

THE NEW BAMFIELDER

Happy New Year! Please be careful on slippery winter roads!

1 January 2026

www.bamfielder.ca

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A beautiful December sunset at Pachena Bay. Photo by Taylor Ford-Sahibzada

Community Events

Jan 3: Christmas Bird Count

Jan 26: Robbie Burns Day

Jan 25-Feb 4: Family Literacy Week

News

The School's Winter Break is from Dec. 22 - Jan. 4th!

BCSA Monday Sports restart on Jan 12.

Christmas Bird Count

We are looking for a few more birders and observers for the 39th annual Bamfield Christmas Bird Count. Christmas Bird Counts occur worldwide to mobilize citizen scientists in recording and monitoring local bird populations. They've been occurring since the early 1900s and the survey is considered the largest and longest running citizen science survey in the world. Birders will unite at 7:45am on January 3rd at the Bamfield West Dock to follow specified routes counting all birds along the way. There is no need to be an expert as a good set of eyes can help more experienced birders identify what is being viewed. Please reach out to Daniel Zayonc (danielzayonc@gmail.com) if you'd like to participate.

Daniel Zayonc

Goodbye From Jesse

Since November 2023, I've had the immense pleasure of parking myself here, wandering around, saying things to people and listening to people say things. For two years, I haven't encountered any traffic jams, haven't worked particularly hard at anything, and have yet to hustle up any corporate ladders to

retrieve power and riches. I have instead: Swam in nice bodies of water (sometimes under the moon while nude), almost caught several waves, taught the rules to boardgames as concisely as I could manage, had some of the most wholesome and delightful nights out in my young adult life, seen more shades of green than exist in Saskatchewan, felt reverence for the sea, learned a lot about salmon, ruined multiple vehicles, spent four months in the trunk of a honda civic, and made dear friends that span four generations. It's a bummer to be leaving. Sorry! Thanks for all the kindness, welcoming, silliness, words exchanged and memories minted.

Jesse Patterson

The Weathered Verse

Sun Lift

She wakes up gracing the horizon
Dressed lightly in pink and yellow
She warms worlds and senses
Calling everyone to shiver, shuffle
Shaking off the cool of the night

Some days, she's bright and playful
A child, dancing on the tips of waves
Shining like sparkling fairy lights

With wings of green and gold

Other times, she's somber and wraps up in her cloak of clouds
Every possible shade of grey and silver
She peeks out to see if it's safe
But with an inkling retreats again in a burst of tears

Her angry days are scary
She succumbs to fits of thunder and flashes of lighting
She pelts the ground with ice stones
Not considering the consequences

Most terrifying though is when she holds anger too long
Then, she sets down a scorched heat which sears for what feels like an eternity
Her amber fire so fierce it bursts into flames
It threatens everyone and everything that she holds dear

That's perhaps why we all love the peaceful sunset most
It gives us hope that she will always return to her calm beauty
When she paints the sky in slightly darker colours
And lets us rest in the quiet sounds that lull us to sleep

Melanie Bergman

Feeling bored at home? Why not try something new—pick up a hobby, sing a favorite song, get some exercise, read a book (or the newspaper!), or spend some time coloring a beautiful drawing. To help you get started, we've included song lyrics to sing along to and a special coloring page illustrated by our very own Jesse Patterson.

Dancing in the Dark by Bruce Springsteen

I get up in the evenin'
 And I ain't got nothin' to say
 I come home in the mornin'
 I go to bed feelin' the same way
 I ain't nothin' but tired
 Man, I'm just tired and bored with myself
 Hey there, baby, I could use just a little help

You can't start a fire
 You can't start a fire without a spark
 This gun's for hire
 Even if we're just dancin' in the dark

Messages keeps gettin' clearer
 Radio's on and I'm movin' 'round my place
 I check my look in the mirror

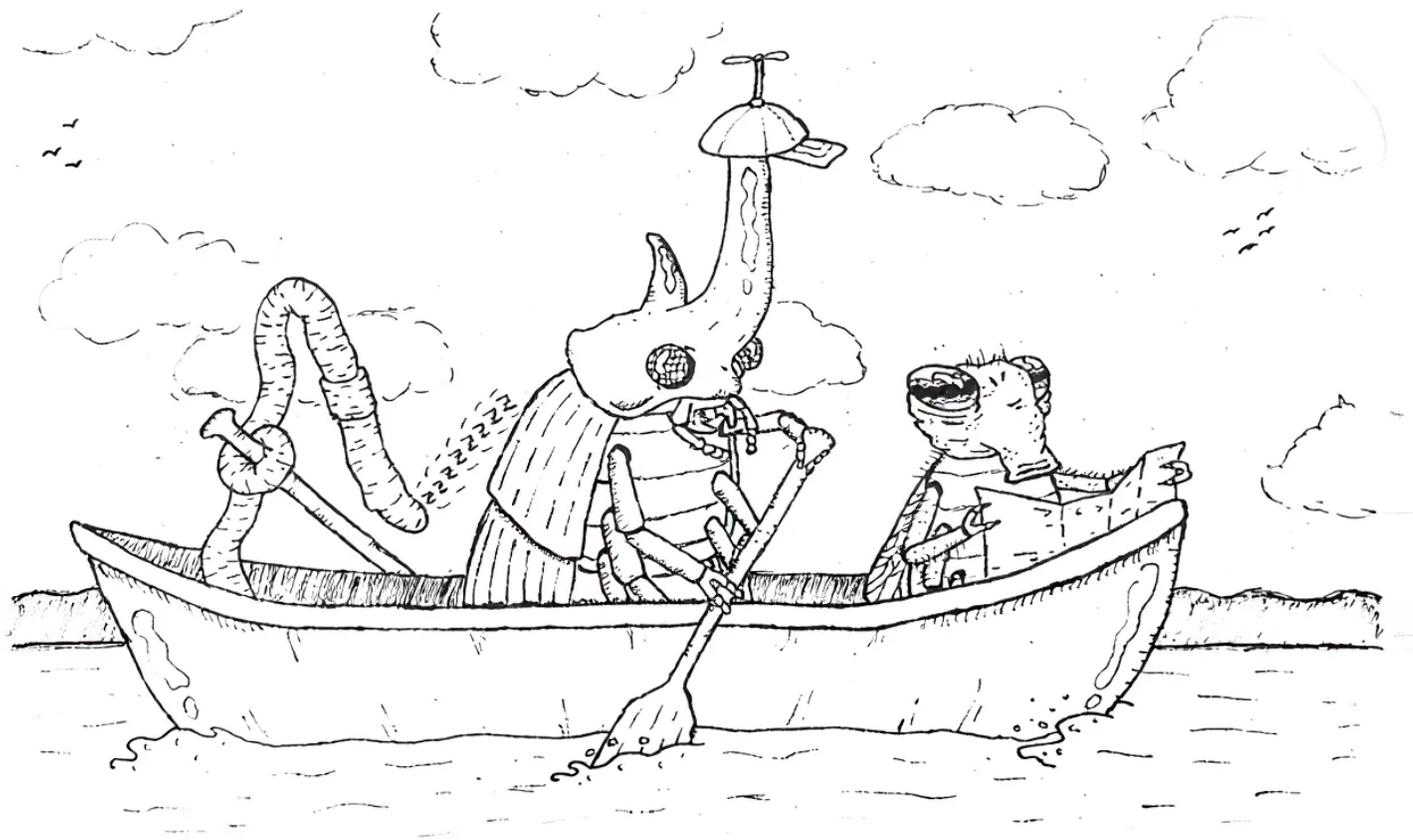
Wanna change my clothes, my hair,
 my face
 Man, I ain't gettin' nowhere
 I'm just livin' in a dump like this
 There's somethin' happenin' somewhere
 Baby, I just know that there is

You can't start a fire
 You can't start a fire without a spark
 This gun's for hire
 Even if we're just dancin' in the dark

You sit around gettin' older
 There's a joke here somewhere and it's on me
 I'll shake this world off my shoulders
 Come on, baby, the laugh's on me
 Stay on the streets of this town
 And they'll be carvin' you up alright
 They say you gotta stay hungry
 Hey baby, I'm just about starvin' to-

night
 I'm dyin' for some action
 I'm sick of sittin' 'round here tryin' to write this book
 I need a love reaction
 Come on now, baby, gimme just one look

You can't start a fire
 Sittin' 'round cryin' over a broken heart
 This gun's for hire
 Even if we're just dancin' in the dark
 You can't start a fire
 Worryin' about your little world fallin' apart
 This gun's for hire
 Even if we're just dancin' in the dark
 Hey baby



Submissions are welcome. Please send them with the author's name to thenewbamfielder@gmail.com. *The New Bamfielder* is funded by donations. We appreciate anything you can contribute. Any extra funds will be donated to the Bamfield Community School Association's youth programs. **Editors: Taylor, Amaya, Hannah**