



# NORQUAY SCHOOL NEWS

Dear Norquay Community:



I am often asked how am I enjoying Norquay and I can honestly say that I have loved my first two months at Norquay. Though we have faced some staffing challenges for a variety of reasons this year I find both the staff and school community very understanding and supportive as we work our way through the restored class size and composition numbers.

The bureaucratic end aside one of the many positive cultural aspects I have noticed about the Norquay school is that it is truly a community. There are so many positive community building events (Halloween Fling; Gardening; Parking Patrol...) in the school and these are all hosted by different school community members. A true mark of a positive school community.

Just one example of this positive community is that I have noticed the playground in full use at the end of the day. So often at schools, the bell rings and parents grab their children and the playgrounds empty. At Norquay I regularly see 30-40 students and their families playing on the playground. What a great way to connect and get to know the other families in the school and allow students that wonderful opportunity of 'free play' that they so often miss out on today. Not only are families aware of their own children but adults have even pointed out to me children that may have been left unattended or seemed to be upset. Again the mark of a caring and concerned School Community and one that I am very fortunate and pleased to work within. Well done Norquay!

Just a reminder that we have our next PAC meeting on Wednesday November 22 at 6:00 in the Library. Childcare will be provided. So please come out and see how you can support the Norquay School Community.

Thanks Tim Krug (Principal)

## 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

## School Code of Conduct

Be Kind, Be Safe, and Be the Best Learner and Leader You Can Be (No matter your age)

Director of Instruction-Field Services:

Mr. Aaron Davis

Liaison Trustee: TBD

Principal: Mr. Tim Krug

Vice Principal: Ms. Sharon Vieira

## Grade 7 Parents

The Vancouver School Board Grade 8 Brochure 2018 was sent home earlier this month. This pamphlet is a guide to programs in Vancouver district available for grade 7 students to apply for on entry to grade 8. For many of the programs a District Cognitive Skills Test is required and students must **register for this test by Thursday November 9th.**

The **Test date is Tuesday November 21 at 1:00** and students will be informed where they will write the test.

More information is at:

[www.vsb.bc.ca/programs/mini-school-registration](http://www.vsb.bc.ca/programs/mini-school-registration)

## From the Library Shelf

We have had a **super start** to our year at Norquay and in the **Norquay Library**. We have **over 100 Library Monitors** who are ready and eager to keep our space organized and to help teachers and students find resources. We have had classes in to research and plan and build their **'Genius Hour' projects** as well as classes that are exploring great designs and plans for their **'Stick' project**. And, of course, this week we were **Reading-In-The-Dark** in the Library with a few forest animals. A reminder to students and parents that we are **open before and after school** for quiet reading and borrowing books. See you soon!

## Norquay Athletics

**Cross Country:** With wind, rain and lightning in the forecast the District Meet was cancelled on Oct. 19th but all was not lost as it was rescheduled on Tuesday Oct. 24th. A sunny day met the runners at Trout Lake and they all had the opportunity to wrap up the year with a great run. Thanks to Ms. Paris . Ms. Godfrey, Mr. Loong and Ms. Young and all the parents and staff that drove and supported the students at the meets.

**Volleyball:** The gym is now a busy place with Volleyball games or practices every day. The Jr. Girls play games on Tuesdays; Sr. Boys games are on Wednesdays and Sr. Girls games are on Thursdays. Good Luck!

## SOS - Support Our Students as our Cupboard is Bare

**Purpose:** to support vulnerable students and families so that learning can be the student's focus with a full belly, clean clothes, proper hygiene and dignity and respect. Our SOS room is stocked through the generosity of donors throughout our community and beyond. Any and all donations are appreciated and can be dropped off at the office: All items will help! Thank you!

**Items needed:** toilet paper, non-perishables such as canned soups, crackers, peanut butter, laundry soap, bar soap, toothbrushes, shampoo.

**Gift cards:** Superstore, London Drugs, Safeway, WalMart...

Please see Mr. Krug or Ms. Vieira for drop off of supplies or for more information.

## Mission Statement

John Norquay Elementary School will support ALL students to continue being lifelong learners and invaluable citizens in a learning environment that is supported by ALL staff, parents, guardians, and members of our community.

**Kindergarten Registration - What do Parents Need to Know?**

Kindergarten registration gets going district wide **between November 1 and January 31 for children (2013 birth year) that will begin school the following September.** The Vancouver School Board is proud to offer excellent instruction at all of our schools including a wide range of educational options for all different types of learners. Registration at your English catchment school is required even if you plan to register your child in a Choice program.

**So how do I register?**

The first step **starting November 1, 2017,** is to register at your English catchment school - **regardless of whether you plan to send your child there.** Information is at: <http://www.vsb.bc.ca/kindergarten>

You can discover where your English catchment school is by going to [www.vsb.bc.ca/school-locator](http://www.vsb.bc.ca/school-locator).

**What if I want to apply for a choice program?**

The district offers a variety of choice programs including French Immersion, Early Mandarin Bilingual, Fine Arts, Aboriginal Focus School, International Baccalaureate and Montessori. If you are planning to apply for Choice Program(s) you still need to register for kindergarten at your English catchment school first. The online application process opens on January 9th and closes on February 6th. There will be a district supervised draw to select applicants for the available program space.

**What if I want to apply for an English school in another catchment area?**

If you are interested in having your child attend an English school that is not your catchment school you will need to submit a cross-boundary application. The cross-boundary process opens February 1st. The deadline for cross-boundary application is February 28th. If you are applying to a school outside your catchment area, it is important for you to know that your child will only be considered once all in-catchment students have been placed.

**Where can I get more information or help if I run into any difficulties?**

Any questions or need additional information about this process, you can visit <http://www.vsb.bc.ca/kindergarten>

If you have any troubles with the registration process or the online choice program application process, contact us and we will be happy to walk you through the process.

**Parent Corner and PAC events**

The **Halloween Fling** held on Friday, October 27th enjoyed a great turnout and will definitely be on the PAC event list in 2018. Thanks to all the families that came to the event and made it such a success. A big THANKS to DJ Figs for the great music selections that had the gym bouncing.

**Just a reminder that our next PAC meeting is Wednesday November 22 at 6:00 in the Library. Childcare will be provided.**

**SAFETY NEWS**

Our emergency and safety plans at school include 6 fire drills, 2 earthquake drills, and 2 Lockdown drills.

Lockdown and Hold In Place drills take place in the event that there is an intruder in the school or an unsafe situation in the surrounding school community. Staff and students follow procedures to have students go into the nearest classroom (if not their own). Students on the way to the washroom, to the library, gym or wherever, upon hearing a Lockdown or Hold and Secure over the PA are instructed to go into the nearest classroom to where they are and stay there until it is safe to return to normal activity.

Students remain quiet in their classroom, doors are locked, blinds or drapes are pulled and students and staff remain in their rooms until instructed otherwise. If the students are outside at recess or lunch and there is a Lockdown or Hold and Secure issued then three short rings of the bell indicate to staff to gather students and move indoors or to our offsite Assemble Area at Slocan Park.

We have already done one Fire Drill and one Earthquake drill very successfully and will do our first Lockdown drill on Tuesday November 28 at 10:00.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to ask. Remember, we do this to ensure the safety and security of everyone in the school during the school day.

**Early Mandarin Bilingual Program:**

For the first time students in Grade 4,5 and 6 will be able to apply to enter the EMB program. Students will be assessed and must have a level of Mandarin similar to the students in the grade to which they are applying. If more applicants than spaces a draw will be held. Applications accepted until March 31, 2018. More information available at: [www.vsb.bc.ca/programs/early-mandarin-bilingual](http://www.vsb.bc.ca/programs/early-mandarin-bilingual)

Tuesday, Nov 7 <sup>th</sup>	Div. 20/26 to Field Trip to Hatchery and Div. 19 to Science World
Wednesday, Nov 8 <sup>th</sup>	Div. 8 and 9 Field Trip to UBC
Thursday, Nov 9 <sup>th</sup>	Remembrance Day Assembly 11:00 Students/Staff only (due to Fire Restrictions)
Friday, Nov 10 <sup>th</sup>	Curriculum Planning Day: No School for Students
Monday, Nov 13 <sup>th</sup>	School Closed for Remembrance Day statutory holiday
Tuesday, Nov 14 <sup>th</sup>	Div. 21 and 24 Field Trip to Science World
Wednesday, Nov 15 <sup>h</sup>	Salmon Educators Workshop in Library 3:30-5:30
Thursday, Nov 16 <sup>th</sup>	Salmon Educators Workshop in Library 3:30-5:30
Tuesday, Nov 21 <sup>st</sup>	Aquavan Visits Norquay and Grade 7 Cognitive Skills Test 1:00 (For Grade 8 Programs)
Wednesday, Nov. 22 <sup>nd</sup>	PAC Meeting in Library: 6:00 Childcare available
Friday, Nov 24 <sup>th</sup>	Div. 13 and 14 Field Trip to Fraser River Div. 10 and 11 to Fort Langley
Monday, Nov 27 <sup>th</sup>	Windermere CST Sportball Program last day
Tuesday, Nov. 28 <sup>th</sup>	Windermere CST Last Day for: Master Chef/Theatre and Lego
Friday, Dec. 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Professional Day: No school for students

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

