



**HongDe Elementary School**  
**洪德中英文雙語小學**

# NEWSLETTER



## MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

*Dear HongDe Community,*

As May 1st approaches, we want to remind you that the weather is expected to be warm and sunny. Please ensure your child brings a water bottle and wears sunscreen if necessary.

Let's celebrate the start of May by encouraging our children to show gratitude towards those who have helped them throughout the school year. Encourage your child to write a thank-you note to their teacher, classmate or any staff member who has made a positive impact on their education. Finally, we would like to remind you that the school year is almost over, and it's essential to stay focused and finish strong. Encourage your child to maintain their study habits and to keep putting in the effort to succeed. We are proud of your child's progress this school year and appreciate your continued support.

溫馨的五月即將來臨，在這感恩的季節，我們鼓勵洪德的學生們，寫一封信或畫一張卡片...等等，送給父母、老師、同學，以及在學習過程中，陪伴他們成長的人，藉以表達內心的感謝之情！非常期盼家長們也一起熱情參與此「知恩、念恩」的學習活動！也請家長們鼓勵孩子們，在期末仍要專注地學習，繼續保持良好的學習習慣與積極進取的態度。

五月的溫哥華，將是陽光明媚且溫暖舒適的天氣，請家長提醒孩子們，在上學時要準備水壺，必要時塗上太陽油。謝謝您！

Warm regards,

*Sinda Spruston*

Principal

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**MAY 02**  
**TEACHER APPRECIATION DAY**

**MAY 05**  
**FIRE DRILL**

**MAY 14**  
**MOTHER'S DAY**

**MAY 19**  
**CULTURE DAY**

**MAY 16**  
**WEAR PURPLE FOR PEACE DAY**

**MAY 22**  
**VICTORIA DAY**

**MAY 30**  
**FIELD TRIP TO VANCOUVER**  
**INT'L CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL**

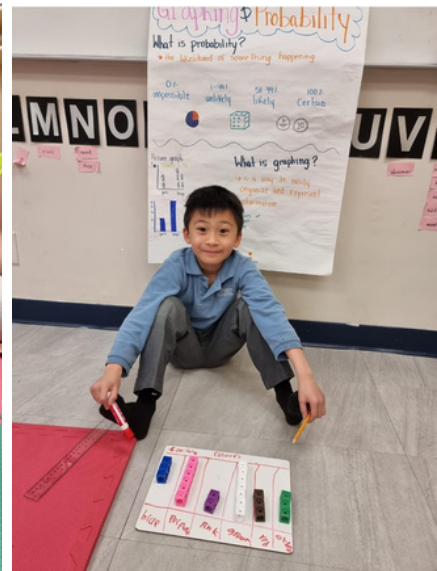
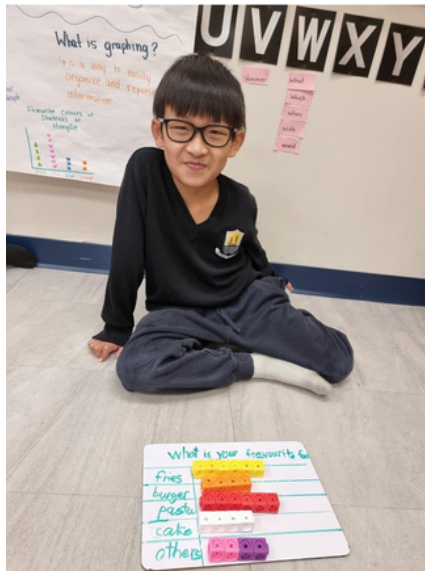
## Grade K/1 – Ms. Chiu

Ms. Chiu's K/1 students are currently exploring the theme of Community. They began by discussing their classroom community and then expanded to explore the City of Vancouver. The students collaborated on a group art project that compared Vancouver from 1000 years ago with its current state in 2023. The class has also been discussing needs and wants within their small community, as well as comparing them to those of larger communities.



Currently, they are engaged in cross-curricular studies involving Canada's geography and its relationship with various animals, including their spiritual significance for First Nation People. Moving forward, the class will continue studying indigenous knowledge while identifying significant people, places, or events relevant to the students' lives. Additionally, they will discuss ways to protect our planet and preserve our land. HongDe Elementary School is unique because it blends two cultures - Asian and Western perspectives. Therefore, each student's artwork represents traditional cultural landscape painting while incorporating Canadian culture into its context and content.





## Grade 2/3 – Ms. Sanfilippo

The Grade 2/3s will begin learning about procedural texts in ELA. They will use their prior knowledge of sequence writing to guide their written and verbal instructions to teach others something they are an expert in. In Math, the students will begin working with money as they learn to identify the names and values of different coins, understanding the importance of spending and saving, and learn how to make different coin combinations. Additionally, before delving into our new Social Studies unit on Rights, Roles and Responsibilities, the grade 2/3s will wrap up the Forces unit by making and presenting toys they have created using magnets.





## Grade 4/5 – Mr. Treacy

Grade 4/5 are continuing to work extremely hard. We have finished our novel and are moving onto a famous book called Harry Potter! We will be using Harry Potter as a basis for teaching our ELA component of the curriculum. In math, we have moved onto decimals. We are learning how they are related to fractions and practicing our math fundamentals through decimals. We will also be studying time! At home, you should try and ask your kids what time it is and get them to add and subtract minutes from the current time.



We are starting a new chapter in social studies about the land and natural resources in Canada. We are exploring the different industries in Canada and also examining what happened to the first nations people as Canada expanded. In science, we have moved onto the last system of the body that we are learning about, the respiratory system! We are even going to make our own set of lungs! And finally, we are learning an Irish sport called gaelic football in physical education. It is the most popular sport in Ireland and is a mixture of rugby and soccer. Mr. Treacy is excited to show you all of our work and is proud of how hard everyone is working!



## Mandarin – Ms. Chang



In April, the Mandarin teacher introduced a poem “Qing Ming(清明)” by Du Mu(杜牧). Du Mu was a famous poet in the Tang Dynasty. After watching the video, students learned about the origin of “Qingming Festival” (清明節). Also, we did some artwork - making “chrysanthemums” (菊花) to match the Chinese custom for “worshiping ancestors” (祭祖) and “sweeping graves” (掃墓) during the “Qingming Festival”.

In the warm month of May, Mandarin classes will be continuing to learn through a series of “gratitude” activities. We would like to invite children to express their appreciation by reciting gratitude characters, writing a letter of gratitude, drawing a thank you card, or singing a song on the Mother’s Day!



# MAY 2023 SCHOOL CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Teacher Appreciation Day	3	4	5 Fire Drill	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 Mother's Day	15	16 Wear Purple for Peace Day	17	18	19	20
21	22 Victoria Day (No school)	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30 Field Trip	31			

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Monday to Friday  
8:00am to 4:30pm

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**Please like and follow our social media pages!**

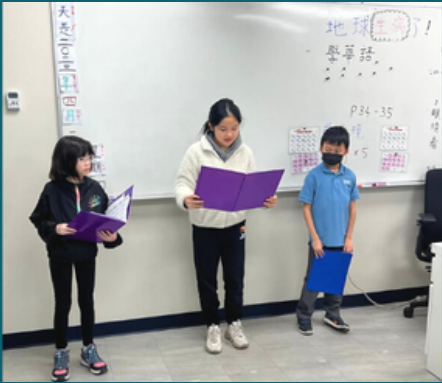
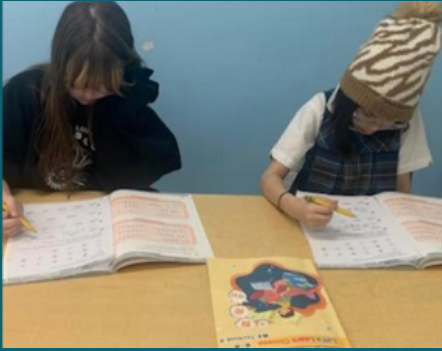
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# Follow us on social media

As we approach the end of the school year, we would like to take a moment to thank you for your continued support of our school community. We believe that a strong partnership between parents and educators is essential to the success of our students.

In today's digital age, social media has become a powerful tool to help us stay connected and engaged with our school community. We would like to encourage all parents to follow our school's social media accounts to stay up-to-date on the latest news, events, and activities happening in our school.

By following our social media accounts, you will be able to see firsthand the amazing work our students and staff are doing every day. We also invite you to share our posts with your friends and family, and to engage with us by leaving comments and feedback.

## Follow us on Socials:



Thank you for your ongoing support of our school. We look forward to continuing to work together to provide the best possible education for our students.