



Southlands School Newsletter

June 14, 2017–Volume 7



Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Guardians of the Southlands School Community,

As we count down the days to the end of the school year, I would like to thank all of you for your contributions to student learning at Southlands, whether it is driving for field trips or fundraising to provide vibrant learning opportunities for students, including our new food garden! All those wonderful school lunches, supervising homework, volunteers for everything from constructing garden boxes to choir - the list is endless. The parent support for children at Southlands is outstanding!

Grade 7 PYP IB Exhibition

Many parents and visitors commented on outstanding presentations and the scope of the research for the grade 7 Exhibition Projects. As was the case last year one of the highlights of the event was that, in addition to presenting their research findings to senior students and adults, the presenters created a fictional story encapsulating the main idea of their work to our primary students.

Staff Appreciation Luncheon

We were once again overwhelmed by the generosity of the parents in our wonderful school community! There were so many delicious, tasty, special dishes to share and enjoy. The bright and cheery ambiance made our small staffroom come alive with colourful flowers, and cheery table settings! It was an honour to be "royally" treated! Thank you for continuing this lovely tradition at Southlands! We were overwhelmed by your kindness. Many thanks to Heidi MacLean and her team.

Bike to School Week

This event is fast becoming a tradition at Southlands and this year was a huge success with over 140 students participating. Many thanks to Ms. Swain and her team.

Music Program Concert

It was thrilling for our student performers to

showcase their talents in the Music Program Concert. The event was very well attended and enjoyed by all. Families appreciated the yummy pot luck supper that followed. We could really see the development of both musical and performance skills for so many students who have been involved over the past 2 years. Thanks to Deb Broadhurst, Lisa Cogan and the team of volunteers supporting the Music program.

Loon Lake Camp

The grade 6s and 7s enjoyed their Loon Lake adventures in camping. Students participated in activities ranging from canoeing to orienteering. They returned to Southlands tired but enthusiastic about their outdoor experiences. Many thanks to Mr. Lee, Mr. Jung, Ms. Eichhorn, Ms. Stroh and Mr. Garbe for supervising this overnight fieldtrip.

Sports Day

Sports Day is on June 16th and all families are invited to attend. We invite recent Southlands' graduates to help with the various stations and this year the Sports Day committee is also asking for parent volunteers to help with stations. Many thanks to Heidi MacLean, parent volunteers and PAC for the yummy lunch provided for students and staff in celebration of Sports Day.

French Showcase

The French Showcase was presented on June 13th. Students demonstrated their French language skills with songs and plays. We were delighted that so many families were able to attend this event. Thanks to Ms. Oliver and Ms. Morrison for the many lunch hours spent practicing with students.

Grade 7 Graduation

The Grade 7 Leaving Ceremony will take place on June 20th at 1:15 in the gym. We look forward to sharing this afternoon with our grade 7 students and their families. Thanks to Michelle Kokan and her team for fundraising and organizing. Additional information will be sent to grade 7 families.

"Care for self, Care for others, Care for this place."

Kindergarten Graduation

Kindergarten families are invited to attend the Kindergarten graduation ceremonies on June 23rd. Additional information will be sent to Kindergarten families.

Yearbook

The Yearbook will be ready this week. Many thanks to Nicole Stone and her team for their creative work on this project celebrating the year at Southlands.

Student Placement Information for September 2017

At this time of year many parents begin thinking about their child's placement for the next school year. Please know that staff members work together thoughtfully and carefully to organize classes that will provide the best possible learning environments for each student. A number of criteria are considered such as government legislation, academic ability, maturity, attitude, behaviour, leadership qualities, class dynamics, and friendships. We balance individual student needs and the needs of the class as a whole. We use our best professional judgment, existing data and discussion to make that placement the best possible for your child and a manageable teaching assignment for staff. It is important to understand that it is only on rare occasions that we change a student's placement. Once we establish the new classes, each change causes a chain reaction that will cause an imbalance. If you wish to submit information about your child's intellectual or social-emotional development for our consideration, please do so no later than Monday, June 19th. Although we cannot guarantee a specific placement, we do want to have all available information to help us make good decisions.

PYP Attitudes



In the month of June, we are focusing on the attitudes **commitment** and **appreciation**.

Commitment involves perseverance, self-discipline, and taking responsibility. As the school year comes to a close, we think about all the times we have committed ourselves to something in order to see it through to completion. Each day, students

commit to trying their best and finishing the tasks they begin in class. On a larger scale, members of our community have committed to many curricular and extracurricular endeavours. Some of the opportunities where commitment was demonstrated include: parents, staff, and students committed themselves to funding, building, and maintaining our new garden, senior students committed themselves to their Exhibition projects, students committed themselves to practicing and performing in the French showcase, and families committed to fundraising and running in support of Children's Hospital.

Appreciation is an understanding of and a gratefulness for the wonder and beauty of the world and its people. In June, we spend time reflecting on the school year and we are appreciative for the many opportunities we have had, the knowledge we have gained, the concepts we understand better, the skills we have developed, the friendships we have fostered, and the people who have impacted our lives in a positive way.

Book Donations

We are continuing to expand our small collection of multilingual books, and we gratefully welcome donations of new or gently used books in languages other than English. This is an ongoing project. We want our collection to represent all the languages spoken by members of our school community.

DATES TO REMEMBER

June 16	Sports Day
June 20	Grade 7 Graduation
June 21	Div. 7, 8, 9, 10 12-2pm UBC Performance
June 22	Gardening workshops
June 23	Gardening workshops
June 23	Kindergarten Graduation
June 27	Subway Day
June 28	Report cards Home
June 29	Last day of school for students
June 30	Last day of School for Staff

Southlands Elementary School
5351 Camosun Street
Vancouver, B.C., V6N 2C4
Phone 604-713-5414 Fax 604-713-5416
Website: <http://go.vsb.bc.ca/schools/southlands>

Ms. Annie O'Donoghue – Principal 604-713-5414
Mike Lombardi—Liaison Trustee, 604-306-6948

Rob Schindel, Director of Instruction Field Services 604-713-5097
PAC Chair: Nadine Goodine, ncgoodine@gmail.com