

# NORQUAY SCHOOL NEWS



## Dear Norquay Families,

Welcome back everyone! We hope that all of you have returned having enjoyed a wonderful Spring Break with family and friends. March has come and gone with many signs of Spring finally emerging and the anticipation of a new term as our second one ends. The fast pace of this school year is indicative of the numerous activities and curricular programs occurring at our school. We continue to watch the many levels of learning and growth among our students in the areas of leadership, sports, fine arts, and academics.

In our third and final term of this year we look forward to reviewing our school year for 2016-2017, celebrating accomplishments and moving forward with adjusting and refocusing our work to continue to address the needs of our learners for 2017-2018. With the new curriculum and redesigned school planning framework for enhancing student learning, our conversations are well underway. Before you know it, all of those end-of-year activities and events will be taking place. Please check out our school website: [www.norquay.vsb.bc.ca](http://www.norquay.vsb.bc.ca), blogs or watch for newsletters emailed home the beginning of each month to keep up with events in the school!

Margaret Jorgensen & Sharon Vieira

## School Hours

8:55	Warning bell
9:00	Instruction begins
10:30-10:50	Recess
12:10-12:55	Lunch
1:00	Instruction begins
3:00	Dismissal

## Director of Instruction-Field Services:

Ms. Magdalena Kassis

Liaison Trustee: Ms. Diane Turner

Principal: Ms. Margaret Jorgensen

Vice Principal: Ms. Sharon Vieira

## Dear Students, Parents, and Guardians,

*Those of you who were at Norquay when I arrived in 2014, may remember I announced then that this would very likely be my last school. Three years later, in addition to an ever-deepening appreciation of this community and a true love for my role in it, I realize the time has come to pursue new goals in life.*



*It is therefore, with mixed emotions, that I inform you that I will be leaving my position of principal at Norquay Elementary at the end of June. Anticipating the likelihood of my resignation for some months, the Senior Management Team of the Vancouver School Board will have ample time to consider our school's needs before finalizing decisions on my replacement.*

*My years at Norquay have been filled with joy, learning and kindness. I have been blessed with working with dedicated, professional and enthusiastic staff. The parents of our community have always been supportive and engaged in our school and I have appreciated all the time and effort they take for advocating for children and learning. Your children are why I have loved coming to work every day. I have been so lucky to have been at Norquay for even this short time. I feel that the Norquay community is a special place where everyone works together to create a kind, caring and inclusive community. Thank you all for making my role as principal so fulfilling and rewarding.*

**Margaret Jorgensen**

## PJ's FOR A PURPOSE:

Our We Day Student Committee have been working to raise awareness and support of Team Finn which is a volunteer based organization dedicated to raising childhood cancer awareness and to raising funds for cutting edge paediatric cancer research. Team Finn is named after and celebrates the life of Finn Sullivan. Our We Day Team are encouraging all staff and students to take part in PJ's for a Purpose Day which:

- Is *Fun*, because kids love wearing their pajamas.
- Is *Educational*, because it is an effective way to educate kids about the amount of time that children with cancer must spend in their pajamas while receiving treatment.
- Is *Finnspirational* because it inspires kids to smile and celebrate life while helping other kids.

To participate, students and staff wear pajamas to school and make a minimum donation of \$1 to the Team Finn Foundation.



## SPRING CONCERT: CELEBRATING CANADA 150:

Classes are preparing for our upcoming Spring concert to be held on **Thursday, April 13<sup>th</sup>** during the school day. Students will be sharing their voices celebrating Canada's 150<sup>th</sup>. We will be holding 2 concerts and invite parents to join us. Both performances will be the same. The first concert time will be at 11:00am and the second will be held at 1:00pm. Please be reminded that space is limited so we ask that families **attend only one performance.**

## WINDERMERE AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS:

"Windermere Community Programs" (WCP) are after school programs aimed to provide children the opportunity to participate in a variety of recreational and/or academic programs while also supporting secondary school students in the development of their leadership skills. Please see their new website for information about programs:

<http://www.windermerecst.com/john-norquay-elementary>

Registration for the upcoming Spring sessions will be on Tuesday, April 6<sup>th</sup> after school at 4:00pm. Spring Programs will begin on April 18<sup>th</sup>.

**PARENT CORNER AND PAC EVENTS** - Please join us for the events listed below:

PAC Pizza Lunch	April 7 <sup>th</sup>
PAC meeting/All Parents	April 18 <sup>th</sup> 6:00pm Library
PAC Subway Lunch	April 21 <sup>st</sup>
Parent Coffee & Chat	April 28 <sup>th</sup> 9:00am – library

Support from our PAC members and parent community is hugely appreciated. Through funds collected from our 2016 Direct Drive, we have been able to purchase a bank computers for our library as well as iPads and mobile carts to support teaching and learning in our classrooms. A huge thank you goes out to the amazing work our PAC does and the support that each and every parent provides to make Norquay a rich learning environment for all. We look forward to enhancing our much needed resources with this year's Direct Drive efforts.

For more PAC info: <http://norquaypac.ca>

**ON YOUR WAY TO KINDERGARTEN EVENTS:** We are looking forward to meeting with our new Kindergarten children and families. Invitations have been sent out for the following upcoming events:

- **April 12<sup>th</sup> - Ready Set Learn:** Ready, Set, Learn Programs take place in every elementary school in Vancouver and are open to families and caregivers with children who are 3 and 4 year olds. **Our will be held on April 12<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 – 12:00 in our library.** This is a positive first experience for children who are on their way to Kindergarten in September of 2017. Please take time for you and your child to join this fun event!
- **May 24<sup>th</sup> – Welcome to Kindergarten: 1:00 – 2:30 in our library.** This program is for families/caregivers with four and five year old children who will be entering Kindergarten in the current year. The program provides experiences and resources to help children begin their formal education with a foundation in early learning that can be nurtured at home prior to entering Kindergarten in September. *Children will go home with a resource bag that includes pencils, crayons, scissors, glue, magnetic numbers/ letters, playdough and three beautiful books. Teachers will work with families to show them how to make the best use of the resources. As well, children and their families have the opportunity to meet school staff, parents and community partners and be welcomed to the school.*

**2017 – 2018 DISTRICT CALENDAR:** The 2017-2018 School calendar has been approved by the VSB with the amended winter break.

Please see link: <http://www.vsb.bc.ca/sites/default/files/VSBSchoolCalendar2017-2018d.pdf>

**HEAD LICE:**

Before the break, we discovered that many students have been exposed to head lice in their classroom (or day care program). Below you will find information about checking your child for head lice as well as treatment information if your child does have a head lice infestation. Do not treat your child for head lice or the environment unless you see nits (eggs) or head lice.

What to look for:

- Adult lice are small (about the size of a sesame seed).
- Eggs (nits) are usually found firmly attached to the base of the hair shaft.
- Lice stay near the scalp, often behind the ears, near the neckline, and back of the head.
- Head lice hold tightly to the hair. They move by crawling. They cannot hop or fly (they do not have wings), but do move quickly making it difficult to find in a child's hair.
- Signs of a head lice infestation include: itchy scalp, tickling sensation in a person's hair. Head lice are most active in the dark.

If your child is found to have head lice, it is important to treat your child before he/she returns to school, or childcare program.

Upcoming Dates	
Friday, April 7 <sup>th</sup>	PAC Pizza Lunch
	Tap Co Performance
	PJ's for a Purpose Day – student fundraiser
Monday, April 10 <sup>th</sup>	BCFVNP – Cabernet Tomatoes
Wed. April 12 <sup>th</sup>	Ready Set Learn – 11:00 – 12:00
Thursday, April 13 <sup>th</sup>	Canada 150 Concerts 11:00am & 1:00pm
Friday, April 14 <sup>th</sup>	Good Friday – no school for students
Monday, April 17 <sup>th</sup>	Easter Monday– no school for students
Tuesday, April 18 <sup>th</sup>	All Parents meeting - PAC – 6:00pm
Friday, April 21 <sup>st</sup>	PAC Subway Lunch
Monday, April 24 <sup>th</sup>	Kindergarten classes to SFU
Wednesday, April 26 <sup>th</sup>	Afternoon of Dance at Gladstone
Thursday, April 27 <sup>th</sup>	School Assembly
Friday, April 28 <sup>th</sup>	Coffee & Chat – 9:00am
Monday, May 1 <sup>st</sup>	BCFVNP – Mini peppers
Tuesday, May 2 <sup>nd</sup>	K & 6 Immunization Clinics
Wednesday, May 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Goh Ballet
Thursday, May 4 <sup>th</sup>	Class Photos
	Big One at 2:00 Earthquake Preparedness
Friday, May 5 <sup>th</sup>	Curriculum Implementation Day – no school for students

Make a Difference in Our Neighborhood.  
Become a VACFSS Foster Parent Today!  
604-216-7447 or  
[foster@vacfss.com](mailto:foster@vacfss.com)



“Let us acknowledge that we proudly live and work on the traditional lands of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Coast Salish People” - VSB