

COLLINGWOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD SCHOOL

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Website: collingwood.vsb.bc.ca

Principal: Karen Noel-Bentley (604-713-4778)
Annex Vice-Principal: Susan Worthington (604-713-5340)

Director of Instruction: Chris Wong (604-713-5000)
Superintendent: Helen McGregor (604-713-5100)

February 2, 2023

VICE PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Families,

2023, the Year of the Rabbit, and the Year of the Cat are now underway! A new year often brings about change and Collingwood is no exception.

Ms. Sylvia retired mid-January and we wish her health and happiness. We warmly welcome Ms. Nav Khunguray (Ms. K) to the Office Administrative Assistant position. She has already learned many students' names but please stop in the office and introduce yourself if you have a moment.

In the first month after winter break staff and students spent time reflecting on the first half of the school year and deciding on some changes. These changes mostly affect the lunch hour.

Going forward, all students will be eating together in the Activity/Multi-purpose room and then play outside. The Kindergartens and Grade 1s play area will be separate from the Grade 2/3s, who will be on the east (field) side of the school. Once a week there will be a Gym time, organized and supervised by teachers, for interested students who signed up.

Sincerely,
Susan Worthington
Vice-Principal

Office Updates: District Communications

This month's [VSB: After the Bell!](#) podcast is titled **The Not-So-New Redesigned Curriculum**. you'll hear directly from those responsible for our publicly funded education system. Tune in for candid, intimate and honest conversations about

what's happening in schools. It will feature conversations with students, educators, decision makers and staff about vital events, topics and issues in education.

Please listen, follow and rate it on Apple podcasts, Spotify, or anywhere you get your podcasts.

Office Updates: Late or Absent Student(s)

If your child will be late or absent please use the Safe Arrival line, rather than the school line. 604-713-5159 with the code 20# will access Collingwood's mailbox.

This will be a huge timesaver for Ms. K, as she is busy learning all the students' names and how things are done at Collingwood!

PAC News

Ms. McLean applied for and received a \$400.00 grant from the Vancouver Schools Music Teachers Association. The funds were generously matched by Collingwood PAC. Ms. McLean will be using the funds to purchase a variety of instruments and resources for the Music program.

The next PAC meeting will be Tuesday February 7th at 6:30pm. The meetings now take place the **first Tuesday** of the month in the school library as well as on-line.

To help communicate, PAC has a WhatsApp group for anyone who wants to stay up to date and in

touch with other PAC members. Regular updates are posted here. The code to join is...

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/BadDS5RCz2tHTxiQoLBgnA>

Collingwood PAC's email address is collingwoodschoolpac@gmail.com. Please reach out at any time.

Collingwood Coffee Hiatus

Collingwood's school counsellor Ms. Anjula Joshi is suspending Monday's Collingwood Coffee until after Spring Break.

She will be teaching in classrooms during this time but is looking forward to continuing in a couple of months.

Community Supports: Vancouver Public Library

<https://vpl.bibliocommons.com/v2/events?locations=COL>

Weekly LEGO Block Party: Each Saturday, children grades K-7 are welcome to drop-in and have a chance to display their creations on the library shelves!

Monthly KidsZone for grades K-7: This month will feature Valentines crafts and fun. Wednesday February 8th, 3:30-4:30pm. March session will also be on the 8th, 3:30-4:30.

TEIR

Collingwood hosts TEIR, a district program that specializes in teaching reading. A new session of TEIR will be starting Monday February 13th.

The staff and students at Collingwood wish all students in our previous group all the best! We sure enjoyed having you all in our school.

Library Update

The second annual Collingwood Reads book competition has begun!

The students will be reading 5 picture books nominated for the Caldecott Medal. *Knight Owl*,

Farmhouse, and *Gibberish* are among some of the titles.

Students will be voting for their favourite just before Spring Break!

February Focus: Kindness

"Acts of Kindness Make me Bloom" is the quote under our Kindness Tree.

During the month of February, staff and students will be adding their statements to the tree on display in the hallway by the office. Take a minute to read a few acts of kindness by our Collingwood School community.

Classes will be all talking about kindness and how to fill each other's bucket. "Bucket filling" is a concept that was introduced in the 2015 children's book *Have You Filled a Bucket Today: A Guide to Daily Happiness for Kids*.

UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

February 7- PAC Meeting 6:30pm

February 15 – Immunization Clinic for Ks and other selected students

February 17 – Professional Day – no school for students

February 20 – Family Day – no school for staff or students