

# N O R T H R I D G E ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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January 26, 2017

## *Principal's Message...*

Happy New year! Students and staff have returned from the winter break full of energy and enthusiasm to begin the New Year. It is wonderful to hear the "buzz" of the students as they work on projects, read to each other, and be excited about their learning. January is a busy month and February looks the same!



We had a few new staff joining Northridge school in January. Ms. Amber Holman is teaching in Division 6, replacing Mrs. McKeachie who is on maternity leave. We are anticipating an increase in our Learning assistance by .3 FTE as a result of the increased funding to schools, and look forward to welcoming the new teacher January 30th. Mr. James Kurisummoottil is replacing Sean Ferris who transferred to Eagle View and our Miss Katie Simmonds is now fully and officially our Vice Principal! Congratulations to all our new staff!

This week is Kindergarten Registration week. We love meeting all the new Kindergarten students that will start with us in September. On February 7th, we host our Ready, Set, Learn event. This is for 3 and 4 year olds and their parents to get to know what Kindergarten will be like and to ask any questions that they might have. We look forward to a strong turnout. .

On Friday February 17<sup>th</sup>, the students are participating in in Jump Rope for heart. They will be actively gathering pledges to raise money for the Canadian Heart and Stroke Foundation. Northridge School encourages students to give back to their communities.

The first of many transitions to middle school activities starts on Tuesday, January 31 at 7:00. Parents and students in grades 5 are invited to an open house at Glanford Middle School. This is a wonderful opportunity for everyone to learn about middle school and to ask questions about the upcoming year.

We are noticing an increase in the number of students that are arriving late to school. We calculate 8 lates to be the equivalent to missing one day of school. Students that arrive late miss out on the very rich learning that takes place at the start of everyday. Also, students that arrive late are often uncomfortable walking into the classroom after the instruction has started. Please make it a priority to have students attend on time.

Every day the staff and students at Northridge strive to do their best in the classroom and around the school. I am thrilled with the growth that I have witnessed in every class. I am excited to see how far we can go in 2017!

Thank you for your continued support and involvement in your child's education. Please feel free to drop by or give me a phone call if there is anything I can do to continue to better your child's experience at Northridge school.

*L. Whittam, Principal*

## **READY, SET, LEARN**

All Northridge area parents, along with their 3 and 4 year old children (preschoolers), are invited to attend an

### **OPEN HOUSE**

At Northridge Elementary School



Tuesday, February 7th 10:30 until 11:45 a.m.

In the Library/Gym

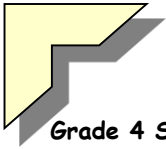
This will be an opportunity to get to know our great school. Your child will receive a bag with activities and goodies. As well, there will be information sessions on how to support your child's success in school.

The Northridge staff looks forward to your visit!

For more information and to register, please call the school office at (250) 479-8293

## **FOR THOSE PARENTS THAT PROVIDE BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CARE SERVICES –**

During Kindergarten registration, there were a number of parents asking for names of before and after school care providers. We welcome anyone to post their information on our Community Board (located by the Computer Lab) or you can call the Office and give us details. Thank you!

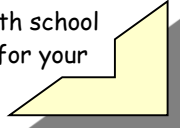


**Grade 4 Students - Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA)**

Grade 4 students will be involved in the annual provincial FSA assessments to provide a snapshot of how well students are doing in the basic skills of Reading Comprehension, Writing and Numeracy. The assessment is conducted both on-line and in written formats. The assessments will be between January 9th and February 17th. For more information, go to [www.bced.gov.bc.ca/assessment/fsa/](http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/assessment/fsa/). Parents will find the "Information to Parents" section a useful introduction. If you have any questions about FSA procedures, don't hesitate to ask us.

**Grade 4 Satisfaction Surveys**

The 2017 Ministry of Education Satisfaction Survey will be sent out at a later date. Grade 4 parents will receive an e-mail with a special link to complete the survey electronically. Grade 4 students will participate in the survey along with school staff personnel. Information from the survey helps shape the school's direction in setting future goals. Thanks for your participation!



**GRADE 5 PARENTS:**

**Middle School Parent Information Nights**

Northridge Elementary School is part of the Spectrum Family of Schools. Unless, we hear otherwise from parents, we will assume that your child will move through the following pathway within our Family of Schools. The pathway schools for Northridge are Glanford Middle School (Gr. 6-8) and Spectrum Community School (Gr. 9-12). Middle School parent information nights are on the following evenings:

**Glanford: Tuesday, January 31 at 7 p.m. (pathway school)**

Cedar Hill: Tuesday, January 24 at 7 p.m. Colquitz: Wednesday, February 8 at 7 p.m.

For more information, visit the District website at [www.sd61.bc.ca/schools](http://www.sd61.bc.ca/schools)

For students wishing to attend a school other than their pathway school, a student transfer application form will need to be filled out during the student transfer process week (February 16-24).

**Student Transfer Process for K-12**

Each year, parents are given an opportunity to apply for a transfer if they wish their child to attend a school outside of their assigned pathway/catchment. The student transfer process for K-12 will begin on February 16<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup>. Transfer forms will be available at any Greater Victoria School District school as well as on the District Website [www.sd61.bc.ca](http://www.sd61.bc.ca)

**January's Virtue is Responsibility**



This month, we learned that being responsible means following the rules, keeping our agreements, and always doing our very best. Responsible people accept credit for doing things well and admit to their mistakes. When we are responsible, other people know that they can depend on us and trust us. We show our family, teachers and

classmates that we are responsible by being honest, by listening, being helpful and treating them and their belongings with kindness and respect. We learned that we show we are responsible when we recycle, save water, save electricity, do our homework and by taking good care of ourselves and our belongings. By being responsible, we are showing others that we respect and care for our world, ourselves and the future of others.

**RED AND WHITE DAY - Join us!!**

Tuesday, February 14<sup>th</sup> ~ will be Red and White Day at Northridge School. We're encouraging all students to participate in our special day by wearing red and white clothing to celebrate Valentine's Day.



**Inclement weather and soggy playground conditions...**

The Office has limited amount of extra clothes when a student clothes gets wet. It would be greatly appreciated if you could bring an extra change of clothes to school.

**USED Clothing Request**

There is a need for smaller size sweat pants. If you have gently used sweat pants (pull on style) suitable for age 5-8 children, would you please bring them to the school office?

If your child has borrowed clothing from the school, please wash and return. Thank you!

## Basketball Update - GAME(S) ON!



The New Year is here and so is our basketball team play schedule! Players who participated regularly in the skills program before the winter break are now on a team. There are five teams and the schedule is posted on the bulletin board outside the gym. If your child is unable to attend a game, please let us know. Teammates are counting on them but understand when scheduling conflicts or illness arise; communication is important. Games are from 3:00 to 3:30pm. The Grade 5's will be participating in a mini tournament at Spectrum High School gymnasium on the afternoon of Thursday, February 23. A letter will be going home closer to the date of the Jamboree (at Spectrum) with more information. We're impressed at the steadily growing skills and confidence. Come and watch the action!.... Mr. J



*Below is Northridge PAC's new executive voted in at January 18<sup>th</sup>'s meeting:*

### 2017 PAC Executive and Committee Coordinators

<b>Chair</b>	Linsay Kellow
<b>Vice Chair</b>	Jen Majorki
<b>Secretary</b>	Kristina Felt
<b>Co-Treasurers</b>	Melody Olsen and Melanie Heidorn
<b>Education Coordinator</b>	Carol Tickner
<b>VCPAC Representative</b>	Carol Tickner
<b>Parent Partner</b>	Linsay Kellow
<b>Fundraising Coordinators</b>	Cheryl Paton, Nicky Reid, Jen Younge, Kristina Felt, Carol Tickner
<b>Hot Lunch Coordinator</b>	Jen Johnson
<b>Emergency Preparedness Committee</b>	Patrick Fisher
<b>Safe &amp; Active Routes Committee</b>	Linsay Kellow, Carol Tickner

## Country Grocer Save a Tape Program



Thank you to families that have been dropping their Country Grocer receipts in the box in the foyer. Country Grocer donates 3% of the total sales of the receipts collected and with these monies Northridge PAC is able to support student programs and families.

This is a great and easy fundraiser! Please ask your family, friends and neighbours to save their receipts and help support Northridge. Thank you!



## Wednesday, February 22, 2017 is Pink T-Shirt Day!

Please join the Northridge Staff and students on February 22 by wearing pink to support Anti-Bullying. We encourage everyone to openly express that "Kindness is one size fits all". We all have the capacity to spread kindness and that is the underlying philosophy behind our anti-bullying movement: a movement we hope lives year round beyond Pink Shirt Day. After all, kindness never goes out of style.

## Bullying Stops Here

Bullying happens in many different forms. It's doing, saying or acting in a way that hurts someone else or makes him or her feel bad on purpose.



If you are being bullied, try one of the following strategies:	If you are a bystander, instead of ignoring a bullying incident try the following:	If you think you are the Bully, try the following:
Walk away	Tell a teacher (administration)	Talk to a teacher/counsellor
Tell someone you trust	Move toward or next to the victim	Put yourself in their shoes
Take the initiative to get help	Use your voice "stop"	Stop the cycle
Say something complimentary to the bully to distract them	Befriend the victim	Think before you act
Stay in groups to avoid confrontation	Lead victim away from the situation	
Use humour to deflect the situation		
Never let the bully see you sweat		
Practice self affirmation (i.e. I am a nice person)		

## Dates to Remember:

<b>Jan. 23 - 27</b>	<b>Full Day Kindergarten Registration (8:00 a.m. -3:00 p.m.)</b>
Fri. Jan. 27	Hot Lunch Pizza Day. Spirit Day - Dress as your favourite book character.
Mon. Jan. 30	Glanford Band performance - 9am
Tues. Jan. 31	Grade 5 Information Night/Open House - 7 p.m. at Glanford Middle School gym
Fri. Feb. 3	Subway Hot lunch forms go home. Car Free Friday.
<b>Tues. Feb. 7</b>	<b>Ready, Set, Learn Day - 10:30-11:45 a.m.</b> Fruit & Vegetable program - Kiwi fruit delivered
Thurs. Feb. 9	School Assembly at 12:45 p.m. Hot lunch forms due (no late orders).
<b>Fri. Feb. 10</b>	<b>Curriculum Implementation Day - no school for students</b>
<b>Mon. Feb. 13</b>	<b>Family Day Holiday ~ no school</b>
Tues. Feb. 14	Red & White Day
Wed. Feb. 15	PAC meeting at 6:30 p.m.
Fri. Feb. 17	Subway Hot lunch Day. Car Free Friday. Jump Rope for Heart.
Wed. Feb. 22	Pink T-Shirt (Anti-bullying) Day
Thurs. Feb. 23	Grade 5 Basketball students to Spectrum Jamboree (afternoon) Newsletter Day
<b>Fri. Feb. 24</b>	<b>Pro D Day (whole District) ~ no school for students</b>
Fri. March 3	Movie Night
Fri. March 17	Last day of school before Spring break
<b>March 18-Apr 2</b>	<b>Spring Break</b>
Mon. Apr. 3	First day back after Spring break



## February 2017

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
Jan. 23	Jan. 24	Jan. 25	Jan. 26	Jan. 27 Hot Lunch Day
Kindergarten Registration Week				
Jan. 30	Jan. 31	Feb. 1	2	3 Car Free Friday Hot lunch forms go home
6	7 Ready, Set, Learn Day 10:30-11:45 a.m. Kiwi Fruit delivered	8	9 School Assembly 12:45pm Hot Lunch forms due back	10 No school for students - Teacher curriculum implementation day
13 Family Day Holiday	14 Red & White Day	15 PAC meeting 6:30pm	16	17 Car Free Friday Subway Hot Lunch Day Jump Rope for Heart
20	21	22 Pink Shirt Day	23 Basketball Jamboree at Spectrum Newsletter Day	24 Pro D- No school for students
27	28	Mar. 1	2	3 PAC Movie Night

Choir Practice - Tuesdays at 12:10 pm

Grade 4/5 Strings - Wednesday & Fridays 8:00-9:00 am

# 1000X5

## 1000 Books by Age Five Children's Book Recycling Project Greater Victoria



January 27 - Family Literacy Day  
...Donate books to increase early literacy

Do you know that reading books to babies and preschoolers is the most significant indicator of early school success? Cuddling and reading to your little ones shows that you value reading, builds comfort, enjoyment and early skills that last a lifetime.

Help make that true for those still to gain those habits. **January 27 is National Literacy Day.** As well as enjoying a new story with your child, please make an extra effort to drop off gently used picture books for babies and preschoolers in the drop box just outside the Northridge Library. All very young children benefit from being read to – help make that a reality for more. Thank you for being part of the 55,000 books donated over the last three years.



## KINDERGARTEN IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM

Child, Youth and Family Community Health provides immunization clinics throughout the year for Kindergarten aged children. The following are the most common vaccines given to children at this age. Some children may be missing some vaccines and have not completed their childhood immunizations. Public Health Nurses or Family Physicians can ensure that your child is fully immunized against the following vaccine preventable diseases.

Vaccine	Vaccine Schedule
Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis and Polio (given in one shot)	Most children in kindergarten are due for this vaccine.
Varicella (Chickenpox)	Most children in kindergarten are due for a <u>second</u> dose of this vaccine. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>♦ Children who have had chickenpox disease or shingles when they were <u>over</u> one year of age do not need this vaccine.</li><li>♦ Children who had chickenpox disease when they were <u>younger</u> than one year of age OR who have never had chickenpox disease should have already been given 1 dose of this vaccine and now need a second dose.</li></ul>
Hepatitis B	Most children in kindergarten should have already been given 3 doses of this vaccine.
Measles, Mumps and Rubella (given in one shot)	Most children in kindergarten should have already been given 2 doses of this vaccine.
Meningococcal C	Most children in kindergarten should have already been given 1 dose of this vaccine.
Hepatitis A	Aboriginal children can be given 2 doses of this vaccine.

All of these vaccines are provided free of charge by the health unit or your family doctor. To check your child's immunization status or to make an appointment, phone your local health unit. For more information contact:

- ♦ Your local Health Unit
- ♦ HealthLinkBC at 8-1-1 (a free 24 hour service) or [www.healthlinkbc.ca](http://www.healthlinkbc.ca)
- ♦ HealthLink BC Files [/www.healthlinkbc.ca/servicesresources/healthlinkbcfiles/index.html](http://www.healthlinkbc.ca/servicesresources/healthlinkbcfiles/index.html)
- ♦ Your family doctor
- ♦ [www.immunizebc.ca](http://www.immunizebc.ca)

### Health Units:

Esquimalt	250-519-5311	Sooke	250-642-5464
Peninsula	250-544-2400	Victoria	250-388-2200
Saanich	250-519-5100	West Shore	250-519-3490

# Community info:

**REGISTRATION**  
 JANUARY 28<sup>TH</sup>/29<sup>TH</sup> & FEBRUARY 4<sup>TH</sup>/5<sup>TH</sup>  
 LAYRITZ CLUBHOUSE 1-4 PM



HOME OF THE 2020 CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS


Come out and 'play ball' on one of our fun teams!

- Boys ages 3-12
- Girls ages 3-16


Learn athletic skills, and make new friends!  
 Try out for one of our competitive All-Star teams!



FOR IMPORTANT REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS & INFORMATION:  
[www.LAYRITZ.CA](http://www.LAYRITZ.CA)




**REGISTER NOW**



**Victoria Esquimalt Lacrosse Association**  
 Serving Oak Bay, Victoria, Esquimalt,  
 Vic West and View Royal. Register now for the Spring 2016  
 season - all skill levels welcome, great game for kids aged 4-16

[www.velacrosse.com](http://www.velacrosse.com)  
 teamwork . friendship . fitness . commitment



## COME PLAY BALL



Have fun  
 Bring a friend  
 Play from April to July  
 Join a team  
 (Learn to Play - U10)

Currently looking for boys and girls ages  
 5 to 10 years old



**Strawberry Vale Fastball Association**  
 For more information please contact Pam or  
 250-479-8190 or visit our website at  
[www.strawberryvalefastball.com](http://www.strawberryvalefastball.com)



# Northridge Elementary School

## Ongoing PAC Fundraisers



Did you know there are many local businesses that support our school?  
You can help!



### Country Grocer

#### Save a Tape Program



Submit all your Royal Oak Country Grocery receipts to the box outside the office. Northridge will get 3% of the pre-tax value back.



### Canadian Tire Money

We continually collect Canadian Tire Money.

This year the money will be used for our upcoming Spring Fun Fair. Game supplies, sporting equipment, prizes and auction items will be purchased.



### COBS BREAD

Do you shop at the Royal Oak COBS? If so, Mention that you are with Northridge Elementary every time you make a purchase and COBS will donate 5% back.



### Peninsula Co-op

When your family shops for gas or groceries please give the membership number 69206 and Northridge will receive a membership cash payout!



### The Bottle Depot

Take your empty bottles and cans to any of these 3 Bottle Depots and tell them you are donating the empties to Northridge Elementary.

