

## Student Role Models for March



**Jack— Gr. 11**

*Nak'azdli*

"Jack is well mannered, and a friendly student, exceedingly liked by his peers. Jack's academics and attendance are excellent. He has a sense of humor and likes sports. Jack is involved in his com-



**Logan— Gr. 10**

*Stellat'en*

"Logan has strong academics with huge potential for his post secondary future! Way to go Logan! ."



**Xavier— Gr. 10**

*Tl'azt'en*

"Xavier is funny, has a great sense of humor. Xavier is always friendly :) ."



**Roland— Gr. 12**

*Stellat'en*

"Roland is very kind, he is very dedicated to finishing his tasks, you can always count on Roland to say kind words and lift you up if you are feeling down. ."



**Leah — Gr. 9**

*Lake Babine Nation*

"Leah is excelling in a challenging class of SS9 boys and did an outstanding job of addressing systemic racism towards indigenous people with their Beyond Stereotypes Assignment. also was outstanding in French last semester. She was actively engaged in all activities, especially oral language activities (whole class and small group) and was an excellent role model for other students in how to be a successful language student.

### Did you know?

That April 22 is Earth Day or International Mother Earth Day? Earth day was first celebrated on April 22 1970 and is now celebrated in more than 174 countries. Earth day is celebrated and demonstrate support for our environment. Did you also know that 1 reusable bag can prevent the use of 600 plastic bags? By recycling 1 pop can we can save enough energy to power tv for 3 hours.

Some easy ways for you to support our environment are to recycle more, compost, plant a tree, turn off the lights, reduce your water usage, volunteer picking up garbage or collect recyclables, and spread the message. For more information or ideas on how you or your class can participate visit [earthday.ca](http://earthday.ca) and [earthday.org/our-toolkits/](http://earthday.org/our-toolkits/). I will also have extra links in our 'Helpful Links and Resource Section'.



### A Healthy Earth Needs Indigenous Peoples

"Indigenous peoples' connection to our lands, waters, air, and other natural resources is deeply embedded in our cultures and traditions. We hold ceremonies to show our gratitude and respect for the natural gifts on which our survival depends. This instills in us a deep understanding of – and commitment to – our duties and responsibilities as nature's stewards and guardians. We know that we need nature as much as it needs us. " - Terry Teegee, Regional Chief BC Assembly of First Nations read the article on [BCAFN here](#) or on [Project Syndicate](#)

### Honouring Earth

"Indigenous peoples are caretakers of Mother Earth and realize and respect her gifts of water, air and fire. First Nations peoples' have a special relationship with the earth and all living things in it. This relationship is based on a profound spiritual connection to Mother Earth that guided indigenous peoples to practice reverence, humility and reciprocity. It is also based on the subsistence needs and values extending back thousands of years. Hunting, gathering, and fishing to secure food includes harvesting food for self, family, the elderly, widows, the community, and for ceremonial purposes. Everything is taken and used with the understanding that we take only what we need, and we must use great care and be aware of how we take and how much of it so that future generations will not be put in peril. " - Assembly of First Nations - <https://www.afn.ca/honoring-earth/>





## Assembly of First Nations—Honouring Earth

From the realms of the human world, the sky dwellers, the water beings, forest creatures and all other forms of life, the beautiful Mother Earth gives birth to, nurtures and sustains all life. Mother Earth provides us with our food and clean water sources. She bestows us with materials for our homes, clothes and tools. She provides all life with raw materials for our industry, ingenuity and progress. She is the basis of who we are as “real human beings” that include our languages, our cultures, our knowledge and wisdom to know how to conduct ourselves in a good way. If we listen from the place of connection to the Spirit That Lives in All Things, Mother Earth teaches what we need to know to take care of her and all her children. All are provided by our mother, the Earth.



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Environmental degradation affects the health and well-being of not only the First Nations people but all peoples of North America and the world in many ways. First Nations peoples do not yet know all the ways harmful man-made substances affects fish, wildlife, habitat, and human beings. However, First Nations people are aware that pollutants and contaminants, especially those originating from industrial development, have negative consequences for the health of all living things, including humans. Industrial contamination and disruption of wildlife habitat combine to reduce the supply and purity of traditional foods and herbal medicines. Finally, degradation erodes the quality of life dependent on the purity of the land, water, flora and fauna, and further affects Indigenous people’s cultures, languages and spiritual health and well-being.

First Nations peoples can demonstrate how, in asserting their land use and rights, economic initiatives can be both profitable and sustainable for future generations. First Nation traditional knowledge has provided our people with the tools to care for Mother Earth and our sacred sites. This knowledge can be shared with industry for the betterment and survival of all peoples.

## Helpful Resources and Links

### Articles

- [8 Things to do on Mother Earth Day! - Cultural survival](#)
- [History of Earth Day - National Geographic Kids](#)
- [Earth Day 2022—History Channel](#)

### Links

- [Eco Kids](#)
- [BC Digital Classroom—National Geographic Kids](#)
- [SD91 Resource Collections Elementary—sd91indigenouseducation.com](#)
- [SD91 Resource Collections Secondary—sd91indigenouseducation.com](#)
- [World Book Early Learning](#)
- [April 22nd– Earth Day Pearson Canada](#)

