



NIGHTINGALE NEWS

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Dates to Remember in February

Monday, February 6	...Kindergarten dental screening
Wednesday, February 15	...Early Dismissal for Parent Conferences Communicating Student Learning (CSL)
Friday, February 17	...Professional Development Day No School for Students
Monday, February 20	...Family Day—Statutory Holiday No School
Wednesday, February 22	...Pink Shirt Day
Friday, February 24	...Fire Drill

A Message from Ms. Hughes

Reaching the mid-point of the school year is always a time of year for me where I look forward to the lighter mornings and evenings, the milder weather and more opportunities to be outside without the cold. February and March we often see signs of spring popping up around the school and down the streets.

While we should always be thinking of ways to be better and to treat people respectfully, February is the month where we dedicate a specific day to anti-homophobia through Pink Shirt Day. This year, Pink Shirt Day will be on Wednesday, February 22. Please encourage your child to wear pink on that day to acknowledge the importance of respect for diversity.

Also, take a look at page 3 for the February Diversity Calendar and a reminder to let us know if you would like something added to this calendar.

This month, teachers have been writing student progress reports. These reports will be sent home with your child(ren) on Tuesday. If you are new to Nightingale, please take a look at page 4 for details about reporting student progress.



REPORTING STUDENT ABSENCES

If your child is sick and unable to attend school, please report your child's absence:

Call 604-713-5159 school code 59#

or

nigattendance@vsb.bc.ca



Report your child's first and last name, division number, and teacher's name. It is important that you do call this number, even if you have sent a message to your child's teacher via e-mail. This will let the office know your child is absent so that we know they are safe at home. Teachers do not necessarily check their e-mail or they may be away themselves and we would not have access to the information. Thank you.

We would like to humbly acknowledge that we are learning, unlearning and relearning on the unceded, un-surrendered, and traditional territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm | Musqueam, Skwxwú7mesh | Squamish & səliwətaʔ | Tsleil-Waututh Nations. With this acknowledgement comes the commitment to engage in ongoing acts of reconciliation.

PAC Updates

Unfortunately, our January PAC meeting had to be postponed. The rescheduled date is Wednesday, February 8 via [Zoom](#). Thanks for your understanding—sometimes life just happens!

Our **very enthusiastic PAC fundraising committee** have started to organize some more fundraisers and activities for our school. This is what they are planning in the days and months ahead, more details to come closer to the dates:

- Rocky Mountain Pizza Fundraiser - kickoff on was on popcorn day - parents can order online and delivery will be at the end of the day later in February
- West Coast Seeds - launching February 16th - parents may order online



- Spring Coffee Morning - Thursday, April 6
- Earth Week Bottle Drive - Friday April 21



Kindergarten Registration 2023-2024

Kindergarten priority registration ends on Tuesday,

January 31. We continue to accept applications until this date. If you apply after January 31 your application

would not be included in the draw if we have more applicants than kindergarten spaces. Please let any of your neighbours know that they may apply, if their child was born in 2018. The registration process will have two steps:

- ♦ Step 1: Complete the online registration at vsbapplynow.vsb.bc.ca—print out the completed registration form
 - ♦ Step 2: Phone the school to make an appointment to bring in your documents (604-713-5290). At the time of your appointment, bring the completed registration form along with the required documents to your catchment school.
- Thank you.

Supporting documents needed:

Proof of residence in Vancouver
 Child's birth certificate
 Immigration documentation (if applicable)
 Immunization records
 Court orders/documents (if applicable)



NOTE: The registration process is not complete until you have completed both steps in the process. Priority registration for in-catchment students ends on January 31st. If we have more applications for kindergarten than we have available spaces, a draw will be held. If your child is placed on a waitlist, the district will place you in a nearby school until a space might become available at Nightingale Elementary.



At Nightingale we love our school!

Nightingale Website

Visit the [Nightingale website](#) for other school and VSB news. As mentioned in the

December newsletter, while the website looks the same on the front end, the software was changed over the winter break. As I am learning how to navigate this new software, please be patient, as some items may have been relocated or removed accidentally when the district made the transfer. Please let me know if something appears to be missing!



Diversity Calendar

Listed below are some of the observances, holidays, celebrations and notable dates in February. *I extend my apologies if I missed an observance that your family recognizes, please do let us know!* This addition to the newsletter is *intended to be inclusive* and we welcome any and all additions. If you would like your family observances or celebrations to be acknowledged, please e-mail [Angela Hughes](#) and they can be added to the newsletters. Click on the links to learn more about each event.

All month—[Black History Month](#)

February 2—[Groundhog Day](#)

February 5—[Lantern Festival](#) and [Maghi-Purnima](#)

February 5 and 6—[Tu B'Shevat](#) (Jewish holiday that begins at sundown on the first day and ends at nightfall on the second day).

February 14—[Valentine's Day](#)

February 15—National Flag of Canada Day

February 18—[Lailatal Miraj](#) (celebrated by Muslims) and [Maha Shivarati](#) (Hindu)

February 21—[Shrove Tuesday](#) (Christian)

February 22—[Pink Shirt Day](#) and [Ash Wednesday](#) (Christian)

Pink Shirt Day is
Wednesday,
February 22



Are You Returning in September?



We are starting to prepare for next year and, although it is only the end of January, we do need to start looking at the number of students that will be returning to prepare for our staffing. **If you**

have not yet completed [this form](#), please do so as soon as possible.

Please be reminded that, if you are moving or have moved, you should register your child at their new home school as soon as possible to ensure a space at that school in September. Thank you.

Music Grant

In December, Mr. Bonnell applied for a grant from the Vancouver School Music Teachers' Association. This grant was approved for \$400. We would also like to thank the PAC for matching the grant for a total of \$800 that will go towards some new instruments for the music program.



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Nightingale Student Council

We would like to introduce you to this term's Nightingale Student Council (NSC). The Student Council takes leadership in the school community by representing their classmates. They take their ideas and work collaboratively to bring spirit and make a difference in our school community. They always welcome your ideas, so kindly let them know! Voices from your Student Council as to why they joined and how they will make a difference in our school:

Vera in Grade 7 in Mr. Harwick's class: *"I felt NSC would be a good experience for me and since I am new to the school, this helps me get to know more people."*

Jade in Grade 7 in Mr. Harwick's class: *"I wanted to join NSC because I saw it was a good opportunity for leadership. I think that I would be a good support because when you are older, you are supposed to be a good role model."*

Oliver in Grade 6 in Ms. Tufts' class: *"I wanted to join the NSC to help the school and not just stand around and do nothing. I wanted to make myself and my services helpful to my peers."*

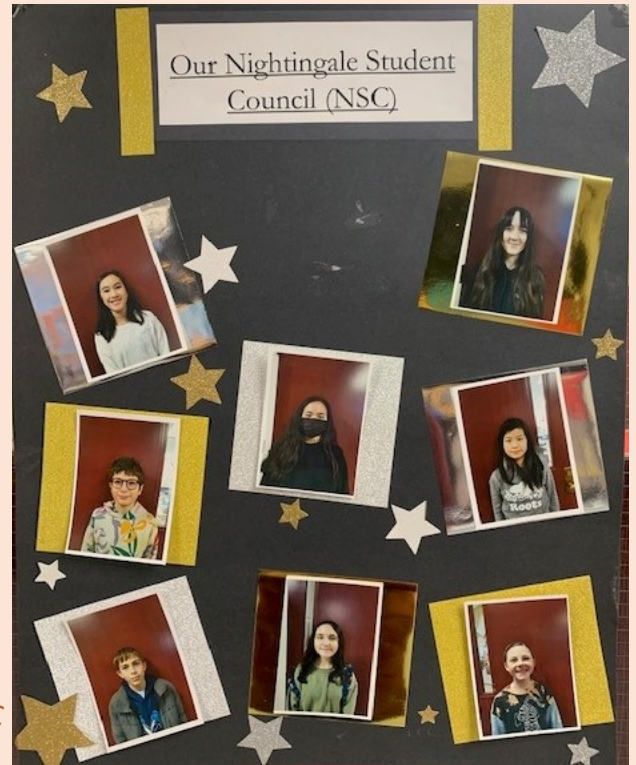
Sapphire in Grade 6 in Ms. Tufts' class: *"I joined NSC because I was told by an adult that I am a great leader."*

Reina in Grade 5 in Ms. Wong's class: *"I joined NSC because I like to do announcements and share information with the school. I think that I would be a good support by sharing clear information and helping in school events."*

Emma in Grade 5 in Ms. Wong's class: *"I wanted to join NSC because I thought I could bring different ideas to our school community. I feel like I can accomplish this goal. I also feel like I would be a good support by giving clear and helpful announcements."*

Tiffany in Grade 5 in Mr. Yuen's class: *"I wanted to join NSC to help others around the school and I feel happy and free when I help others. Some fun facts about me are that my favorite food is sushi, and I am Chinese/Cantonese Canadian."*

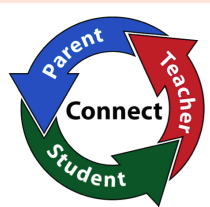
Felix B. in Grade 5 in Mr. Yuen's class: *"I joined NSC because I felt like I wanted to make the school a fun place to learn."*



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PARENT-TEACHER communication

All Vancouver Public Schools, along with schools throughout British Columbia, continue to use the model of reporting to parents on a regular and pre-determined schedule to communicate student learning with parents on an on-going basis throughout the school year. Parents currently receive five communications from teachers within a school year:



- a written progress report at the end of January
- a written summative report at the end of June
- a minimum of three ongoing communications of student learning in various subject areas (goal setting conferences in October were one example of this communication).

The written reports will include descriptive comments and a summary of student progress in relation to the learning standards from the BC Curriculum. For more information about reporting of student progress, please [click here](#). The Ministry of Education have announced that there will be changes to the Reporting Order for the 2023-2024 school year. More information will be forthcoming as it becomes available.

If you have any questions about your child's report card, please speak to your child's teacher.

Family Affordability Plan

We do still have funds available to help families through the government's family affordability plan. Please reach out to the office if you think it would be helpful to receive a gift card for groceries and/or clothing for your child.

District
Information

Budget Finance

It is that time of the year when the Vancouver School Board is planning for the 2023-2024 budget. For more information about the process and how you can provide your input, please follow the [link](#).



After-School Care—KIVAN

The KIVAN Boys and Girls Club has openings for after school care and drop-in. The program picks up from Nightingale and closes at 5:30 p.m. with students being able to walk home (with permission) or picked up.

On Professional Development Days, Winter and Spring break, programs are available 5 days per week for a cost of \$50/week for members and \$125 per week for non-members. Summer programming is also available. For Grades 5-7 only there is Pre-Teen night every Thursday from 5:30-8:00 p.m. Parents are invited to contact bgcbc.ca and go to 'what we do' then 'clubs' for online registration. Yearly cost is \$1200 (without subsidy), however there are subsidies and sliding scales with monthly payment plans available.

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Cross-Boundary Applications

Priority registration for Kindergarten to grade 7 closes at the end of January. While we still accept applications throughout the year, and make every effort to have all of our catchment students accepted at our school, we sometimes do not have space and we will have a waitlist. All waitlisted students will be offered a space as one becomes available, *before cross-boundary students*. The cross-boundary application process opens up on February 1st and closes at the end of February. If you are thinking of applying to a school cross-boundary (including high school), please visit the [VSB website](#) for complete registration information.

Sustainability Grant and Seed Donation

In December Mr. Canning applied for a sustainability grant. We are happy to report that he received this grant. The \$500 grant he received will go towards gardening activities at the school.

We would also like to thank West Coast Seeds for their generous donation of seeds. The school is looking forward to the spring, the



time when we can start to clean up our planters and garden area to start gardening again!



Adult Crossing Guard Volunteers—still needed!

In the last week of January we had a small number of parents train to be adult crossing guards on 12th Avenue at the traffic lights. Once all of our supplies arrive, they will start crossing guard duty. Currently, we only have enough volunteers for part-time duty. The volunteers will be positioned on the north side of East 12th Avenue. If you are interested and able to volunteer some time, please reach out to [Paul](#), parent coordinator, to be added to our list and receive some training. Thank you to all those who have volunteered!



Basketball

Basketball season has started – thank you to Mr. Yuen and Mr. Hartwick who are sponsoring the teams! Games and practices are as follows and can also be found on the Nightingale Website under the [Extracurricular](#) heading.

Boys (Gr. 5/6)

Games – Mondays after school

- January 30, February 6, and February 13 at Nightingale Elementary

Practices – Tuesdays before school (7:45 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.) and

Thursdays after school (3:10 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.)

Girls (Gr. 4/5/6)

Games – Tuesdays after school

- January 31 at Nightingale Elementary
- February 7 at Simon Fraser Elementary
- February 14 at Nightingale Elementary
- February 21 at Selkirk Elementary

Practices – Tuesdays at lunch and Thursdays 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.



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Nightingale Art



Snowmen—By Division 12, Kindergarten

Nightingale Art



Division 12
Kindergarten
Snowmen



Our Families—By Division 11, Kindergarten

Nightingale Art

