## **Forest Grove Elementary**



# National Day for Truth & Reconciliation

## Tuesday, September 30<sup>th</sup> School not in session

In June 2021, the federal government announced the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation to be recognized on September 30 each year. This day fulfills the <a href="Truth and Reconciliation">Truth and Reconciliation</a> Commission's Call-to-Action #80 and serves as a day of remembrance, reflection, action, and learning.

Since 2013, September 30th has been known as Orange Shirt Day, a day to recognize the history and legacy of Canadian residential schools through the story of Phyllis Webstad.



Art by Andy Everson

## Making our learning visible

#### Classroom window walk

Enjoy our hard work and thoughtful exploration on display in our classroom windows. Teachers and students have showcased key pieces as part of our learning this week leading up to National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

This includes work shared with permission by Michelle Stoney, a Gitxsan/Cree artis from Norther BC. Enjoy colouring this feather at home together.

### Community art piece

## Commitment to consultation & representation

Our PAC and school Administration Team is committed to moving forward in our journey towards Truth & Reconciliation in tangible ways. Plans are underway to engage with Elders, our school and family community and our School Board in consultation around a significant Indigenous art piece for our school.

Stay tuned for more information about this exciting project.

### Please Wear Orange Shirts

#### Monday, September 29<sup>th</sup>

All members of our school community are invited to join us in wearing <u>orange shirts</u> as a symbol of our commitment to Truth & Reconciliation.

#### Share in our learning

#### Join us for our Assembly Monday, September 29<sup>th</sup> 10:45-11:30

Families are an integral part of our school community. We look forward to welcoming you to gather with us as we share and grow our learning.

Can't make it? Consider watching these at home together.

What is Orange Shirt Day?
Storytime with Phyllis Webstad 'With our Orange Hearts'

Interested in joining us for other upcoming events? Check out our <u>calendar</u> & subscribe.

#### Resilience Rocks

## Invitation to pause & reflect at home Connect with learning from school

Throughout this week leading up to National Day for Truth & Reconciliation, each student has chosen a Resilience Rock to represent connection to the land and the stories and histories it holds.

Classrooms have explored these rocks in different ways like

- as an anchor (by pausing to mindfully notice the weight, temperature, and texture)
- during discussions when each child places their rock when they share an idea (taking it back afterwards) to create a visible community of voices.
- Reading together <u>Shi-Shi-etko</u> by Nicola I.
   Campbell and <u>Trudy's Rock Story</u> by Trudy Spiller.

On Tuesday, September 30<sup>th</sup> (Truth and Reconciliation Day, when schools are closed), students are invited to share what they learned and felt with their families, then place their rocks somewhere special in nature as an act of remembrance and commitment.

# Grow your learning Curious to go deeper?

The Orange Shirt Society

<u>CBC's Beyond 94</u> – monitor progress on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's 94 Calls to Action

The Truth & Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action for Education

National Centre for Truth & Reconciliation

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