

# Neill Middle School



## Neill Talons Soar

At Neill we are

**S**afe

**O**rganized and on-time

**A**ctive Learners

**R**espectful and Responsible

### Important Dates:

PAC Meeting—April 6th

Clubs' Day—April 8th

Good Friday—April 10th  
(no classes)

Easter Monday—April 13th  
(no classes)

Pro-D Day—April 20th  
(no classes)

<http://www.nmsweb.sd70.bc.ca>

April 3rd, 2009

## Medieval Fair Celebrates Student Achievement



On Friday, March 13th, our Grade 8 students had an opportunity to display their learning over the past month. In their Humanities classes, students took a project-based approach to learning about the Middle Ages in Europe. Students were able to use and develop research skills to create projects that demonstrated their learning. Members from the community, parents, and school district were invited to share in this celebration of learning. Our students in

grade 6 and 7 also had an opportunity to view the displays and ask questions. The morning finished with a Medieval Feast which featured a number of modern and medieval themed dishes provided by the students and parents. Students not only displayed their projects, but many also dressed up in medieval costumes and participated in a medieval dance on our stage. This project was truly a team effort with a number of courses getting involved. Our Humanities classes taught the research and presentation skills, our PE classes took time to develop the dance routine, our Tech Ed classes designed a number of weapons—swords, catapults and trebuchets, while our art

classes created illuminations for display. Our students and teachers should be very proud of their achievements.

An event such as this takes a lot of time and effort, and we would like to recognize Ms. Shortt and the Grade 8 Team for their efforts in coordinating the whole morning as well as the students and parents who helped make this day possible. A special thanks to the Capitol Theatre for assisting with costumes.



## Grade 6's Raise \$2900 with Vow of Silence



Congratulations to our Grade 6 students and teachers who took part in the annual Vow of Silence

sponsored by the Free the Children organization. Through pledges, the students raised almost \$3000! The money will go towards building a school in Sierra Leone. Along with the Vow of Silence, students studied a number of social issues related to children's rights in class through novel stud-

ies, class discussions, writing assignments, and other classroom activities. In a final wrap-up assembly, grade 6 students were joined by Mr. Redlin's School of Rock class who performed a song as part of a presentation for all grade 6 students.

## Report Cards—April 3rd

### Report Cards—April 3rd

Just a reminder to parents and students that our Term 2 Reports will be issued on April 3rd. Please remember that Term 2 letter grades are a summary of the learning that your child has been doing throughout the past three months. Teachers use many assessments throughout the term to guide instruction and to help students improve their skills in all the subject areas. Teachers pay particular attention to students' reading skills and math skills as these are critical to being successful in all subject areas.

It is very difficult to summarize all

the learning that has occurred this term with one letter grade. Please read through teachers' comments as these are much more informative than the letter grade summary. Should you have any questions, concerns or positive feedback please contact the classroom teacher right away. Teachers encourage your participation in the learning of your child.

### Social Responsibility

As mentioned in a previous newsletter, this Term we are formally reporting on Social Responsibility achievement. Prior to this time, students and teachers have become familiar with

the Social Responsibility standards provided by the Ministry of Education. To begin with, we are reporting on one of the four SR strands: "contributing to the classroom and school community." This assessment consists of a teacher comment indicating the level to which students are demonstrating Social Responsibility associated with the learning outcomes of the standard described above. In the future, we will expand our reporting to cover the other three SR strands.

## Active Living

### Clubs' Day - April 8th

Our final Clubs' Day of the school year will take place on April 8th. Students have already selected their activities and have been informed of their placement. We wish to remind parents to please send any applicable fees and permission slips to the office as soon as possible. We also wish to remind parents and students that

Clubs' Day is an afternoon activity and that classes will be going on as usual in the morning. Students who will be going on the all day hike to Horne Lake are responsible for making up any missed work and getting permission from their teachers. We encourage students to plan ahead and make sure that all work has been completed prior to leaving.

### Port Alberni Sea Lions Football

Now registering for Spring and Fall Programs:

Ages 5-8 - non-contact flag football

Ages 8-11 PeeWee tackle football

Ages 12-15 Junior Bantam football

All protective equipment supplied!

FMI—call Steve 724-9944

## Term 3 Virtue - Self-Discipline



Self-discipline means self-control. It is getting yourself to do what you really need to do instead of letting things get in

the way or not do things that need to get done. You don't lose control of yourself when you feel angry or hurt, but decide on how you are going to talk and what you are going to do to solve your problems. You are in con-

trol of your own behavior. With self-discipline you take charge of yourself and life becomes more peaceful. Self-discipline brings you freedom to do and be your best.

### Jumpstart Program

The Canadian Tire Jumpstart Program is a charitable program designed to help kids in financial need

participate in sports such as hockey, baseball, soccer, and dance to help them develop important life skills, confidence, and self-esteem. This program is available to students in our community. For more information, please contact the school.

