

N O R T H R I D G E

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

4190 Carey Rd., Victoria, B.C. V8Z 4G8 Telephone: (250) 479-8293

Early Warning: (250) 479-4639 FAX: (250) 479-4639

Early Warning Email: earlywarning54@sd61.bc.ca

Email: northridge@sd61.bc.ca

Website: <https://northridge.sd61.bc.ca>



Nov. 30, 2017

Our Northridge values: Safety, Kindness and Respect

Principal's Message:

Dear Northridge Families,

On December 7th, we will be sending home the first formal report card of your child's school year. This report card is an assessment of your child's learning and progress from September until now. Report cards are based on daily observations, projects and assignments, and various tasks across the curriculum as well as teacher's professional judgement of your child's learning. Please take time to sit with your child and discuss their report card. To encourage a **growth- mindset** in your child, focus on their efforts and overcoming challenges in the learning process rather than an over-emphasis on letters and numbers. The research is very clear; if we want to help our kids become confident, resilient learners we have to teach them to see failure as a natural part of the learning process. Attached is a link to a Youtube video clip by Carol Dweck and her research on "**fixed**" versus "**growth**" mindsets and the impact on learning and achievement.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hiiEeMN7vbQ>

On the Professional Development Day- Friday Nov. 24th, our staff worked with a math mentor, Nikki Lineham, learning about how to teach math to students for conceptual understanding. Nikki spent considerable time discussing the critical nature of developing growth mindsets in students so that they can become powerful math thinkers and problem solvers.



The month of December is always busy, beginning with our PAC movie night on Friday Dec 1st here in the gym. Students are encouraged to wear their PJ's for the evening! As is tradition at Northridge, classes are collecting for Christmas Hampers. Thank you for your generous support of this initiative through The Night of Lights at Hillside Mall as well as donations.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership. I have appreciated getting to know many of you this fall. Don't hesitate to call, pop in or book an appointment if you have questions or concerns.

Warmly,
Nadine

.....Mrs. N. Naughton, Principal

*We are now approaching the season when **inclement weather** may affect the safety and welfare of students. In particular, snowy weather has the potential to cause classes to be postponed or some School District 61 services to be suspended.*

Current information will be updated continuously on the GVSD 61 website at <http://www.sd61.bc.ca/>. Within the Greater Victoria School District, the Superintendent of Schools will provide media outlets with information about the status of our facilities and transportation services by 6:30 a.m. if there is a concern.

Local media outlets have indicated that they will provide constant information.



Northridge Remembrance Day service



On Friday, November 10th, Northridge students wore a poppy, attended a special ceremony, and showed their recognition for those who gave their lives for our freedom.

Also, thank you to Shelby and Marin who collected poppy donations to support serving and retired veterans and their families on behalf of our school.

Christmas Candy Houses - Friday, December 22nd at 12:45pm

Come one; come all to our 11th annual building event. Each child is encouraged to invite one adult to help build a graham wafer 'gingerbread' house (siblings may share). Watch for an information letter that is coming home with your child's report card on December 7th.



Christmas Food Hampers.....

As Christmas approaches, it is time to assemble hampers to send out to families in need. In conjunction with our "Thirteen Divs of Christmas" campaign, we are collecting non-perishable food items and necessities". The drop off area is by the main doors, just outside the Office. Thank you for your Community spirit and generosity! If you know of a Northridge family, or personally could use a "Christmas Hamper", please contact me at the school and I would be honoured to help in any way. Confidentiality is assured!

.....Mrs. N. Naughton



Northridge "Thirteen Divs of Christmas"

Northridge "Thirteen Divs of Christmas" has begun. Each division is responsible for a non-perishable food item/necessity and is building a hamper from the various contributions within their classroom.

Below is a division chart:

| Division | Teacher | Food item/necessity | Ideas |
|----------|------------------------------|------------------------|--|
| 1 | Mr. Johnston | Condiments | Mustard, pickles, relish, mayonaise |
| 2 | Mr. Crawford | Cleaning supplies | Sponges, brushes, laundry detergent, windex, etc. |
| 3 | Mr. Richardson | Canned fruit & veggies | Peaches, beans, corn, fruit cocktail |
| 4 | Mrs. Chessa | Canned sauces | Pasta sauces, tomato sauce |
| 5 | Mr. Gorman | Juices | Orange juice, tea, coffee, hot chocolate |
| 6 | Ms. Escher, Mrs. Saunders | Health items | Soap, toothbrushes, shampoo |
| 7 | Mrs. Hall | Paper products | Tissues, toilet paper, napkins, gift wrap, tags |
| 8 | Mrs. Elliott | Small treats | Candy, chocolate, cookies |
| 9 | Mrs. Lunt | Breakfast items | Peanut butter, cereal, jam, applesauce, oats |
| 10 | Mr. Finlayson | Pasta/Rice | Macaroni, sushi rice, scalloped potatoes, brown rice |
| 11 | Mrs. Sarton, Ms. Houldsworth | Baking items | Sugar, chocolate chips, flour, baking powder |
| 12 | Miss Simmonds | Soups | Canned soup, dry soup, chili, stew |
| 13. | Ms. Sugrue, Mrs. Tebo | Snacks | Granola bars, pudding cups, raisins, crackers |

We are hoping that each student will be able to contribute an item to their division's Christmas hamper.

Please have your child bring in his or her item no later than **Friday, December 15th.**

There will also be a donation box in the front foyer and you can contribute any item that you like.

All contributions will be donated to our Northridge community families. A BIG thank you to families who have already donated items. THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Northridge Raffle - November 29 to December 22nd

In support of the Northridge 13 Divs of Christmas Campaign, we are having a raffle. The items to be raffled are:

1. 6 foot tall Olaf Outdoor Inflatable (from the Movie "Frozen") and Olaf Interactive Wall Character (Lights up and talks!)
2. \$200 in Country Grocer gift cards
3. Elf on the Shelf A Christmas Tradition storybook and Scout Elf
4. Comfort Basket – Cuddle up with a beautiful handmade Christmas quilt while using your new Amope Manicure Set and tea set!

Tickets are 1 for \$2, or 3 for \$5. You choose which prize you would like to win. Each prize will have its own draw barrel located at the front of the school. Tickets are available in the Office. The draw will take place at 1:30pm on Friday, December 22nd.



Northridge PAC Movie Night – Friday, December 1st 6:00-8:00pm

The Northridge PAC is hosting a movie night on Friday, December 1st at 6:00pm. The feature film is "Nut Job 2". Doors open at 5:50pm and the movie starts at 6:00pm. It's going to be fun! Bring your blankets and wear your jammies and come snuggle and enjoy. We will be selling popcorn, water, oranges and cookies. Entry is by donation. Hope to see everyone there!! All children must be supervised by an adult.

How to Help Your Children Stay on Santa's Nice List

Children really do want to be nice, especially at Christmas. But as holiday expectations build, parents may find their children's behavior wandering more frequently into Santa's naughty column. In trying to encourage good behavior during the holidays, parents may put too much pressure on young children and unwittingly provoke the very behaviors they hoped to prevent.

To keep the season jolly and avoid holiday meltdowns, use the following tips from parenting expert Susan Newman, author of *Little Things Long Remembered: Making Your Children Feel Special Every Day*, to help your children stay on Santa's nice list. (Keep these tips handy; you'll find them equally effective in encouraging good behavior during birthdays and vacations.) Keep behavior expectations clear and specific. You might ask children to follow directions, pick up toys or help with chores. Promote success by keeping tasks short and within your child's abilities.

- Don't ask more of your children than they can deliver. Keep holiday activities kid-friendly. Hire a sitter if you plan to spend an adult evening with friends.
- Don't use Santa as a threat. When discussing behavior, keep the focus positive. "Santa is going to be happy you put your toys away" sends a more positive message than the threat "Santa's watching you." Reminding children to be respectful to adults and kind to their siblings teaches them to think about the feelings of others. Offer examples of desired behavior to help your child understand these concepts.
- Keep the "gimmies" under control by focusing on the spirit of the season, not the loot under the tree. In many families, Santa brings a single gift and the number of gifts from parents is limited. Including your child in choosing gifts for giving trees, collecting for food pantries and other charitable activities can help your child focus more on giving, not getting.

TEN WAYS to help with parenting:

| | | | |
|---|---|----|--|
| 1 | Show your child love and warmth as much as possible – the more they get used to this, the more they want to keep it that way. | 6 | Criticise behaviours you don't like, not your child; use mild disapproval and reprimands when a rule is broken. |
| 2 | Have clear, simple rules and limits. Be consistent in expecting them to be met. | 7 | Give rewards for good behaviour, like lots of hugs and kisses. |
| 3 | Demonstrate by your own example, giving reasons, talking and listening to teach your child how to behave. | 8 | Distract younger children instead of nagging or punishing and use humour to lighten up difficult situations. |
| 4 | Praise good behaviour. Give your children attention when they are being good and it will increase. | 9 | Allow children some control – making choices and encouraging joint decisions. |
| 5 | Ignore behaviour you don't want repeated as much as possible. | 10 | If punishments are necessary, let your child experience natural consequences. Imposing a consequence like a removal of privileges or, as a last resort, a "time out" works |



Basketball Season Has Begun! - Mr. Johnston & Mr. Richardson

Many Grade 4 and 5 students are taking part in the basketball program. Mr. Johnston and Mr. Richardson and are thrilled by the interest and enthusiasm. Group A meets on Mondays from 2:50 to 3:30 pm until December 11th. Group B meets on Thursdays until December 14th. Group A & B lists are posted just outside the gym entrance. After Christmas break, teams will be formed, games will begin and players will apply their skills to game situations.... And most importantly, it'll be fun!



Drop Off Zone & Parking - Mrs. Naughton



Please **DO NOT** leave your car parked in our school parking lot drop off zone.

Last week, we almost had one of our students hit due to drivers not respecting the DO NOT PARK signage. We will be working together to monitor this area on a regular basis. It is an ongoing safety concern at our school.

If you are aware of drivers that consistently leave their vehicles in this zone, would you please let me know. Thank you for your attention to this very important matter,



Patrols and Weather

This is the time of year when wind and rain and dark make it difficult for our patrollers to be at their best. The lack of visibility for drivers also makes these winter months the most important for them to be on time, prepared and focused. Please help your grade five student take on this important responsibility by: checking planners and marking dates on your family calendar. We appreciate your help in this regard. Thank you to all grade 5's for helping our community be safe.



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) or leggings 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!

DATES TO NOTE

| | |
|----------------|---|
| Fri. Dec. 1 | Car Free Friday. Northridge PAC Movie Night "Nut Job 2" 6-8pm. Subway Hot lunch forms go home |
| Until Dec. 15 | Last Day for collecting hamper items for our "13 Dirs of Christmas" project |
| Tues. Dec. 5 | Fruit & Vegetable Program - Mandarin oranges delivered |
| Thurs. Dec. 7 | Report Cards & Gingerbread Candy House invitations go home. Hot lunch forms due. |
| Fri. Dec. 8 | Car Free Friday. School Assembly 12:45pm |
| Tues. Dec. 12 | Northridge PAC Purdy's fundraiser - Purdy's orders go home with students |
| Fri. Dec. 15 | Car Free Friday. Subway Hot lunch day |
| Thurs. Dec. 21 | Newsletter day |
| Fri. Dec. 22 | Gingerbread Candy Houses (12:45 - 2:30pm)/Last day before Winter Vacation. |
| Mon. Jan. 8 | First day back from Winter Vacation |
| Jan29-Feb2 | Kindergarten registration week |

❄️ DECEMBER CALENDAR ❄️

Every Friday is Car Free Friday - bike, walk, or scooter to school

| Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri |
|---|---|--|---|--|
| Northridge "13 Divs of Christmas" project continues | | | | Dec. 1 Subway Hot Lunch forms go home PAC Movie Night 6-8pm |
| 4 Northridge "13 Divs of Christmas" project continues Basketball Group A after school | 5 Fruit & Vegetable program - Mandarin oranges delivered | 6 | 7 Report Cards Candy House invitations go home Hot lunch forms due Basketball Group B after school | 8 Assembly 12:45pm  |
| 11 Basketball Group A after school | 12 Northridge PAC Purdy's fundraiser go home with students | 13 | 14 Basketball Group B after school | 15 Subway Hot Lunch Day Last day for Christmas hamper items |
| 18  | 19 | 20  | 21 Newsletter day | 22 Last day before Winter Break Gingerbread candy houses (pm). |
| 25  | 26  | 27 | 28 | 29  |
| Winter Break | | | | |
| Jan. 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Winter Break | | | | |
| 8 School Reopens | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |

Grade 4/5 Beginner Strings - Wednesday and Friday mornings 7:55-8:35. Intermediate Strings - Thursdays 7:55-8:45am

Lunch break activities

With rainy days ahead of us, we are having lunch break activities for students.

Tuesdays - Hip Hop - alternating weeks - Grade 4/5s week of October 23 (week 1) and Grade 1-3 week of October 30 (week 2)

Wednesdays - Gr 4/5 YCI (Student Leadership)

Thursdays - Chess (all grades) and Choir (Grades 3-5)

Kindergarten Registration (2018-19)

January 29 to February 2, 2018

Registration for students who will turn five before December 31, 2018 will take place from January 29 to February 2 at all School District #61 schools. Parents are asked to register their child at the catchment school during this week. To determine your catchment, either go to the school locator on the district website at www.sd61.bc.ca/schoolLocator.aspx or call the district board office at 250-475-3212. To request an out-of-catchment school within the District, register at your catchment school and complete a Kindergarten Transfer Application form.

Please see below the new School District guidelines for registering.

GVSD #61 Media Release - Monday, November 20, 2017

New student enrolment priorities and proof of residency requirements in effect for 2018-2019 school year

VICTORIA, BC - With the annual registration and transfer request process set to begin in January, schools are preparing for changes to student enrolment priorities and proof of residency requirements. After extensive consultation, new student enrolment priorities were approved in June 2017, to come into effect for the 2018-2019 school year. New proof of residency requirements are also being introduced.

The new priorities place greater emphasis on catchment students attending their neighbourhood school, while including priority for siblings attending a school together.

New student enrolment priorities now in effect for the 2018/2019 school year:

1. re-enrolling students
2. a catchment area sibling
3. a catchment area child
4. a non-catchment sibling
5. a non-catchment child
6. a non-school district child

The new enrolment priorities apply to new registrations, transfer requests and student transitions between elementary and middle, and middle and secondary school for English and French programs. The proposed changes differ from the previous priorities in that non-catchment siblings will no longer have priority over new catchment students, and out-of-catchment students transitioning out of elementary and middle school will no longer follow a school pathway giving them priority over catchment students.

In the new year, letters will be sent home from schools to parents of all grade five and eight students. Non-catchment Grade 5s and Grade 8s will have to apply for a transfer during the K-12 Student Transfer Process if they wish to continue on a catchment school pathway that does not align with their current home address.

Every home address in the Greater Victoria School District is connected to a catchment school. New students register at their catchment school and current students wishing to transfer to a different school must apply at their current school. In addition to proof of school age eligibility and citizenship, new requirements are in place for proof of residential address.

New proof of residency requirements

Home Owners must provide two of the following:

- Purchase agreement of home
- Recent property tax statement
- Home owner's insurance
- Notice of Assessment
- A purchase agreement (with subject removal and a deposit receipt if a recent purchase)

If a homeowner is able to only produce one of the above, they will be required to also produce two of the following:

- Canadian bank or credit card statement
- BC Vehicle registration
- Income tax statement
- Insurance documents

Renters must provide:

- A rental agreement signed by landlord with landlords contact phone number

In addition to the above, two of the following are required:

- Canadian bank or credit card statement
- BC Vehicle registration
- Income tax statement
- Renter Insurance documents

**Please note, personal information other than address and full name can be redacted for privacy purposes.*

Important Upcoming Dates in 2018:

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| January 8 - 12 | Registration for schools of choice (South Park Elementary and Cloverdale Traditional) |
| January 15 - 19 | Early French Immersion (Kindergarten and Grade One) Registration Week |
| January 29 - February 2 | Kindergarten Registration and Kindergarten Transfer Week Late French Immersion (Grade Six) Registration Week |
| February 15 - 23 | Kindergarten to Grade 12 Transfer Process Registration open for new Grade One-Grade 12 students for 2018-2019 school year |
| February 23 by 3 p.m. | Deadline to submit transfer requests. Must be submitted to catchment school |
| March 31 | Deadline to inform parents of all transfer decisions |

Parent Information Nights:

For new registrants to the District, Parent Information nights will occur at S.J. Willis, 923 Topaz Avenue.

| | |
|--|---|
| November 28, 2017 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. | Early French Immersion (Kindergarten and Grade One) Information night |
| January 17, 2018 6 p.m. -8:30 p.m. | Welcome to Kindergarten Information night |
| January 24, 2018 6 p.m.- 8:30 p.m. | Late French Immersion (Grade Six) Information night |

Each middle school and high school will also host an information/transition night in the new year. Visit school websites for dates.

For more information about student registration and transfer process, please visit: <https://www.sd61.bc.ca/parent-student-resources/registration/>

For media inquiries, please contact:

Lisa McPhail
Communications & Community Engagement
Greater Victoria School District #61
Office: 250.475.4103
Cell: 778.679.5049

**PREVENTING COLDS AND INFLUENZA (FLU)**

Cold and influenza season is here. As the weather gets cooler and we move indoors, so do germs. Children need reminders to decrease the risk of colds and flu in your house by:

- Washing hands often
- Coughing and sneezing into their elbow
- Not sharing facecloths or towels
- Keeping hands away from nose and mouth
- Not sharing food or drink with others

To help limit the spread of germs, please keep your child at home if he or she is feverish, coughing a lot, has a thick yellow or green discharge from the nose, or is otherwise obviously unwell.

Viruses cause colds and influenza. The most effective treatment for a cold is rest and fluids. The influenza vaccine will protect against specific types of influenza. Antibiotics will not make a cold or other virus go away faster. However, more serious infections can start out as a cold. Call your doctor if your child has an earache, fever higher than 39° C (102° F), rash, is very sleepy, very cranky or fussy, has trouble breathing or a cough that will not go away.

Handwashing is the most effective way to stop the spread of germs that cause colds, influenza, diarrhea, and other illnesses. To wash hands properly:

- **Wet** hands under warm running water
- **Scrub** with plain soap for a count of **20**, all over hands and between fingers
- **Rinse** under running water for a count of **10**
- **Dry** hands with a clean paper towel
- **Turn** off taps with a paper towel

Remember to wash hands:

- Before and after eating or handling food
- After using the toilet, handling pets, coughing, sneezing, or wiping noses

For more information contact:

- Your local Health Unit
- HealthLinkBC at 8-1-1 (a free call) or www.healthlinkbc.ca
- Your doctor

Health Units:

| | | | | | |
|--------------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|------------|--------------|
| Esquimalt | 250-519-5311 | Salt Spring Island | 250-538-4880 | Saanich | 250-519-5100 |
| Outer Gulf Islands | 250-539-3099 | Sooke | 250-642-5464 | West Shore | 250-519-349 |
| Peninsula | 250-544-2400 | Victoria | 250-388-2200 | | |