Important Upcoming Dates**

September 27 – Gustavson School of Business (UVIC) Info Session @ lunch

September 28 – Orange Shirt Day

October 8 – Thanksgiving

October 10 – PAC Meeting at 6:30pm

October 19 – Non Instructional Day

October 29 – Photo retakes & UBC Info Night

November 19 – Report Cards Available

November 22 – Parent-Student-Teacher Learning Conferences

November 23 – Non Instructional Day

December 3 – Non Instructional Day

December 6 – Band Concert, 7pm

December 12 – 10 000 Tonight