



## NPSS MONTHLY NEWS FEBRUARY 2025



As we begin Semester 2, we're excited for the new opportunities ahead. Our dedicated staff is here to support every student in achieving their best. Let's make this semester one of growth, success, and a strong sense of community.

A special note to our Grade 12s: you're almost there! This month, we'll have a Grade Meeting with important details on graduation and scholarships. The next four months will fly by, so stay focused and finish strong.

The Summary of Learning for Semester 1 will be issued by February 10th, offering valuable insights into student progress. Here's to a fantastic semester!

Sincerely,  
Mr. Koponyas  
Mr. MacGillivray  
Mrs. Peregoodoff

**REMINDER :**  
*Due to severe airborne allergies students and all visitors to NPSS are not to bring in any food that contains peppers.*

### Take a look at these important Links:

**Honour Roll & **\*\*Grad Sash Requirements and Changes:****  
<https://npss.prn.bc.ca/parents-students/npss-honour-roll/>

**NPSS Code Of Conduct:** <https://npss.prn.bc.ca/our-school/code-of-conduct/>

**Attendance Email:** [npss.attendance@prn.bc.ca](mailto:npss.attendance@prn.bc.ca)



**\*\*NEW\*\***

Cell Phone Policy



Follow the instagram page for latest updates! Questions about athletics? See Ms. Martel  
Grizzlies instagram @northpeacegrizzlies

### Contact Us :



250 785 4429



9304 86 St Fort St. John, BC



<https://npss.prn.bc.ca/>

# Trades & Shops

## Creating Energy Careers – Back for a Third Year!

The Creating Energy Careers program is returning this February for its third year! Students will explore careers in the Oil & Gas Industry, gaining hands-on experience and earning essential safety certifications. This Work Experience opportunity will prepare students for employment and provide them with a four-day field experience. A huge thank you to our sponsors for making this program possible: Roy Northern, McElhanney, Caltech, Rumble Industries, Arctech, Techmation, and Energy Safety Canada.

## Work Experience & Youth Work in Trades

Do you have a part-time job or a work placement lined up? Connect with Mr. Mayer or Mr. Vaccaro to discuss how you can earn work experience credits! If you're working in a trade under a qualified tradesperson and want to pursue an apprenticeship, reach out to Mr. Vaccaro—you could be signed up this month!

## Youth Explore Trades Sampler (YETS) Program

Another group of YETS students successfully completed their placements in December and January, getting first-hand experience in their chosen trades.

A huge thank you to our community partners for providing these valuable opportunities!

Want to learn more about this program? Visit our school website under Careers or contact Sharon Hoecherl for details.

A student working at CDN Controls and resampling an ESP pump.



A student working with Saundersons Electric and running 14/3 wire to eight vapor barrier boots for light fixtures.



A student working for Pro North Heating and building an intake vent using a tinner's hammer, for a commercial heater.



Creating Energy Careers students completing their First Aid course earlier in January with Trojan Safety)



**Junior Volunteers Program:**  
Students in the Junior Volunteers program are working at Peace Villa and in the Inpatient Unit (IPU) at the Fort St. John hospital. This is a great program for students who are interested in a career in Health Care and who want to explore patient care.

### Dual Credit Programs

Reminder of college opportunities available to all high school students. Here is a Q&A to answer all of your questions.

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1m5H1MBCzCLo9Q\\_hNUPONVkJFD-MKkQLXxDY1DCLRDYPc/edit?tab=t.0](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1m5H1MBCzCLo9Q_hNUPONVkJFD-MKkQLXxDY1DCLRDYPc/edit?tab=t.0)

Please reach out to our Dual Credit Coordinator Sharon Hoecherl at [shoecherl@prn.bc.ca](mailto:shoecherl@prn.bc.ca)

# OUTDOOR ED CLASSES

## Annual Polar Bear Dip Success

Both classes participated in the annual Polar Bear Dip with North Peace Search and Rescue, diving into icy waters for a great cause. Their efforts **raised an impressive \$5,000** to support the organization. A big thank you to everyone involved for their bravery and generosity!



The Outdoor Education classes recently embarked on a **two-night winter camping adventure** at Camp Cameron! Students embraced the elements by sleeping in quinzees, cabins, and a wall tent, putting their outdoor survival skills into practice. It was an unforgettable experience that tested their resilience and teamwork.



Outdoor 12 students had the exciting opportunity to practice their **target-shooting skills** with the New Totem Archery Club. This hands-on learning experience allowed students to develop focus, precision, and confidence while trying something new.



# Library

## Blind Date With A Book

You shouldn't always judge a book by its cover. Put your trust in fate and choose a book - you might just fall in love!

The fifth annual Blind Date with a Book will be taking place in the library from **February 12-14**. Pop in and sign out a mystery book!

How to Date:

Several books are wrapped in brown paper and decorated for Valentine's Day. Read the description and/or quote on the wrapped books. - You will not be able to see the title or the author...this is Blind Date With a Book after all!

**Check out a book and get a small gift!** Unwrap the book and read - -Enjoy! Inside the front cover is a "Rate Your Date" slip where you can rate the book. Bring back that slip and get entered into a draw! There will be some grand prizes and regular prizes to win.

The **draw will take place on March 14** - the Friday before Spring Break, giving you plenty of time to read your book!



## Exciting News: FarmBot is Coming to Our School!

After months of hard work and collaboration between Mr. Lynn's Entrepreneurship 12 class and Ms. Imray's Environmental Science 12 class, we are thrilled to announce the purchase—and soon the setup—of our very own FarmBot!

This innovative project will involve many teachers as we establish a garden to grow fresh food and beautiful flowers for use within our school community. The possibilities for cross-curricular learning are endless, and we can't wait to see the amazing things this project will inspire.

A special thank you to Mr. Koponyas for listening to our ideas, supporting our students' vision, and taking a chance on this exciting initiative. We're looking forward to what's to come!

# Grizzlies Dominate in Junior Boys Basketball Victory

The Junior Boys Basketball team at NPSS delivered an impressive 59-37 win against Bert Bowes. The Grizzlies demonstrated exceptional teamwork and skill, taking an early lead and holding strong throughout the game. While Bert Bowes put up a determined fight, they couldn't match NPSS's consistent performance. Congratulations to the team on a fantastic game!



## Volleyball Intramural Champions!



## Dodgeball Champions!



## 3-on-3 Basketball Champions

Congratulations to our 3-on-3 Basketball Team for going undefeated throughout the entire event! Their hard work, teamwork, and determination led them to an incredible victory. Well done, champs! 🏀🎉



This year's **Entrepreneurship 12 class** brought creativity and hard work to life by launching a diverse mix of businesses at NPSS. Each group developed a detailed business plan and pitched their ideas to our "Shark Tank" panel, featuring Mr. Koponyas, Mrs. Peregoodoff, and Mr. MacGillivray, to secure funding for their ventures.

The student-run businesses included a donair shop, waffle sandwich company, iced coffee and cookie store, taco shop, ice cream shop, and a fruit stand. Despite rising food costs, students worked diligently to meet customer needs while carefully managing pricing strategies. All profits from these businesses were donated to local charitable organizations chosen by each group. Here's how their efforts made a difference:

**Kebab King:** Donation to North Peace Search and Rescue - \$38.69

**Cold and Sweet:** Donation to Women's Resource Society - \$150.66

**Caffeine and Co.:** Donation to NPSS Athletics - \$53.96

**Quinn's Waffles:** Donation to New Totem Archery - \$129.21

Special Project: FarmBot

One standout group this year formulated a business plan and secured funding for a FarmBot, an automated farming device. This innovative project was approved by the seed capital team and will become a permanent fixture at NPSS. The FarmBot will provide exciting cross-curricular programming opportunities throughout the school. We look forward to seeing it in action this semester!

**Congratulations to the Entrepreneurship 12 class for their dedication, creativity, and commitment to giving back to the community!**



# Counsellor's Corner

## THE POWER OF KINDNESS AND GRATITUDE

### Why It Matters

- **BOOSTS MENTAL HEALTH:** REDUCES STRESS, ANXIETY, AND DEPRESSION WHILE INCREASING HAPPINESS AND SELF-ESTEEM.
- **STRENGTHENS CONNECTIONS:** FOSTERS DEEPER RELATIONSHIPS AND A SENSE OF BELONGING.
- **BUILDS RESILIENCE:** SHIFTS FOCUS TO THE POSITIVE, IMPROVING EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING.
- **SPREADS POSITIVITY:** ACTS OF KINDNESS AND GRATITUDE INSPIRE OTHERS TO DO THE SAME.

### What High School Students Can Do

#### PRACTICE GRATITUDE:

- WRITE A THANK-YOU NOTE TO A TEACHER, FRIEND, OR FAMILY MEMBER.
- KEEP A GRATITUDE JOURNAL—LIST THREE THINGS YOU'RE THANKFUL FOR DAILY.
- SAY "THANK YOU" MORE OFTEN TO ACKNOWLEDGE OTHERS' EFFORTS.
- REFLECT ON THE GOOD MOMENTS IN YOUR DAY, BIG OR SMALL.

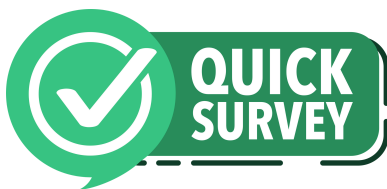
#### SHOW KINDNESS:

- HELP A CLASSMATE WITH HOMEWORK OR A PROJECT.
- SUPPORT A FRIEND WHO'S HAVING A TOUGH DAY BY LISTENING OR ENCOURAGING THEM.
- VOLUNTEER FOR A SCHOOL EVENT OR COMMUNITY SERVICE.
- COMPLIMENT SOMEONE OR OFFER A KIND WORD TO BRIGHTEN THEIR DAY.



### The Ripple Effect

SMALL ACTIONS, LIKE SHOWING GRATITUDE OR KINDNESS, CAN HAVE A LASTING IMPACT. THEY NOT ONLY IMPROVE YOUR MOOD BUT ALSO CREATE A CHAIN REACTION OF POSITIVITY, HELPING TO BUILD A STRONGER AND MORE SUPPORTIVE SCHOOL COMMUNITY.



## Student Learning Survey 2024/2025

The **Provincial Student Learning Survey** is an important tool for gathering input from students, parents/guardians/caregivers, and staff about school environment, safety, and achievement. Your feedback helps identify strengths and areas for improvement at our school.

This year, the survey will be open to grades 10–12 students, their parents/guardians/caregivers, and staff starting early 2025.

How to Participate:

1. Visit [Student Learning Survey](#).
2. Click "Take the Survey" and select your child's school district and school name.

The survey is open until May 2, 2025 and can be completed on any computer or mobile device.

Thank you for helping us make our school even better!



# INDIGENOUS NEWS



Room 112 is your go-to space for academic, social, emotional, and cultural support. Whether you need assistance with schoolwork, a listening ear, or a connection to cultural resources, we are here to help you succeed and thrive.

As a reminder, February 3 marks the beginning of the second semester. Let's start strong and make it a fresh opportunity for growth and success. Stop by the Indigenous room to get the support you need to make this semester your best yet!



## Important Dates:

- FEB 3 - TERM 3 BEGINS
- FEB 10 - REPORT CARDS ISSUED
- FEB 11&12TH - GRAD PHOTO RETAKES
- FEB 14 - VALENTINES DAY
- FEB 17 - NO SCHOOL (FAMILY DAY)
- FEB 17 - LOUIS RIEL DAY

## Tsáá? Ché Ne Dane Words of the Month

- Dleye (clay-aah) ~~ Grizzly Bear
- Tsaa? (ts-ah) ~~ Beaver
- Dze? ~~ Heart



The Indigenous Room is a welcoming space where students can embark on meaningful learning journeys. Whether you're working on individual cultural learning plans, exploring your heritage, or seeking support with college and university applications, we're here to guide you. You can also find assistance with scholarships and bursaries to help fund your educational goals. Stop by and let us support you on your path to success and growth!

The best ways to reach our team are by phone or email. For quick responses, give us a call at 250-785-4429 ext 343, or send us an email at [npssindigenoussupport@prn.bc.ca](mailto:npssindigenoussupport@prn.bc.ca) for detailed inquiries. We're here to support you—don't hesitate to reach out!

A little  
progress each  
day adds up  
to BIG  
results.



# February

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	1

2025



## Dates to Remember

- Monday, February 3, 2025 - Semester 2 Term 3 Begins
- Wednesday, February 5 - Thursday, February 6, 2025 - Student Learning Survey in Period 3
- Friday, February 7, 2025 - Summary of Learning Issued
- Tuesday, February 11, 2025 - Grade 12 Grade Meeting
- Monday, February 17, 2025 - Family Day (No School)
- Wednesday, February 26, 2025 - Pink Shirt Day & Grade 9 Open House
- Friday, February 28, 2025 - Non- Instructional Day (No School)

### Grad 2025 Dates:

- Tuesday, **February 11** - Wednesday, **February 12, 2025**- Grad Photos Retakes
- Thursday, **June 19, 2025**- Grad Rehearsal at 3:30 pm, Grad BBQ at 5:00 pm
- Friday, **June 20, 2025**- Grad Ceremony at 1:30 pm and Grand March at 8:00 PM

