



Heffley Creek Elementary

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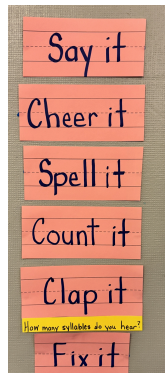
February 2026 Newsletter

Growing Literacy Skills

Our staff have identified that an area we would like to continue to focus on with our students is their literacy skills. We are targeting our Primary students' ability to decode words and read fluently.

Teachers have been approaching these goals through a number of strategic and research-based ways. I am going to highlight one example from each classroom, but please recognize that many other great literacy-focused things are happening in our classrooms.

Ms. Debby's students start each day using the prompts in the photo to the right in response to classmates' names. This is a way to identify letter sounds, each other's names and build phonemic awareness. This is followed by time using a program called, Heggerty, which further builds phonemic awareness and early literacy skills.



Upcoming Events & Dates

- Feb 2 McQueen Lake trip
- Feb 2-6 Kindergarten Registration Week
- Feb 6 In-Service Day (no school for students)
- Feb 16 BC Family Day (no school)
- Mar 11 Term 2 Learning Updates published
- Mar 13 Last day before Spring Break
- Mar 30 First day back from Spring Break
- April 3 Good Friday (no school)
- April 6 Easter Monday (no school)
- April 7 Day of Suwentweqw
- April 16 LifeTouch class photos (at Heffley)
- April 27 In-Service Day (no school for students)
- [SD #73 School Calendar for 2025/2026](#)
- [SD #73 School Calendar for 2026/2027](#)

Learning Updates Overview

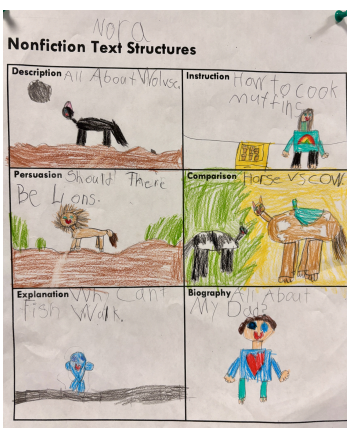
- **1st** Point of Contact: Classroom Connections - Oct 29th
- **2nd** Point of Contact: Written Learning Updates printed & published - Dec 12th
- **3rd Point of Contact: Written Learning Updates printed & published - March 11th**
- **4th** Point of Contact: Various formats - April 27th - May 8th - exact date to be determined
- **5th** Point of Contact: Summative Written Learning Updates printed & published - June 25th

Kindergarten Registration 2026

Kindergarten registration for catchment schools is from February 2nd to 6th. You can pick up a registration package between 8:15 am and 3:00 pm. Parents are strongly encouraged to register children for Kindergarten on these dates. Please share this information with anyone you know who will have a child eligible for Kindergarten next year.

To be eligible for attendance in Kindergarten for September 2026, a student must be five years of age by December 31, 2026.

When registering, please bring your child's original birth certificate, BC Services Card and proof of address with you as well as any legal documentation concerning custody (if applicable).



In Ms. Silva's class, students are learning how to understand non-fiction text and write non-fiction booklets. They have learned how to work with text features and are now choosing a topic to write about. Using Book Creator software, students will be creating their own biography booklets

and sharing them with their classmates on the classroom projector. This activity will challenge students to read, consolidate information, and present it in a concise and thoughtful way.

Within both of these examples, our goal is to grow our students' literacy skills and empower them as strong readers and writers.

Planning for 2026/2027

If you have moved and your child will be attending another school in September, it is not too early to complete the necessary paperwork. Beginning March 1st each school year, Transfer Requests can be submitted for students to attend a school. The process for student transfers along with the required paperwork can be found in [AP 305 School Boundaries](#) and Student [Transfer Requests](#).

Professional Development - Feb 6th

Friday, Feb 6th is a Professional Development Day for our staff. We are looking forward to a keynote address by Monique Gray Smith and spending time collaborating on how we can continue to improve our use of Indigenous resources in our classrooms and school. Students have the day off from school.

Open Parachute Learning Moment

This month's Open Parachute Learning Moment shares ideas around how to help your child [Build Self Esteem](#) as they grow and mature. We hope that this 30 minute learning opportunity will give some ideas that will work for your family.

openparachute®

Criminal Record Check

Thank you to everyone who has worked through the process of getting a Criminal Record Check done this year. Having a completed Criminal Record Check on file alleviates last minute stress and opens the door to participating in a number of school-based activities such as field trips, in-class helping, PAC activities and much more. All that you need to go through this process is on the Rayleigh [website](#) (we share a portal between the two schools).

Parking Outside the School

Please ensure that you are parking in areas around the school that do not have No Parking signs. A neighbour recently raised safety concerns about vehicles being parked in No Parking areas and blocking pedestrian access along the sides of the road. We want everyone in our community to be able to safely move around our school and for school families to avoid receiving a parking ticket in the event that Community Services is called.



PAC News

If you are looking to connect with the Heffley Creek PAC, feel free to email: pac.heffleycreek@gmail.com. Our PAC needs more helping hands to keep providing fun and exciting activities for the school community. Please consider coming out to PAC Meetings, offering to help in organizing Hot Lunch days, and volunteering to support PAC-run initiatives.

The Heffley Creek PAC will have the next meeting on February 17th at 9:00 am in the staff room. Everyone is welcome to attend. Here are the [minutes](#) from the January 13th meeting.