



NORQUAY SCHOOL NEWS

Dear Norquay Community:

It is hard to believe that October will be upon us next week! While the term is going by quickly, it has been a very busy and exciting one here at Norquay. Our first PAC meeting; Kindergarten Gradual Entry; The SPEC fundraising evening; Meet the Staff Morning; Cross-Country Running club and Photo Day are just some of the events that have occurred this September. We are excited to be acknowledging Orange Shirt Day today and look forward to our Terry Fox Run on Friday October 6th.

Our school has a deep commitment to create and maintain a respectful, welcoming, safe and nurturing environment. We are working with everyone to best utilize our spaces inside and outside as the Fall rains return. Evidence of being kind and being safe occurs daily at Norquay. We are also looking to have the term Bullying better understood as so many incidents immediately are reported by students as bullying.

It has become more frequent that any student misbehavior is identified as bullying. Thankfully upon investigation this is most often not the case. It is important to recognize that conflict is going to occur in our students lives and being able to identify it correctly is critical. The **Vancouver School Board** identifies **3 types** of conflict: **Peer Conflict; Mean Behaviour and Bullying.**

Peer conflict occurs among children that play together regularly; have equal power; are able to work out a difficulty (with support at times); have a desire to solve the dispute and often occurs due to frustration which results in hurtful words or a physical act.

Mean Behaviour occurs when children try to assert themselves in inappropriate ways. They may call others names; budge in line or take items of others. These actions are not planned; are not targeted at a specific student (random) and the student demonstrates remorse when the incident is discussed.

Bullying Behaviour has 3 identifying features. There is a **Power Imbalance** where one student has 'power' over others due to age; size; social status... There is an **Intention to Harm**. The student's intent is to harm or hurt another student; it is not accidental and it is not random. The 3rd feature is that the behavior is **Repeated**. The student's actions have continued over time; the intensity of the actions is increasing and there is a real or implied threat that the behavior will not stop.

At Norquay we work hard to identify and correct inappropriate behaviours and not label students. If we can correct the Peer Conflict and Mean Behaviour we will hopefully reduce the numbers of true bullying incidents.

Thanks for your support with this; Tim Krug and Sharon Vieira

Lunchroom Routines for Safety and Independence Thank you to parents and grandparents for helping us promote independence for our students. Below is a reminder to students about lunchtime expectations:

- * **Feed yourself**
- * **Clean your area**
- * **Listen to school staff**
- * **Walking only**

Breakfast Program: Please remind participating children to eat in the *designated area* and to follow the four expectations above.

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 (Acting)

Liaison Trustee: TBD

Principal: Mr. Tim Krug

Vice Principal: Ms. Sharon Vieira

Rainy Day Clothing

Regardless of the weather becoming increasingly cold and wet, children love to play outdoors and be active during recess and lunch hour, as they should! It is important that children are dressed appropriately for outside play. If their clothes become wet and cold, it is very difficult for them to focus on learning throughout the day. Please ensure that your child is dressed for outside play. If they are not, they will be directed to spend their recess or lunch hour indoors. We have many activity options for them indoors such as gym games, board games and our library is sometimes open for reading and quiet activities.



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.

Student Drop off and Pick up.

We have had concerns expressed about traffic safety before and after school and we have observed what has been happening over the past few days. Thank you to our PAC transportation team who will be continuing to advocate for traffic safety for our school community. For everyone's safety and convenience we ask that parents or others who are dropping children off in the morning follow these guidelines:

1. If you are simply dropping your child off in the morning, use designated drop-off areas. Please do this as quickly as possible and have your child to use the crosswalks for their safety.
2. Please be sensitive to our bus drop off and pick up area on Ward Street. For student safety, they need to have safe access.
3. **If you are bringing your child into the school or even to the door, please be reminded that the parking lot is strictly for VSB staff only.** We have had some unsafe situations as a result of this. Please find street parking, which is ample, if you are coming into the school.

Please refer to the Norquay Traffic Safety Map on last page of this newsletter

Playground Safety: We have had two incidents where students have found dangerous items on our Playground. Teachers have reviewed with students that they are not to pick up any sharp items (glass; needles; knives...) that they may find on the playground but report it to the office or a staff member. We do daily sweeps of the grounds and will also have a District Employee now check our grounds weekly. We will review with students in assemblies and ask that you remind them also not to pick up any dangerous items. Thanks for your support in keeping our grounds and students safe.



STUDENTS, WE WANT YOUR ARTWORK!

One of Norquay PAC's new fundraising projects is a full colour calendar with student artwork! The calendar will have a **Garden Theme**, so think about what sort of things happen in the garden and things you can do in the garden in January, February, March and all the other months of the year. Pick a month and get your artwork ready!

All students are welcome to submit their artwork with a **Garden Theme** on an 8.5 x 11" sheet of paper to Mr. Krug by October 18. Please include your **name** and **division** on your artwork. If there are more submissions than there is space on the calendar, a draw will be held to select the artwork.

Goal Setting Conferences

It is that time of year again to sign up for goal setting conferences. Goal setting conferences will be taking place Wednesday, October 18th and Thursday, October 19th. Conference request forms will be sent home shortly. **Parents please note the 2:00pm dismissal time on both of these days!** Thank you to those families who are able to spend time in conversation with their child’s classroom teachers in reviewing progress and setting goals for learning. Teachers value the home school partnership as working together can only benefit student learning. Children learn best when the significant adults in their lives -- parents, teachers, and other family and community members -- work together to encourage and support them. Schools alone cannot address all of a child's developmental needs: the meaningful involvement of parents and support from the community are essential.

Opening student packages

All students brought home student and school information packages this week. We ask that all parents complete and return the enclosed forms with school fees to the classroom teacher as soon as possible. These forms included communications consent, student and family contact and emergency information, school fees information as well as media consent, local field trip consent & internet agreement. If you did not receive this package, please let us know.

BC SCHOOL FRUIT AND VEGETABLE NUTRITIONAL PROGRAM

We are pleased to announce our school will be continuing the BC School Fruit and Vegetable Nutritional Program which is sponsored by B.C. Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation and ActNowBC. Norquay is involved in a province-wide healthy living initiative. One of the goals is to encourage healthy eating by providing fresh B.C. Fruit and Vegetables to the students during classroom time. The students will receive fresh picked, washed, and ready to enjoy produce 13 times over the school year at no charge. For any inquiries about this program, please contact the school.

Terry Fox Run: We will be holding our Terry Fox Run on Friday October 6th at 1:15. The Terry Fox Run is one of the most important school events of the year and is such a great support for the Terry Fox Foundation. Thanks in advance for your contributions to support our Run and the memory of Terry Fox.

Parent Corner and PAC events

Thanks to the many parents who attended our first Parent Meeting of the year. Lots of information has been shared, great plans made, and new connections are forming! We hope to have this kind of turnout for future meetings. This is your opportunity to come and meet other parents, hear about upcoming events in the school, support school planning and to ask any questions you may have. There is no PAC Meeting scheduled for October as PAC will be hosting a Halloween Dance/Social on the evening of Monday, Oct. 30th. More information will be sent out closer to the event **Our next PAC meeting will be held on Wednesday Nov.22 at 6:00 in the Library and Childcare will be provided.**

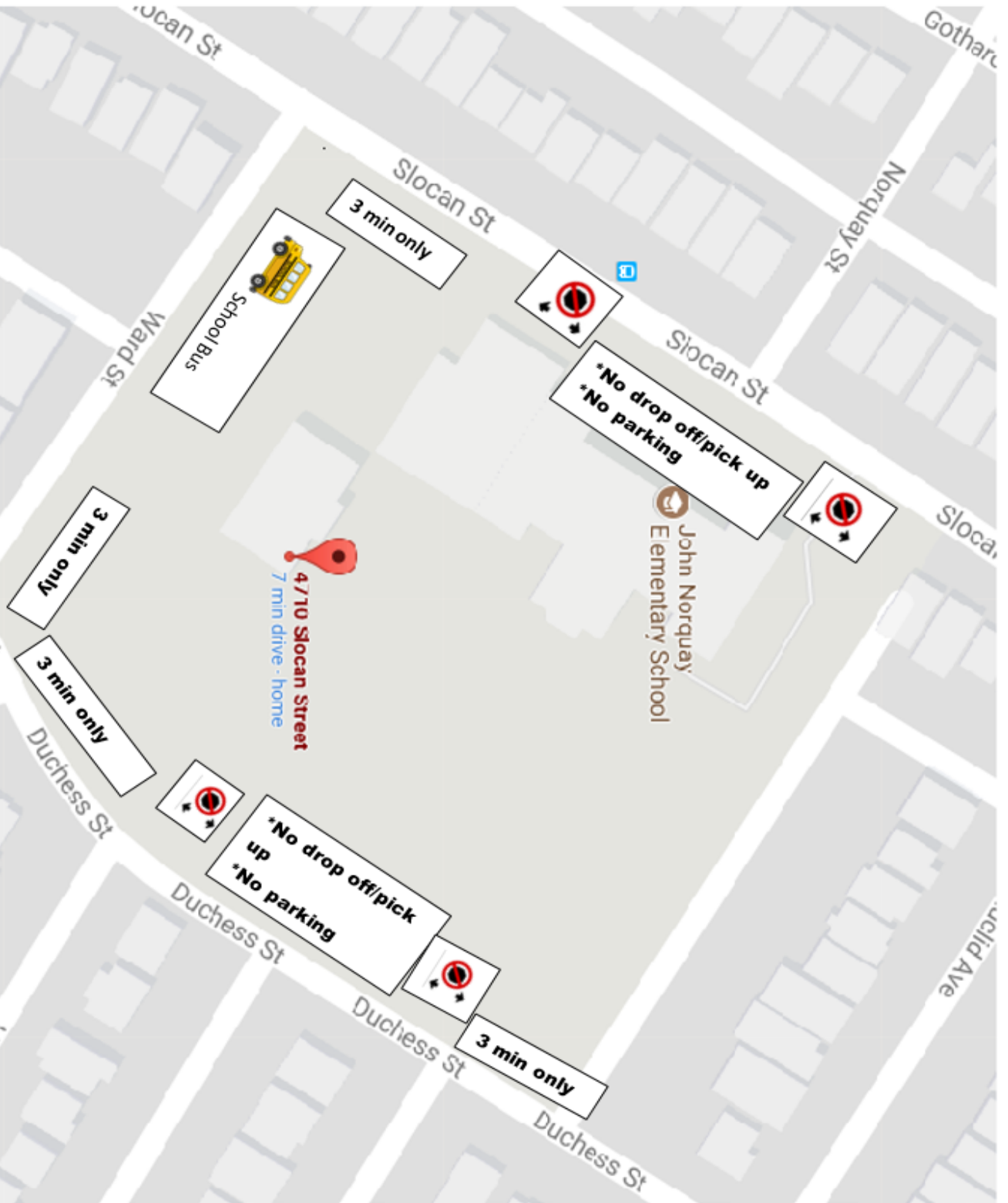
Orange Shirt Day: On Friday Sept. 29 we held our Orange Shirt Day to acknowledge the treatment of Phyllis Webstad, a six year old Aboriginal girl, who had her orange shirt ripped off her as she entered Residential School. We look to be a participant in the Reconciliation process and know that:

EVERY CHILD MATTERS!

Coming up in October:

Monday Oct. 2	Conference forms go home
Thursday Oct. 5	Windermere CST Program sign-up
Friday Oct. 6	Terry Fox Run 1:15
Monday, October 9	Thanksgiving Day – schools closed
Wed. October 18	WE Day Event 9:00– 3:00 Rogers Arena Goal Setting Conferences 2:00 Dismissal
Thursday October 19	BC Shakeout Earthquake Drill 10:19 Goal Setting Conferences 2:00 Dismissal District Cross Country Meet @ Trout Lake 1:00
Friday October 20	Professional Day #2 – no school for students
Monday October 23	Vancouver Chinese Music Performance 9:15 Drop Everything and Read Event
Wed. October 25	Immunization Clinic #1 for Kindergarten and Grade 6’s
Monday October 30	PAC Halloween Social Student Photo retakes
Tuesday October 31	Happy Halloween

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




Norquay Parking Guide

8:00AM – 5:00pm

- **No drop off**
- **No pick up**
- **No parking**

School Bus Only



3 min only

Drop off/pick up only