

N O R T H R I D G E

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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April 28, 2016

Principal's Message...

Spring has sprung! We have been enjoying some incredible weather in the last few weeks! The fields are open and students are enjoying the outside play. As our weather keeps improving, it is now time to remember "Slip, slap and slide" - Slip on a hat, slap on sunscreen and slide into the shade when it gets too hot.



It has been a talented month for Northridge students. Over 30 student performed for our Talent Show on April 20th. We were delighted and amazed at the range of talents that our students demonstrated! Well done to everyone who participated. Our Strings students have also been busy. They performed in the Victoria Music Festival on April 21st and did a fantastic job! Congratulations to our students for their stellar performance.

We are looking forward our annual "Grandfriends Litterless Lunch" on Friday, May 13th. Students have invited parents, grandparents and/or friends to join us for a litterless lunch in the sun.

Thank you for returning your student placement forms for next year. The staff will be working hard to create the best learning environment for your child.

As always, feel free to drop in or give me a call if you have any concerns or issues, or even if you just want to chat. I'm only a phone call away.

*Sincerely yours,
L. Whittam, Principal*



Track Season - Mrs. Whittam

Track season will soon be here; our fields have just been lined. Students in Grades 3, 4, and 5 will have an opportunity to participate. The track program consists of one individual race 100m or 800m and each child must run in one relay (4x100m) team race. Therefore your child could potentially be in a maximum of two races. Our Zone Track meet will be held on Monday, May 30th at UVic stadium, 10:30-1:30 (for all runners). The City Finals will be held on Wednesday, June 1st, 5:30-8pm, for ONLY those students who finish 1st or 2nd in their race IF they are in an A or B flight Only! Training for the upcoming track season will begin next week.



Please ensure your child has shorts and proper running shoes (no spiked/aqua shoes allowed) here each day!



Class/Whole School Photo Day - Tuesday, May 3, 2016

Edge Imaging Photography will be photographing each class as well as the whole school (panorama photo) on Tuesday, May 3. The Class photos are free. Let's hope for a great sunny day. Bring your bright Northridge smiles!!!!



Kindergarten Orientation - Tuesday, May 17th

Our Kindergarten Orientation will be held on Tuesday, May 17th. There will be two sessions - 9:00 - 9:45 a.m. and 10:30 - 11:15 a.m. Parents will be e-mailed/phoned to indicate which sessions that they are to attend. Our new students will have an opportunity to tour the school and visit a classroom. Parents will be introduced to the many services that are available to support their child's learning. We look forward to this special day which will provide valuable information for all.



Parent/Volunteer Appreciation Day - Wednesday, May 11th

The staff at Northridge would like to recognize our parents/volunteers for all their support in and out of the classroom this past year. We will be offering coffee/muffins to parents as they drop off their children in the morning at the school.

District Transitions Day for Grade 5 Students - Thursday, May 19th

Our Grade 5 students will be visiting Glanford Middle School on Thursday, May 19th in the afternoon. This is part of a district transition-orientation day for students. The students that are going to Glanford will be walking with their teachers. Students who are not going to attend Glanford next year, should contact their new school.

Spring Concert - Mrs. Hall

We will be having our Spring Concert on Thursday, May 26th this year. Performances will be at 1:00pm and 6:30pm and will involve Northridge Strings, Northridge Choir and all of our classes. Our rehearsals are underway and we look forward to the performances. More information will follow in the coming weeks.

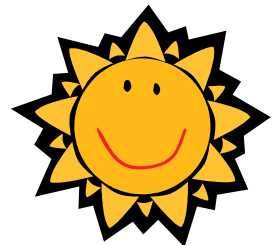
The virtue for the month of April is RESPECT

Respect is about appreciating the people and things in your life. A good way to practice being respectful is to think about how you would like to be treated and then treat others that way. When we are respectful we use good manners like *please*, *thank you* and *excuse me*. We are kind, thoughtful and courteous with one another and honour the rules of our families, school and community. We behave in a way that makes life happy and peaceful.



Dates to Remember:

- Mon. May 2 Track begins this week
- Fri. Apr 29 Subway Hot Lunch
- Tues. May 3 Whole School Photos - bring your smiles ☺
(Class photos are free but there is a charge for the panorama photo)
- Fri. May 6 Northridge PAC Spring Fling Dance
- Tues. May 10 Fruit & Vegetable Program - mini peppers delivered
- Wed. May 11 Parent Appreciation Day
- Thurs. May 12 School Assembly at 12:45pm
- Fri. May 13 Grandfriends Day
- Tues. May 17 Kindergarten Orientation (9:00-9:45 session and 10:30-11:15 session)
- Wed. May 18 PAC meeting - everyone welcome - 6:30pm
- Thurs. May 19 Transition Day - Grade 5 visit to Glanford Middle School (pm)
- Fri. May 20 Pro-D Day (District Wide) - no school for students
- Mon. May 23 Victoria Day Holiday - no school
- Thurs. May 26 Music Concert
- Thurs. May 26 Newsletter Day
- Fri. May 27 Hot Lunch Day. Bike Rodeo
- Mon. May 30 Track Zone Meet at UVIC Stadium
- Tues. May 31 Fruit & Vegetable Program - Gem Tomatoes delivered



On Friday, May 13th, Northridge is having a **Grandfriends' Litterless Lunch**. Invitations have gone home.





Although Northridge is really good at recycling, we continue to strive to be a litterless school. We need to focus more on reducing and reusing so that we don't generate as much waste. Please use recyclable containers for your child's lunch. Your child should bring home any items that can't be recycled at school.

Recipe for a Litterless Lunch

When packing a lunch for your child, consider the following ideas. Not only is this better for the environment but it can save you money as well.



Here are some packing tips to **MUNCH** on:

Yes Please 	No Thanks 
REUSABLE lunch carrier	NO paper or plastic bags
REUSABLE container (Tupperware, plastic)	NO plastic wrap, foil, wax or Styrofoam
REUSABLE drink bottle or thermos	NO single-use cans, bottles or cartons
CLOTH NAPKIN to wash and re-use	NO paper napkins
SILVERWARE to wash and re-use	NO plastic forks/spoons
HEALTHY snacks!	NO over packaged snacks

Why pack a Litterless Lunch?

- It's waste-free
- \$\$ It's cheaper \$\$
- It's healthier
- It reduces packaging waste

Food For Thought:

The average student lunch generates 30 kg of waste per school year. That adds up to 8,509 kg of waste per school!!!



1000X5 - 1000 Books by Age Five

Children's Book Recycling Project Greater Victoria

Gr 5 Kaitlyn Collects, Cleans, and Bags our 1,000,000 Book

In early March Kaitlyn, a Grade 5 student from Ecole Quadra cleaned and bagged our 1,000,000 book!! Kaitlyn spearheaded a drive that collected 600 books from two classes in just two weeks. What a leader!



Kaitlyn and her teacher, Mme Marss looking through some of the books

Each week we prepare 600 – 700 books that go into gift bags for wee ones. Take a few picture books for babies and preschoolers and pop them into the pink bin in the school.

Attention Young Entrepreneurs!



Do you have a great business idea that you'd like to create? Have you already created some-thing and you're looking for the right venue to sell it? Is it a fundraiser for a team or club? If you're born in or after 2004, we would love to partner with you! We have spaces open for you to sell your awesome new products

When: Saturday, May 21 2016

Where: Pearkes Rec Centre

Price: \$10

Shared Table and Chair Provided Entry Deadline: April 30, 2016

For more information on this amazing opportunity, please contact Brenda Mercer at bmercer@uvic.ca

Northridge PAC Spring Fling Dance – Friday, May 6, 6-8:00pm

The PAC is throwing a spring fling dance!!! Hope everyone can make it. There will be pizza, prizes and lots of fun music to get you moving. Suggested donation is \$2 per student. We will be selling pizza, water and chips for \$5. We are still looking for helpers in the concession, as chaperones, set up/clean up and as crossing guard at the end of the night. If you can help out or have any questions please email Linsay Kellow at lszteina@gmail.com. This cannot happen without your help. Thank you!

AFTER MONTHS OF PLANNING THE
NORTHRIDGE FUN FAIR

IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER...

FRIDAY, JUNE 3RD from 5:00-8:00

WRISTBANDS \$20

One flat fee gives the students unlimited access to all activities...

All students win a prize at every game.

Wristbands will be available to purchase afterschool on June 3rd

Hamster Balls

Feel like a hamster in this giant ball
from Games 2 U

Hockey Shoot

Three shots to score

Giant Firetruck

Check out the airport Firetruck

Ball Toss

Toss a ball through the hanging tarp

Boat Race

Challenge two others to a boat race

Games

PhotoBooth

Receive a strip of 4 photos of you and your friends

U-Launchers

Launch your bean bags at the target from Games 2 U

DuckPond

One catch reveals a prize

Cake Walk

Win a cake!

Video Game Truck

Try Sports and Dance Games from Games 2 U

Bouncy Castle and Obstacle Course

Play over and over and over and over

And lots more: Frog Slinger, Marble Maze, Mini Golf, Lollipop Toss, Ping Pong Ball Toss, Stand-a-Bottle, Character Bowling, Drop the Hammer, and much, much more...

Red Barn BBQ Truck/Popcorn for Sale

Silent Auction

The Fun Fair is quickly approaching...FRIDAY, JUNE 3 from 5-8:00!!

Here is some important info regarding the highly anticipated, upcoming, Northridge Fun Fair...PLEASE HELP US SPREAD THE WORD BY SHARING THE ATTACHED POSTER WITH YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY THROUGH EMAIL, FACEBOOK, INSTAGRAM, AND/OR WORD OF MOUTH☺

Silent Auction Donations

So far our silent auction items have a combined value of over **\$10, 000!!** Some of these items include: a car detailing package by Howie's Car Corral; a variety of store, restaurant, spa, birthday party, hotel, and golf gift certificates; a variety of gift baskets; and so, so much more. **Our Silent Auction is going to be open for bidding starting two-three weeks before the Fun Fair...please look on the walls in the hallway outside of the office and library for the bidding sheets...**bidding will be open for this time and continue during the night of the fair. It is NOT to late...if you, or a company you know would like to donate an item, please contact Kara at karalee@shaw.ca

Raffle Tickets

Raffle tickets will be going home in just under four weeks. It is our hope that each child in the school will sell at least one book of Raffle Tickets. Each book **MUST BE** accounted for and returned to the school, whether it has been sold or not...please see the newsletter that will accompany the Raffle Books for more information. **If you DO NOT want a book of tickets this year (10 tickets/book...\$2/ticket) please email sherriosullivan@gmail.com**

We have three amazing prizes this year:

- 1) **\$500 Cash Package - Sponsored by Howie's Car Corral**
- 2) **Apple Prize - Mini iPad 16GB (valued at \$350)**
- 3) **\$150 Gift Card Package - \$50 Country Grocer Gift Card, \$50 Boston Pizza Gift Card, \$25 Starbucks Gift Card, \$25 Cineplex Gift Card**

Game Sponsors

A huge thank you to all of our supporters: Howie's Car Corral (\$500 sponsor); Simpson Controls and Amberwood Floors (\$200 sponsors); Island Batteries, AmpEd Electric, and HeatherBrae Builders (\$100 sponsors); and Slegg's Lumber, Metalwork, Country Grocer and the 19th Hole who have all donated material and/or huge discounts towards the fun fair.

Raffle Baskets

A huge thank you goes out to each division for collecting items for their class 'raffle baskets'. The baskets look great and will be included as part of the silent auction.

Volunteers

Parent partners will be asked to organize their classroom volunteers for 3/4 hour slots. Our hope is that every family will volunteer for at least one time slot. Stay tuned to hear more about how you can volunteer from you parent partner (Parent Partners, I will be emailing you in the next few weeks). Your help is greatly appreciated and we couldn't have this fair without you!

Cake Walk

The prizes for our cake walk will be cakes made by...YOU!! Please consider baking or buying a cake (or two!) to bring to the school on the day of the fair. We are hoping to have at least 40 cakes for the cake walk...stay tuned for more information.

Canadian Tire Money

Wow! A huge thank you to all of you...we have collected over \$27 so far in Canadian Tire money....the box is still outside of the office if you would like to donate (place it in with the Country Grocer receipts)

Games

We will be having a Lollipop Ring Toss, Ping Pong Ball Toss, Boat Race, Frog Slinger, Mini Golf Game, Marble Maze, Duckpond, Face Painting, Strong Man, Photo Booth, Cakewalk, Obstacle Course, Hockey Shoot, Character Bowling, and a variety of outdoor games from Games 2 U: Bouncy Castle, Hamster Balls, U-Launchers, Booger Wars and a Video Game Truck...it promises to be an amazing night!!

If you have ANY questions at all, please don't hesitate to send me an email...

sherriosullivan@gmail.com



Safe KIDS for Parents: Abduction Prevention

"Keeping Our Children Informed,
Defensible, and Safer!"

90 Minute Seminar Includes:

- Stats and facts specific to abduction
- Who is the abductor?
- Why "Stranger Danger" doesn't work
- The "Lures" used to trick our children
- Walking to and from school
- What if my child goes missing

Where: Northridge Elementary School

When: May 16, 6:30-8:00 pm

Cost: Free

**Register: e-mail Carol by May 9 at
ctickner@shaw.ca to confirm your seat**

www.sheepdogselfprotection.com



VCPAC Annual Awards

Each year, VCPAC recognizes outstanding contributions to the students in our school district at our May General Meeting.

We are looking for your help in nominating these amazing individuals for one of our nine awards:

Victor Gim Inspirational Student Award, Gail Edwards Memorial Award, Parents Choice Award, Arkell Award, Inspirational PAC Award, New Teacher Award of Distinction, Fine Arts Champion Award, School Partnership Award, John Young Advocacy Award

For more information please go to <http://www.vcpac.ca/vcpac-news/15-vcpac-award-nominations>. The deadline for nominations this year is May 3, 2016.