

# NORQUAY SCHOOL NEWS



Welcome to the 2018-19 school year! We would like to extend a warm welcome to all our new and returning families and hope you all had a wonderful summer holiday. We all looking forward to a great year with many exciting learning opportunities and experiences for all the students. If you have any questions about the upcoming school year please do not hesitate to drop by the office. Student information packages will be sent out once students are in their new classes. Please complete and return the packages as quickly as possible. We will be sending out future Newsletters by email (some printed copies will be available outside the school office) and you can also find the Newsletter and other information on our website: <http://norquay.vsb.bc.ca>. We will also be working to expand and explore our Social media presence so you could also follow us on Twitter: **@Norquaytweets**. It is great to be back at Norquay and again we are looking forward to a great year.

Tim Krug and Teena Smith

<u>School Hours</u>	
8:55	Warning bell
9:00	Instruction begins
10:30-10:50	Recess
12:10-12:57	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)**

**SCHEDULE FOR THE FIRST WEEK**

We hope to have students placed in their homeroom classes by the end of the first week. Until then, all children will remain with their last year's class. This gives us an opportunity to review class placements and to determine whether any new registrations or transfers out over the summer need to be considered with respect to class dynamics.

Our Kindergarten students will be following a gradual entry schedule. These have been provided to all families. If you need a copy of your child's schedule, please drop by the office and we will be able to provide you with one.

**Director of Instruction-Field Services:**  
 Mr. Aaron Davis  
**Liaison Trustee:** Mr. Fraser Ballantyne  
**Principal:** Mr. Tim Krug  
**Vice Principal:** Ms. Teena Smith

**Staffing Updates:** Working with Human Resources this summer we are very pleased to welcome our new staff members to Norquay.

**Ms. Wendy Wang:** Gr. 6/7 EMB; **Ms. Caitlin Shannon:** Gr. 5/6 (team teaching with Ms. Hughes); **Ms. Alice Lin** Gr. 2/3 EMB; **Ms. Shannon Mulhall** EMB Physical Education; **Ms. Birgid Lehmann:** Early Literacy Teacher; **Ms. Tiare Laporte:** Indigenous Education Worker; **Ms. Kavita Wise:** SSA; **Ms. Nila Sotelo Barroso:** SSA.

We have only three positions unfilled at this time: Ms. Lai's Gr. 6/7 EMB; Ms. Rouse's District LSP; Ms. Weng's EMB Resource. All have been reposted and we hope to have staff in place by Sept.14. Until then we have TOC's working with the students in those classes.

One final staffing update is to formally let our school community know that **Ms. Bev Siudut** will not be returning as she has decided to retire. We wish her all the best and thank her for the many years that she taught within the Norquay School Community. Congratulations Bev.

**Breakfast/Hotlunch Program:**

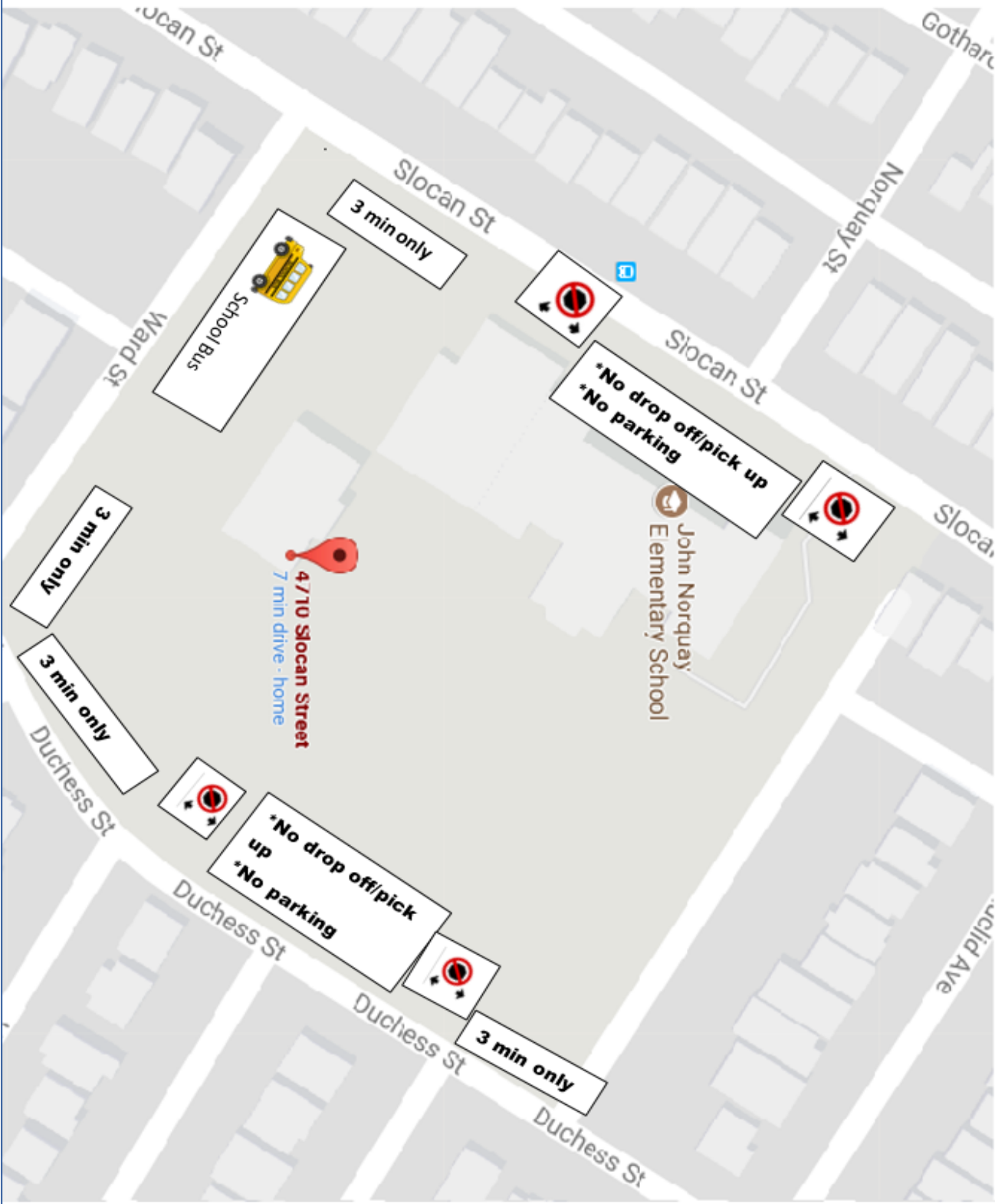
Just a reminder that we are **unable to offer the VSB Breakfast and Hot Lunch program at Norquay** as we did not have the required number of families participating to sustain the program.

Please remember to **send your child with a snack and lunch every day**. If for any reason this is not possible please contact Mr. Krug to discuss possible options to ensure your child is getting the nourishment she/he needs to be successful at school.

**Mark your calendars: (also please find attached our 2018-19 calendar)**

Wednesday, Sept. 5	<b>9:00 start and 3:00 dismissal</b> (Grades 1 - 7) students return to their last year's class. New students to Library and will be assigned to a temporary class until we move to our 2018-19 classes. A reminder to provide your child a recess snack and lunch.
Thursday, Sept. 6	Kindergarten Students start Gradual Entry in A or B Groups
Wednesday, Sept. 12	First full day for Kindergarten students
Tuesday, Sept. 18	6:00pm - PAC meeting in our library
Thursday, Sept. 20	<b>Meet the Staff Morning, more information to follow. 9:00 AM</b>
Friday, Sept 21	Professional Day: No School for students
Tuesday, Sept. 25	School Photo Day (student individual photos)
Friday, Sept. 28	Orange Shirt Day: Every Child Matters and Reconciliation in Action


**Drop off and Pickup of students:** Just a reminder that your child's safe arrival is of utmost concern for us. Please see the map below of areas where you can and cannot drop off or pick up your child(ren). The staff parking lot is for staff only and is NOT an area for student drop off. One drop off plan that many schools are encouraging is to park a block or two away and then walk your child to school. Only with your support can we ensure the safety of all our students. THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!!



**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**

### Parent Advisory Committee (PAC)

We are very fortunate to have a dedicated team of parents that make up our PAC. With a new school year upon us they would welcome other interested parents to join them as they work to support Norquay school and students for the 2018-19 school year. There are a few PAC positions yet to be filled for this year or just come and see the plans that are being set for this year and perhaps you will be able to provide support in some way!

The first PAC meeting of the year will be on:

**Tuesday, September 18, 6:00 Library**

**Childcare is provided.**

### **Summer Gardening:**

Just a quick thanks to **Valerie Kao and her team of Gardeners** for taking care of the Norquay Gardens over the summer. Once again the Norquay Parent community has demonstrated their commitment to our school by volunteering to water and maintain our gardens over the summer. THANKS.

Also, it was great to see so many students and families at the Summer Garden Event on July 16th. Great to have Lori Snyder back at Norquay to provide a blessing and share her knowledge on plants. Great food, crafts and music was enjoyed by all!

Looking for fun, literacy-based programs for after-school hours? Visit [www.vpl.ca](http://www.vpl.ca) or contact your local branch for more information. Main events for the Norquay area:

**Collingwood Library:** 2985 Kingsway 604-665-3953

**Renfrew Library:** 2969 East 22nd 604-257-8705

**Science Literacy Week:** Biome Bonanza - Collingwood Library. Make a mini biome model and learn about plants and animals with library iPads. For Grades K-7

**Saturday 22 Sept. at 2 pm**

**Coding Buddies: DIY Video Game - Collingwood Library**

Children in Grades 2-4 explore the world of coding and design a level of a video game with teen volunteers

**Tuesday and Wednesday, Nov. 20 and 21 at 3:30 pm**

**Early Readers Book Club - Collingwood Library**

Children from Kindergarten to Grade 3 will discover the thrill of reading books and enjoying activities with new friends.

**Saturdays, once a month at 2:00pm**

**Write Now! Creative Writing for Kids - Collingwood and Renfrew Libraries**

Our fun writing activities will have you writing stories and poetry in no time! For Grades 3 - 7

**Collingwood - Wednesdays once a month at 3:45 pm**

**Renfrew - Thursdays once a month at 3:45**

**Reading Buddies - Collingwood and Renfrew Libraries**  
Children in Grades 2-4 get reading practice with teen volunteers.

**Collingwood - Thursdays in October at 4:00 pm**

**Renfrew - Wednesdays October/November at 4:00 pm**

**Tween Manga Meetup - Renfrew Library**

Share your love of manga and anime, make cool crafts and meet new friends. For Grades 4-7

**Tuesdays once a month at 3:30 pm**

**Reporting Student Absences:** Just a reminder of the new way to let us know if your child will be absent.

Student safety is of paramount importance at the Vancouver School District. Ensuring student safety is a shared responsibility. In order to assist schools, we ask parents to notify schools of student absences. If your child will be absent from Norquay, please phone the school to report this absence as early as possible. Parents should leave a message on a dedicated answering service by calling **604-713-5159 extension #61**. Messages will be received before the office is open. School offices are busy places: consistently notifying the school in advance of your child's absence will significantly improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Safe Arrival Morning Routine.

To Report Your Child's Absence - Please Call **604-713-5159 extension #61** prior to 9 am on the first day of the absence.

### **Student Sign Out Procedure**

When you pick up your child during the school day, please ensure that you sign them out at the school office. If you do not sign out your child, they will be unaccounted for, and the school will identify your child as a 'missing' student and will commence a search of school grounds. If the school staff do not locate the child, and are unable to reach a parent promptly, the school will call the Vancouver Police Department. Therefore, clear communication is essential for ensuring the safety of your child and to prevent unnecessary searches.

Thank you for helping us keep your children safe!

## CALENDAR 2018 – 2019

John Norquay Elementary School

### School Operation Overview

Number of Days in Session	187
Number of Days of Instruction	179
Number of Days of Non-Instruction	7 Non Instructional Days; 1 Administrative Day (June 28)

### Important Dates

School Opening Day	Tuesday, September 4, 2018
Thanksgiving Day	Monday, October 8, 2018
Remembrance Day Holiday	Monday, November 12, 2018 (in lieu of Sun. Nov. 11)
Last Day of Instruction Before Winter Vacation	Friday, December 21, 2018
Winter Vacation Period	Monday, December 24, 2018 – Friday, January 4, 2019
School Re-opens after Winter Vacation	Monday, January 7, 2019
Family Day	Monday, February 18, 2019
Last Day of Instruction Before Spring Vacation	Friday, March 15, 2019
Spring Vacation Period	Monday, March 18 – Friday, March 29, 2019
School Re-opens after Spring Vacation	Monday, April 1, 2019
Good Friday	Friday, April 19, 2019
Easter Monday	Monday, April 22, 2019
Victoria Day	Monday, May 20, 2019
Last Full Day of Pupil Attendance	Thursday, June 27, 2019
Administrative/School Closing Day	Friday, June 28, 2019

### Professional Development and Curriculum Implementation Days (school not in session)

Friday, September 21, 2018	Professional Development Day (Date set by school)
Friday, October 19, 2018	Professional Development Day (Province Wide)
Friday, November 9, 2018	Curriculum Implementation Day (District Wide)
Friday, January 25, 2019	Professional Development Day (Date set by school)
Friday, February 15, 2019	Curriculum Implementation Day (District Wide)
Monday, April 29, 2019	Professional Development Day (District Wide)
Friday, May 17, 2019	Professional Development Day (District Wide)

### Parent Conference Dates

### Early Dismissal Times

Wednesday, October 24, 2018	Parent Teacher Conferences Term 1 2:00 Dismissal
Thursday, October 25, 2018	Parent Teacher Conferences Term 1 2:00 Dismissal
Wednesday, February 20, 2019	Parent Teacher Conferences Term 2 2:00 Dismissal
Thursday, February 21, 2019	Parent Teacher Conferences Term 2 2:00 Dismissal