



Parent and Guardian Update

ZESS

January 16, 2026

Upcoming Events

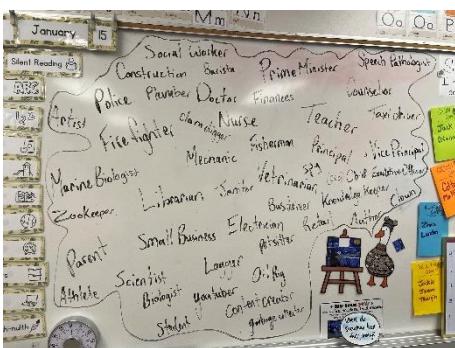
Monday – Jan. 26 – Grades 7-10 – Mt. Cain Ski Trip

Tuesday to Wednesday – Feb. 3&4 – Grades 5-10 – Mt. Washington Ski Trip

Intermediation(3-4): Ms. Curtis - The beginning of 2026 has been off to a great start!

Our class has been learning about states of matter to go along with the snowy season. We have also been reminding ourselves how to add large numbers before we dive into subtraction next week.

We've also started exploring careers, and started by listing all the careers and jobs we could think of, and will be using the list to research some options that students might be interested in.



What is happening in class?

Junoir (5-7): Mr. Vanden Ham - A new year has brought lots of fresh learning to our classroom! In mathematics, students are working on **division** and continuing to explore the **volume of shapes**, strengthening both their computation and spatial reasoning skills. In language arts, we are beginning an exciting **cookbook writing project**, where students will practice procedural writing and clear instructions. In art, students have started **linocut printmaking**, learning about carving, pattern, and print techniques. We have also attached a photo from class that perfectly captures how we were all feeling during the recent **power outage**—a tired but resilient group! It's been great to see students jump back into learning with enthusiasm and creativity after the break.



We are also enjoying listening to *The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe* - by C.S. Lewis, as a class novel over snack time.

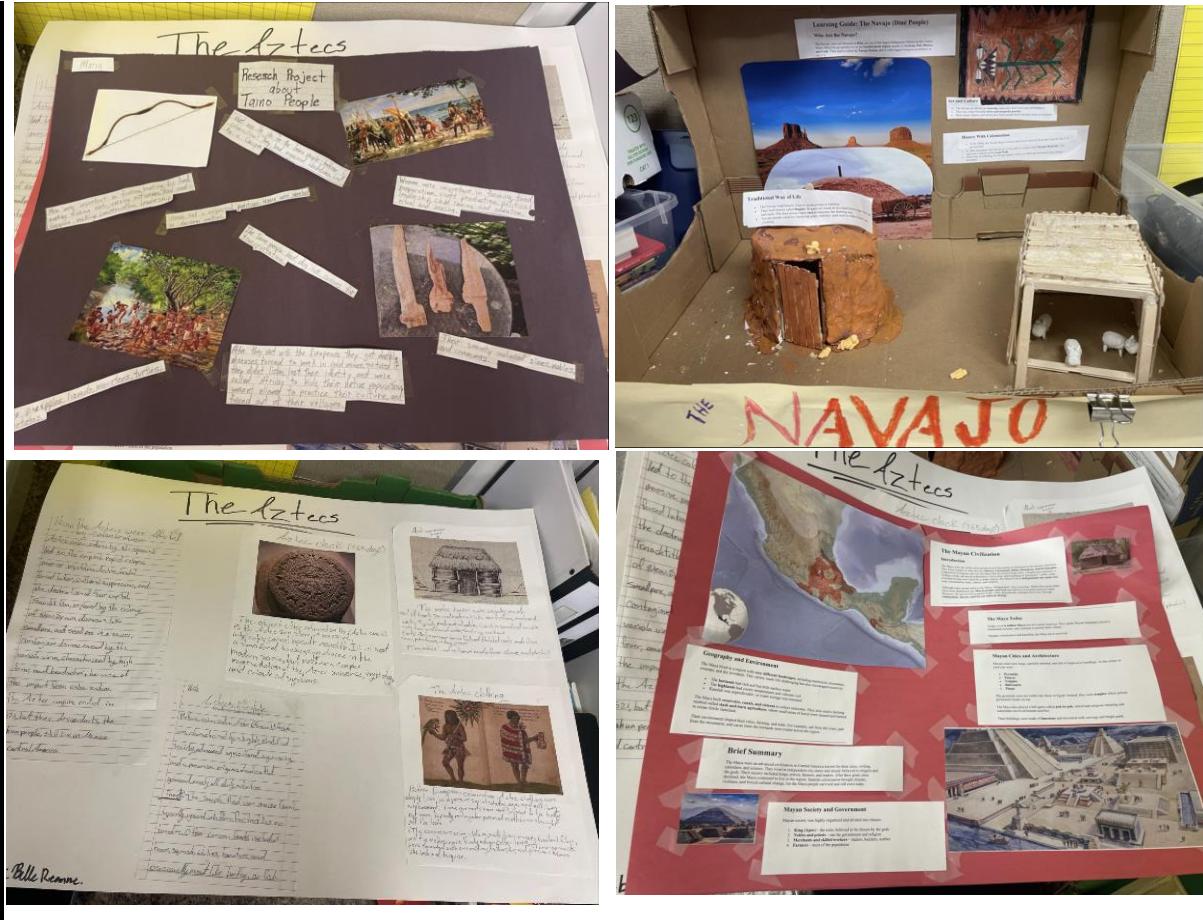
We have also begun using dictionaries, both individual paper copies and published books, to help us write more independently. This tool has been very empowering for many students, with our vocabularies growing quickly

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A group of students are lying on the floor of a classroom, resting after a power outage. They are positioned on a blue mat with white animal prints. The room contains wooden desks and chairs, and a whiteboard is visible in the background.



Senior (8-10): Mr. Romyn - Our seniors class has wrapped up our unit on the impacts of colonization with research projects and have begun to learn about how ideologies led to World War I.



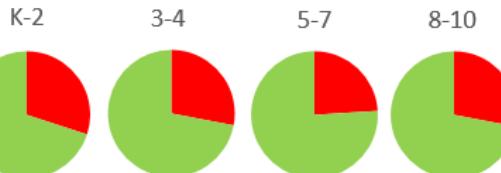
With winter sickness, family and community activities before Christmas break, and the power outages attendance is down from previous months. We continue to track in 20 day challenges. Our current challenge goes until January 22. Our attendance as a school for this period is 74% down about 10% from previous challenges. It is similar to this same time period last year. Hopefully, most of the sickness has left the community, our power is stable, and attendance is up for our next challenge. On the good side, we do have six students still with excellent attendance for this challenge!

Current Challenge

Attendance Period: 12/9/2025 - 1/15/2026

Attendance

Primary Class (K-2).....	30%
Intermediate Class (3-4).....	28%
Junior Class (5-7).....	24%
Senior Class (8-10).....	28%



Whole School this challenge..... 27%
For this period last year..... 26%

Updated: 2026-01-16

Lunch Menu		ZESS Hot Lunch Menu				
	Monday, January 19	Tuesday, January 20	Wednesday, January 21	Thursday, January 22	Friday, January 23	
	Fish Hash	Chicken Wings	Mac and Cheese	Grilled Cheese	No School	
	Mixed Vegetables	Mixed Greens	Mixed Greens	Mixed Vegetables	No School	
	Monday, January 26	Tuesday, January 27	Wednesday, January 28	Thursday, January 29	Friday, January 30	
	Mini Pizza	Chicken Caesar Wraps	Lasagna	Sandwiches	Butter Chicken	
	Mixed Vegetables	Mixed Vegetables	Mixed Vegetables	No Lunch	Mixed Vegetables	

If you have questions or concerns, please contact Adam Barber at abarber@viw.sd84.bc.ca or 250 761 4227