

# NORQUAY SCHOOL NEWS



Dear Norquay Community,

May continues to be a month of learning, celebration and planning for the school year. The staff has been engaged in conversations about our school planning goals, our practice and how we work and learn together. As parents are aware, B.C.'s curriculum has been redesigned to respond to the demanding world our students are entering. At the heart of British Columbia's redesigned curriculum are core competencies, essential learning and literacy and numeracy foundations. Transformation in curriculum is helping teachers create learning environments that are both engaging and personalized for students. These changes also invite a closer look at the current learning resources we have to support our practice in classrooms and what our needs are today and into the future to support learning. More information about the revised curriculum can be found at: <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca>

Margaret Jorgensen & Sharon Vieira

<u>School Hours</u>	
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



**Thursday May 4 - Annual BigOne @ 2:00 Earthquake Drill.**

This year we invite interested parents/guardians to come to the school at 2:30PM to participate in a mock student-parent Emergency Reunification. Those who agree to participate will; Arrive at 2:30PM and participate until 3:00PM on May 4th, Bring a piece of picture identification with you, Expect some chaos...we will try our best but your patience is appreciated. And if you drive, please do not block the roadway.

The drill will end at ~3:00PM and our regular dismissal will proceed after that.

*The VSB uses the same Reunification process as most other school districts. It involves parents reporting to a Check-In desk, showing personal identification (ID), and our staff confirming the person picking-up a student is listed with the school as an Emergency Contact of the student. It does take some time, but bringing ID, having updated Emergency Contacts listed with the school, and being patient and polite make it go much faster.*

*We expect this to be a chaotic high energy learning experience...and it will be far from perfect, but it will allow us to learn and improve together! Thank you for your Support*



**BOOK EXCHANGE 2017**

The 25th Annual Book Exchange will be held on Thursday, June 1st and Friday, June 2nd. Children may bring in their gently used children's books beginning Monday, May 15th. For each book brought in, your child will receive a ticket which can be used to get a new book on Thursday, June 1st. On Friday, June 2nd, the remaining books will be available for purchase. Picture books will be 25 cents and chapter books will be 50 cents.

**HOW CAN PARENTS HELP?**

1. Please help make sure that the books being brought to school are in good condition, (i.e. no rips or scribbles inside) and that they are appropriate for children.
2. Volunteers are needed to help set up on Wednesday, May 31st in the morning. Also, we will need help during the daytime on both days of the Book Exchange. Please look for the sign-up sheet on May 15th in the lunchroom.

Thank you from Jodie Affleck & Sharon Trogrlich on behalf of the Book Exchange Committee.



**SPORTS DAY – MAY 19<sup>TH</sup> IMPORTANT INFORMATION - 3pm Dismissal**

- Students on the Hot Lunch Program will receive lunch as usual on Sports Day
- Students not on the hot lunch program can order pizza lunch (notice sent home separately on May 1<sup>st</sup>)

Please have your child:

- Bring a water bottle to stay hydrated throughout the day
- Wear sunscreen and a hat
- Wear runners to participate in the day's activities



**SUMMER PROGRAMS 2017**

Summer program information is now available for families. Registration begins on May 5<sup>th</sup>.

<https://summer.vsb.bc.ca/Pages/default.aspx>

## NEWS FROM OUR LIBRARY:

'If you have a Garden and a Library, you have everything you need' -Cicero.

This certainly rings true...and at Norquay we are privileged to have both a Garden and a Library! Learning activities all around our school and in our Library have been as varied as our Spring weather!

We have connected with **hundreds of book titles** and authors both old and new; we **made sushi** and we **made bread**; we explored the new Applied Skills Design and Technology curriculum both with **High-tech (Coding) and Low-tech (Making) activities**; we **explored countries and civilizations** like we were visiting in-person; and we talked about the importance of **good inquiry and research** and to become familiar with our sources. And just today, Division 13 delivered **Picture Books written by students**.

Finally, we will be having a **'Missing Book Treasure Hunt'** (missing, lost, found, overdue, and forgotten books) in May for all teachers and students to make way for some changes to our Library computer system. Details to come.

**Happy Spring and see you soon!**

**Mr. Warkentin**

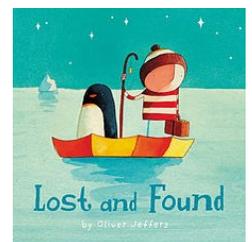


## WELCOME TO KINDERGARTEN

Our annual Welcome to Kindergarten Event will be held on Wednesday, May 24<sup>th</sup>. This family session is for all of our incoming Kindergarten students. Thank you to our Kindergarten teams who are planning for this event to welcome our newest Norquay students to school. If your child is entering Kindergarten and you are unable to attend this event, please contact the school for more information.

## LOST AND FOUND

Please check out the lost and found located in the lunchroom. There is an abundance of jackets, tops, and miscellaneous items waiting to be picked up. Please do so in the next few weeks. All unclaimed items will be donated to charity by June 1<sup>st</sup>.



## HEALTH & WELLNESS 2017

Our annual Health and Wellness Conference is happening this year on Wednesday, June 14<sup>th</sup>. We have some great presenters signed up!

Here are some of our sessions booked already for this year; Tae kwon Do, Blingja, What It's Like to Have a Visual Impairment, Maker's Workshop, Yoga, Bike Safety, Gymnastics, Sushi Making, Ultimate Frisbee, Golf, and Art Therapy.

We are looking for a few more presenters to fill the conference so if you or anyone you know someone who is keen to volunteer and share their expertise in the area of social, emotional or physical health, please have them get in touch via email with Ms. Adams - [gadams@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:gadams@vsb.bc.ca). Thank you!

## CLASS PLACEMENT 2017

Norquay staff will soon be working to organize classes for September 2017. The teachers at our school take considerable care in determining the placement of students in classes for the new year. There are many factors that are important considerations in this process. It is hoped that the following notes will help parents/guardians understand how student placement is determined.

In deciding the placement of students in classes, staff members consider student groupings which balance academic and social needs. Student learning styles and relationships are also part of the process. Parent / guardian input can also be very helpful to our process. Our objective is to create classes which best meet the needs of our students.

Please note that if parents wish to write a letter to share information about your child's class placement, it should be to share information about your child's ideal learning environment in regard to social, emotional or academic needs. The selection of next year's teacher will be made thoughtfully by staff and information shared by parents will be taken into consideration.

**Should you wish to provide the school with extra information, please send a letter/email by May 31st, 2017.** If you wish to speak with someone about your child's placement, please call the office to make an appointment to speak with Ms. Jorgensen or Ms. Vieira. Thank you.

A big thank you to our PAC whose hard work and support is to be celebrated and appreciated throughout the school year. The garden and technology pictures below are only a small snapshot of the work, partnership and support that benefits our learners.

Our wonderful outdoor garden classroom continues to grow and is in fact, the largest and most supported outdoor classroom in the District. Many, if not most of our classes are stewards of our school garden as they learn in our extraordinary outdoor classroom. We can't express enough appreciation to the staff and parents who have built the garden classroom for our learning community!

Last year's Direct Drive funds have been used to purchase new library computers and an additional 10 iPad minis for our students. We continue to be purchasing more mobile teaching carts and continuing to add to the student iPad collection with this year's direct drive efforts. THANK YOU! Our PAC works hard to not only raise funds to support learning at Norquay, but they also endeavour to provide opportunities for parent education and partnership. We appreciate all that you do.

### **NEXT PAC MEETING & AGM**

Our next PAC meeting and Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 16th at 6:00pm in the school library. This meeting is a very important meeting as the PAC Executive is selected for the 2017/2018 school year. *Free child minding is provided.*

Our PAC meetings are **'all parents'** meetings as when you have a child attending the school, parents and guardians are automatically a member of PAC. These meetings are always a great way to stay current on PAC and school business and to meet other parents. Please make the time to join us! Check out the PAC website for more detailed information.

[www.norquaypac.ca](http://www.norquaypac.ca)

### **WHAT'S GOING ON AT NORQUAY IN MAY & JUNE**

Monday, May 1 <sup>st</sup>	BCFVNP – Mini peppers
Tuesday, May 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Kindergarten and Gr. 6 Immunizations
Wednesday, May 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Goh Ballet performance @ 1:30
Thursday, May 4 <sup>th</sup>	Class and team photos
	Big One @ 2:00 – Emergency Preparedness
Friday, May 5 <sup>th</sup>	Curriculum Implementation Day – no school for students
Tuesday, May 9 <sup>th</sup>	Election Day – polling station at Norquay
Wednesday, May 10 – 12	Grade 7 classes to Camp Evans Lake
Monday, May 15 <sup>th</sup>	BCFVNP – Mini cucumbers
Tuesday, May 16 <sup>th</sup>	All Parents meeting (PAC & AGM) – 6:00pm
Thursday, May 18 <sup>th</sup>	Andy the Musical Scientist – performance – 9:00am
Friday, May 19 <sup>th</sup>	Sports Day
Monday, May 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Victoria Day – schools closed
Wednesday, May 24 <sup>th</sup>	Welcome to Kindergarten 1:15 – 3:00
Thursday, May 25 <sup>th</sup>	Mobile Dairy Classroom at Norquay
Friday, May 26 <sup>th</sup>	PAC Munch a Lunch Day – Sushi
Monday, May 29 <sup>th</sup>	Monthly Assembly
Monday, May 29 <sup>th</sup> – June 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Bike to School Week
Thursday, June 1 <sup>st</sup> & June 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Norquay Annual Book Exchange
Friday, June 2 <sup>nd</sup>	PAC Munch a Lunch Day – Pizza
Monday, June 5 <sup>th</sup>	BCFVNP – Grape tomatoes
Wednesday, June 7 <sup>th</sup>	Parent and volunteer appreciation
Thursday, June 8 <sup>th</sup>	Harvest Festival
Friday, June 9 <sup>th</sup>	PAC Munch a Lunch Day – Hot Dogs
Tuesday, June 13 <sup>th</sup>	All Parents Meeting – (PAC) – 6:00pm
Wednesday, June 14 <sup>th</sup>	Health & Wellness conference
Thursday, June 15 <sup>th</sup>	Student volunteer appreciation BBQ
Monday, June 26 <sup>th</sup>	Year End Assembly
Tuesday, June 27 <sup>th</sup>	Grade 7 Leaving Event
Thursday, June 29 <sup>th</sup>	Last Day for students
Friday, June 30 <sup>th</sup>	Administrative Day

### **Garden & Technology Photos**



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