



# MAGEE SECONDARY SCHOOL

6360 Maple Street  
Vancouver V6M 4M2

Telephone: 604-713-8200 Fax: 604-713-8209

Follow us on Twitter: [@MageeLion](#)

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**Magee News**  
**21 May 2021**

## 1. District and School updates.

Several important changes in the Vancouver public education system were announced in May- we are phasing out the Police Liaison Officer program; we will be moving to a Semester system in September 2021; and, to align with the Ministry of Education's new curriculum, we will be ending Honors courses.

Semester systems allow students to concentrate on a core 4 courses in a 21-week semester; the school year is divided into two semesters. In districts that already have the semester system (like BC's largest district, Surrey) we have found that students are better able to track assignments and course work, student focus improves, and early graduation is facilitated.

Honors courses are being phased out because these classes are not part of the BC Redesigned Curriculum; all students will still have access to an inclusive model of education, and our teachers support the diverse needs of all students in their classes through differentiated instruction- including enrichment. Furthermore, Honors standing is not tied to an Honors course- all students maintain the ability to achieve Honors Standing at graduation for postsecondary awards and considerations.

### **[Magee Art Fundraiser!!](#)**

Magee's Art Department is thrilled to present work from our talented Covid Quarter 1 and 3 Ceramics students in our first ever online Magee Art Department fundraising sale!

Students donated their work; viewing ... and payment options ... are [available here!](#) Featured work highlights the 'Cake Wars' cake box project and the 'Clay Tower' project with a personal choice of theme. All pieces have been fired with food-safe ceramic glazes.



**Cherry Wong, Grade 10**  
**Raku firing**

*Get in on the ground floor and invest in Canada's finest upcoming artists and ceramicists!!*

*Excellence: A tradition*

This email was sent by Andrew Schofield, [aschofield@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:aschofield@vsb.bc.ca) to you because you are subscribed to receive information regarding the Vancouver School Board and/or Magee Secondary. If you no longer wish to receive emails regarding the Vancouver School Board and/or Magee Secondary please email [unsubscribe@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:unsubscribe@vsb.bc.ca), and type UNSUBSCRIBE in the subject field. If you have any questions please visit <http://govsb.ca/CASL>. Vancouver School Board, 1580 West Broadway, Vancouver, BC V6J 5K8 TEL: 604.713.5000

Speaking of which ... Among the art on display in the school currently is work fired during our first **Raku firing**. Originally an ancient Japanese ceramic process, Raku takes glazed pieces out of our new, state of the art, hot 1600-degree kiln (on the left), placed into combustible materials like sawdust and dry leaves, left for 20 minutes to sit in the smoky fire, then plunged directly into water when the work is still 1000 degrees. So cool! Raku tends to have a characteristic black stained clay (from the smoke), fine crackles in the glaze (see Cherry's work on pg1 which also used horsehair!), and beautiful metallic glazes (as Nika's work below illustrates).



**Magee's new kiln- cooling down after a 1600 degree firing!**

**Nika Zondag, Grade 10.  
Raku firing.**



**Magee's Model UN club** recently became the recipients of an international award by proposing a resolution that won a special mention at the recent United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) model UN Refugee Challenge. The specific clause proposed by our student delegates was:

*"We call for the implementation of awareness activities to counter toxic narratives starting in primary school. The activities would focus on the importance of treating each individual with dignity and respect, be based on a curriculum approved by UNHCR and educate students about bias and false information."*

The clause was supported by a seven-page memorandum written to the specifications of a resolution proposed from the floor of the UN General Assembly... not only an awesome experience for our students but an incredible achievement! Further information about the award and the UNHCR can be found [here](#). On the right, and for the only time in the past 12 months that they are closer than 2 meters, Magee's winning MUN delegates!



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Poster design by **Angela Nebalasca**,  
Grade 12

Magee Mainstage is a drama specialization program within of our school’s community: Students who choose this specialization work intensively under the supervision of two master teachers- Ms. Byrne and Mr. Waterman- ladder their skills from entry in grade 10 to graduation. An important part of the Mainstage program is an annual Musical. For this, Mainstage students work consistently as a team in an increasingly high stakes environment on a single project across six months to deliver a performance that is as accomplished as any professional production anywhere in the world.

To accomplish this, Ms. Byrne and Mr. Waterman draw in their contacts and colleagues who are professionals in the industry. Through these partnerships we have been able to extend our skills and expertise and enrich our student’s experience, and model to our students the process of collaboration and extended teamwork in project delivery.

But Covid brought unexpected challenges to the performing arts, challenges that are shared by our Magee Drama students: from the abrupt cancellation of performances; the erasure of opportunities to attend professional theater during fieldtrips; the closure of rehearsal space; the switch to online and asynchronous instruction and practicing. In all this, your kids stuck with it- they adapted, they were flexible, and, under Mrs. Byrne and Mr. Waterman’s mentorship, went on to revision their program while holding onto the camaraderie that is Mainstage.

Some of the revisioning included mini-performances and workshops filmed, edited and uploaded to social media. A major change was to rethink the traditional large cast musical. Mrs. Byrne and Mr. Waterman reversed the equation ... take highlights from every musical performed over the past 20 years and have different students take the lead roles. In this way every actor can take a lead role, and the practice sessions are limited to 3-4 person pods that restrict Covid transmission. And to address the inability to have live performances ... film the review and upload it to a closed YouTube channel- Stay tuned for Mainstage’s big show: The Mainstage Revue: 20 Years on Stage (on Film)!

“Oh the places you will go” is often said as graduation approaches. This **year’s graduation** will be held over **June 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>**, strictly following Covid guidelines. Students will be in 20 person pods; parents (as of today) will not be allowed in the auditorium to witness the ceremony but will be able to celebrate as their graduate leaves the auditorium.

This is a time of anxiety for grads as offers for college and university come in and choices regarding future study and careers are made. **Aaron Ungprasert** (seated on the right) can cross some of the worry off his list- he was recruited to play for Vancouver Island University. Aaron’s achievement is all the more impressive when we remember that school sports are shut down under Covid and scouts were only able to observe the limited performance of athletes during



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training sessions. When it comes to the University Championships ... we'll be shouting for #20 Aaron Ungprasert and VIU! Congratulations Aaron!

### Girls Soccer Skills & Drills group: Spring 2021.

Come out and join the Magee Girls Grade 8-12 team training camp this spring! Practices run **Wednesdays 3:30-5:00pm** on the North field. **Everyone is welcome.** Unfortunately we can't play games against other schools this year but practices will give players a chance to have some fun, get connected and kick the ball around together.

### Community events ...

#### **\*Host an International Student - Join Langara Homestay\***

Langara College invites you and your family to join our highly regarded Homestay Program by hosting a VSB international student this year. Our students come from Europe, Asia and South America - usually stay for five to 10 months, and are keen to experience life with a Vancouver family. Generous reimbursement is provided. Please call [604.323.5696](tel:604.323.5696) or email [homestay@langara.ca](mailto:homestay@langara.ca) for more information.

### Asian Heritage Month

May celebrates Asian Heritage Month recognizing the long and rich history of Asian peoples in Canada and their important contributions. This year, with the recent rise in anti-Asian racism, it's perhaps more important than ever to shine the spotlight on these communities and expand our knowledge of the diversity found within this country. To this end, Langara's Centre for Intercultural Engagement (CIE) and [SIETAR BC](#) proudly presents guest speakers Dr. Christine Kim and Dr. John Paul (JP) Catungal from UBC, in conversation about *Rethinking Asian Racialization in Pandemic Times*.

This conversation will explore Asian racialization during the pandemic. It will historicize this moment within longer histories of Asian migration and consider the different trajectories of different Asian Canadian populations. The speakers will draw on their research on Filipino and Korean diasporas during this talk. In doing so, this conversation hopes to expand conversations about Asian Canadian identities and heritage to include social and economic structures and begin to imagine new, more socially just horizons.

The event, on May 26<sup>th</sup>, from 1:30-3:00pm, is virtual: register [here](#) and a confirmation email will send you the zoom link.

**Social Justice 12** students were able to have a local field trip to **Kerrisdale Greenway** recently to give back to the community (each class, in 40 minutes per class, filled 24 40-liter buckets with water (total 960 liters in total!). Community members expressed their appreciation by cheering, hooting, cheering, and offering their socially distanced



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## COVID updates!!

The health and safety of students and staff remains the top priority of the Vancouver School District. Please continue to monitor for symptoms of COVID-19 before coming to school each day: On pg.6 please find the **COVID-19 Daily Health Assessment** form. It is important that any student who reports COVID-19 symptoms stay home. Like previous health assessments, this form asks if your child has:

- Any COVID-19 symptoms
- Travelled internationally in the last 14 days
- Been contacted and directed to stay home by public health.

## BC K-12 Daily Health Tracker app

The Ministry of Education has also created a **BC K-12 Daily Health Checker app** to support daily health checks for students. This application is free, available in both Apple and android versions, and can be used in place of the new VSB Daily Health Assessment form. No personal information is collected by this application, however, the grade range selected within the app is tracked so that the Ministry of Education can better understand the application usage demographics. The K12 Daily Health Check app can be accessed by clicking [here](#).

As always, those experiencing symptoms of illness may also use the BC Self-Assessment Tool “Thrive Health” by visiting [www.thrive.health/bc-self-assessment-tool](http://www.thrive.health/bc-self-assessment-tool).

## MAY EVENTS:

24 May: Victoria Day

## STANDING LINKS:

VSB Webpage: Please click [here](#)  
Magee School Webpage: Please click [here](#)  
Magee on twitter: <https://twitter.com/MageeLion>  
Magee PAC: Please click [here](#)  
Magee Fundraising: Please click [here](#)  
Magee Music society: Please click [here](#)



## COVID-19 Daily Health Assessment

All parents, guardians, and/or caregivers have the responsibility to conduct a Daily Health Assessment of your child(ren) each day before sending them to school.

Similarly, all VSB staff must complete a Daily Health Assessment and confirm completion each day at sign-in or with their supervisor. *Do not return this form to your school/supervisor.*

Keep a copy of this Daily Health Assessment in a handy area at home (such as in your kitchen) and incorporate this Daily Health Assessment into your morning routine, before leaving for school or work.

### Daily Health Assessment

1. COVID-19 Symptoms	Do you have any of the following symptoms?	
Fever (over 38°C)	YES	NO
Chills	YES	NO
Cough or worsening of chronic cough	YES	NO
Difficulty breathing	YES	NO
Loss of sense of smell or taste	YES	NO
Sore throat	YES	NO
Loss of appetite	YES	NO
Extreme fatigue or tiredness	YES	NO
Headache	YES	NO
Body aches	YES	NO
Nausea and vomiting	YES	NO
Diarrhea	YES	NO
<b>2. International Travel</b>	Have you returned from travel outside Canada in the last 14 days?	
	YES	NO
<b>3. Close Contact</b>	Have you had contact with a person who has COVID-19? You would have been advised of this by Public Health.	
	YES	NO
<b>4. Isolate</b>	Have you been told to isolate by Public Health?	
	YES	NO

#### WHAT TO DO NEXT

**If you answered "No" to all of the above (1-4), the student or staff member is welcome to attend school or work.**

**1. If you answered "Yes" to any of the above symptoms, follow the instructions below:**

SYMPTOMS	WHAT TO DO
Fever (above 38°C) Chills Cough	Loss of sense of smell or taste Difficulty breathing
Sore throat Loss of appetite Headache Body aches	Extreme fatigue or tiredness Nausea or vomiting Diarrhea
	<p><b>1 or more of these symptoms:</b> Get tested and stay home.</p> <p><b>If you have 1 symptom:</b> Stay home until you feel better.</p> <p><b>If you have 2 or more of these symptoms:</b> Stay home and wait 24 hours to see if you feel better. Get tested if not better after 24 hours.</p>

**2. If you answered "Yes" to travelling internationally** within the last 14 days,  
*Self-quarantine for 14 days at home from the date that you arrived back in Canada.*

**3. If you answered "Yes" to being a Public Health confirmed close contact** of someone who has COVID-19,  
*Self-isolate at home for 14 days. If you also have any symptoms or develop any, get tested for COVID-19.*  
**Note:** People who are close contacts are notified by Public Health.

**4. If you answered "Yes" to having been told to isolate,** you must stay home until Public Health says it is safe to return

Access the BC COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool (<https://bc.thrive.health/covid19/en>) anytime to determine if you/your child should seek testing for COVID-19.