



Director of Instruction : Mr. Christopher Wong
Principal: Ms. Harjinder Sandhu
Vice Principal: Ms. Amber Logie



PAC Chairperson: Ms. Melissa Hayward-Cheung and Ms. Monica Singh
School Liaison Trustee: Ms. Preeti Faridkot

With that deep gratitude and respect, we acknowledge that we are honoured to be learning and unlearning on the ancestral and unceded lands of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation) & səlilwətaʔ (Tseil-Waututh Nation).



Happy Lunar New Year

February 10, 2024, marks the beginning of this year's Lunar New Year celebrations for the Year of the Wood Dragon. The term Lunar New Year refers to the first day of the New Year that is associated with the cycles of the moon. This holiday is traditionally a time to honour household and heavenly deities as well as ancestors. It is also a time to bring family together for feasting.

What is the Chinese Lunar Calendar?

The Chinese Calendar is a lunisolar calendar. It integrates the revolution of the Earth around the Sun and the movement of the Moon around the Earth. A month begins on the day of the new moon or invisible moon and ends on the day before the next new moon. The full moon is either on the 15th or 16th of the month. A Chinese year can have 12 or 13 lunar months.

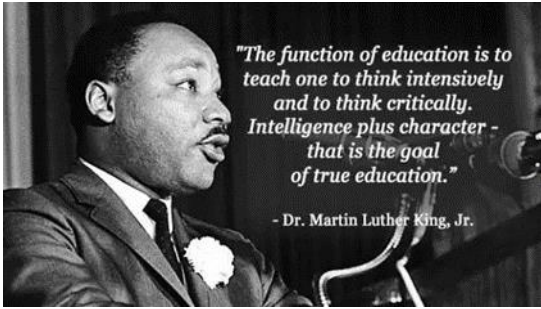
Lunar New Year is traditionally celebrated in China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Macau, Singapore, Indonesia, Malaysia, Korea, Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia, Mauritius, and the Philippines. It is also celebrated in Australia, Canada, and anywhere people from these Asian countries now call home.

Traditions, customs, and ways of celebrating this holiday vary depending on where families live and have lived. Often, families gather on New Year's Eve for a large family meal. It is also traditional for every family to thoroughly clean the house, in order to sweep away any ill-fortune and to make way for incoming good luck. Windows and doors are decorated with red coloured paper banners with couplets of good fortune, happiness, wealth, and longevity. Other activities include watching traditional dance (Lion Dance), lighting firecrackers, and giving money in red paper envelopes.

2024 is the Year of the Dragon. The sign of the Dragon is the only mythical creature in the 12-animal Chinese zodiac and is the fifth one to arrive. The Dragon is a symbol of strength, power, wisdom, nobility, good fortune, and success. 2024 is predicted to be a year for visionary leaders, innovators, and problem solvers. It is predicted to be a great year to start new projects, explore new opportunities, and create value for self and others. People born in the Year of the Dragon are said to possess intelligence, pride and ambition, and also possess arrogance and impulsivity. Recent/upcoming years of the Dragon are: 1952, 1964, 1976, 1988, 2000, 2012, 2024 and 2036.

Lunar New Year is one of the world's most prominent and celebrated festivals. Check out how you can celebrate this year around town! <https://vancouverbestplaces.com/chinese-new-year-vancouver/>

BLACK HISTORY MONTH



February is Black History Month, a time to reflect on the stories, experiences, and accomplishments of Canada's black community. Just like last year we will be looking at the contributions of several prominent black contemporary and historical figures that have contributed to getting equal rights and freedoms, so that all people could be treated equally. We

continue to discuss how people of different skin colours have been treated differently over the course of our history. We are learning that in early black history in America, many blacks were brought over to North America, from Africa, and made slaves, losing the ability to make decisions for themselves. We are learning that as time went on 'white people' and 'people of colour' were treated differently. We continue to learn that some people had to stand up to help change laws to stop segregation. We are happy we are living now, where we can live together happily, learning in our diverse community. We recognize that people need to stand up for what is right and just for all. We know that a lot of the people who did this made personal sacrifices like going to jail or even faced death. We know that now these people are seen as brave and as heroes.

Last year we shared widely in our school two of the stories of two strong black women: Viola Desmond and Harriet Tubman. These stories and the story of the Underground Railroad are currently being shared within the school on our Henderson Hawks page. Our plan is to introduce more stories of prominent black people who were the 'first' to break the colour barrier in different fields and contributed to gaining rights and pursuing equality.

Willie O'Ree was born and grew up on the east coast of Canada, in Fredericton, New Brunswick. He



was 1 of 13 children born to civil engineer Harry O'Ree and his wife Rosebud. As a youngster, Willie was a talented, all-around athlete and like many Canadians he had a love for hockey! Despite facing racism and suffering a major eye injury, on January 18th, 1958, Willie became the first black player to play in the National Hockey League (NHL) when he stepped onto the ice in a Boston Bruin jersey, playing against the Montreal Canadiens. O'Ree had been playing his second season in the minor-league for the Quebec Aces and he would only play 2 games

that year. During the 1960-61 season, O'Ree played 43 games for Boston. During his playing days O'Ree would be called many racist names by hockey personnel and fans. He was eventually traded to the Montreal Canadiens, but they never invited him to training camp and he was denied the opportunity to play for them. Although his NHL career was short, O'Ree won two scoring titles in the Western Hockey League (WHL) and was often called the 'Jackie Robinson of ice hockey' (Jackie Robinson was the first black-American baseball player to play in the Major League (MLB). Up until then all black players had to play in the 'Negro League'.) Although his time in the NHL was short, O'Ree's achievement on and off the ice has earned him many honours over the years including: the Order of Canada, Induction into the Hockey Hall of Fame, and Canada's Sports Hall of Fame. He has

been recognized for his contributions to hockey and in 1998 the NHL recruited O'Ree to be the director of youth development for its diversity task force. He continues to serve as the Director of Youth Development and ambassador for NHL Diversity. Willie is married to Deljeet Kaur Manak O'Ree and they have one daughter Chandra O'Ree.



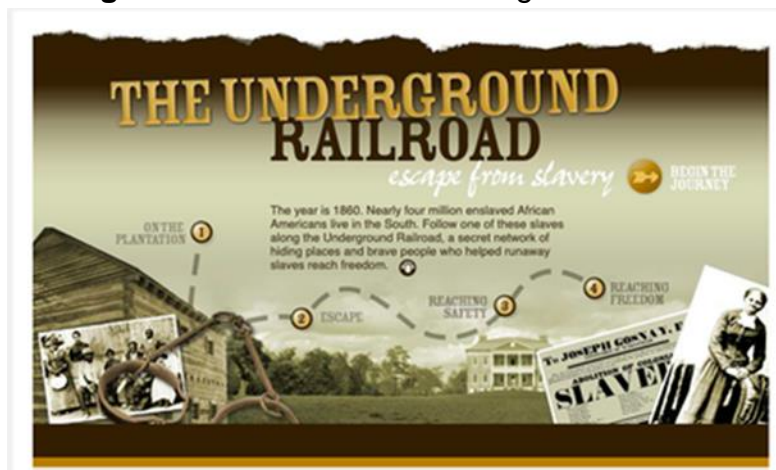
Mary Ann Shadd Cary, (October 9, 1823 – June 5, 1893) was an American Canadian anti-slavery activist, journalist, publisher, teacher, and lawyer. She was the first black woman publisher in North America and the first woman publisher in Canada. She was also the first black woman to attend law school in the United States. Mary Shadd edited The Provincial Freeman, established in 1853. Published weekly in southern Ontario, it advocated equality, integration, and self-education for black people in Canada and the United States.



Mary's family was involved in the Underground Railroad assisting those fleeing slavery. After the passage of the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850, her family relocated to Canada. She returned to the United States during the American Civil War where she recruited soldiers for the [Union](#). Self taught, Mary went to [Howard University Law School](#), and continued to advocate for civil rights for African Americans and women for the rest of her life.



Underground Railroad. The Underground Railroad was a network of secret routes and safe houses used by black slaves in the United States to escape to the free state, Canada. The Underground Railroad is a metaphor, symbolizing the way to get to Canada. Slaves would refer to Canada as "The Promised Land."



In the metaphor, the "**Conductors**" were the people who helped the fleeing slaves get

from place to place. These *conductors* were people, some black, some white, some men, some women, but all of these people wanted slavery out of the world. They were also called **abolitionists** because they wanted to abolish the practice of slavery. The *conductor* would sometimes pretend to be a slave to enter a plantation. Once a part of a plantation, the *conductor* would direct the slaves to the North. Slaves would travel at night, about 15–30 km, to each **station**. They would stop at the so-called **stations** or **depots**, during the day and rest. The **stations** were out of the way places like barns. While resting at one **station**, a message was sent to the next station to let the station master know the slaves were on their way. The fleeing slaves were referred to as "**Passengers**" or "**cargo**".

WORLD HIJAB DAY

A hijab is the name of a type of head covering worn by Muslim women and girls. In Arabic it means, “cover” or “barrier.”

World Hijab Day is the idea of Nazma Khan who faced many instances of discrimination when she arrived in New York as an immigrant at the age of 11. She was made fun of for the way she looked. As she got older, she wanted other women to understand what it felt like to be her and so she invited women to wear a hijab on February 1, 2013. This was the beginning of World Hijab Day. It is estimated that 150 countries now participate or recognize this day. This day is about a woman’s and girl’s right to choose how she wants to look and be. Many girls and women in the Henderson community wear a hijab.



There are many other celebrations and many other cultural practices to learn about. We share what we know from our experiences and what we have previously learned. If you celebrate events or cultural practices we might not be as familiar with or you would like to share a little more about your culture with the rest of us, please just contact Ms. Sandhu, hsandhu@vsb.bc.ca.

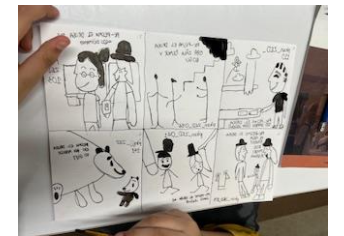
Artist in Residence Studio Program



We are fortunate this year at Henderson to have 16 classes selected to participate in the AIRS program. This program helps bring in local, professional artists to the school community to work collaboratively with teachers and provide meaningful, hands-on, visual-arts engagement for students to unleash their creativity.



Right now we are working with local artist, Tami Murray. She is currently working with Div. 4,5,6 along with artist Aihiblin Fowlie. Tami is also working with Divisions 12, 13, 14. They have been exploring the idea of inside stories, outside stories, in relation to storytelling and book making. Last week they were prepping their pages that are going to become the insides of their books and thinking about what their/our story is.



Divisions 1,2, 3 have completed their work with artist Monica Cheema. Students worked collaboratively to create lively and curious stop-motion animations. Each group began by selecting an archived image from one of Vancouver’s historic neighbourhoods, which they then brought



to life using carefully chosen collage materials. The result is an assortment of 17 micro-shorts, uniquely reflecting each student’s understanding of archives, history, and community. These projects will be on display during the Wednesday, February 7th conferences in the FuturePlay Lab, please come and check them out.

Student Learning Survey 2024

The Provincial Student Learning Survey is unique in its scope, size, and usefulness to schools. It gathers information from parents/guardians/caregivers, teachers and students on topics related to school environment, safety, and achievement. The information is used for planning in individual schools and provides a district and provincial perspective. This month the Student Learning Survey will be administered to students in grades 4 and 7, their parents/guardians/caregivers, and all school staff. We encourage parents/guardians/caregivers to participate in this survey, as the results are important in identifying and celebrating current strengths, as well as determining where the school needs to focus improvement. The surveys contain standard questions for the province. The survey can be completed electronically and can be accessed on the Internet at http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat_survey. Any computer with an Internet connection can be used, and access to the e-survey is simple and secure. The survey can be accessed through the link with or without an anonymous login code by selecting the school district and school name where your child attends school. Provincial, District and School Reports for previous years can be viewed at the same site under the Results section.

The e-survey site will be open until April 29th.

If you have any questions, please contact the school at 604-713-4837.

PINK DAY – FEBRUARY 22ND

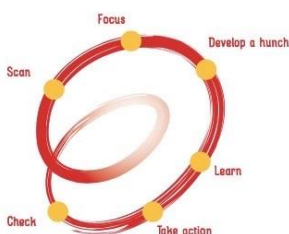
On Wednesday, February 28th Henderson will join other schools across Canada by participating in Pink Shirt Day to help raise awareness that bullying will not be tolerated anywhere.



Pink Shirt Day started when David Shepherd and Travis Price, students at Central Kings Rural High School in Nova Scotia, saw a student being bullied because he wore a pink shirt to school. They decided to support the student, so they went and purchased pink shirts and handed them out to everyone the next day at school. Now, Pink Shirt Day is a national event celebrated every year. This year's campaign encourages everyone to work together and treat others with dignity and respect. The COVID-19 pandemic has affected us all and shown the importance of helping one another and advocating for those who need it, "Lift Each Other Up" and to continue to sprinkle the world with kindness. We all have the capacity to be kind and compassionate. No matter what our differences, recognizing each other's gifts and worth goes a long way to build positive relationships. So, on Wednesday, February 28th we at Henderson will do our best to wear pink and "Lift Each Other Up" with care, compliments, and kindness. We will continue to work at our school to support teachings and programs that encourage healthy self-esteem and practice the skills of empathy, compassion, and kindness.



School Plan 2021 to 2024



We have been working on a Social Emotional Learning goal this school planning cycle. Our inquiry question is: What educational practices, strategies, programs, and school-wide, common language might we implement to increase students' skill development in Social Emotional Learning (SEL) to better self-regulate and thus be more equipped to engage in learning? How can we make First Peoples teaching and learning more authentic?

Social Emotional Learning

This year our school inquiry question is: **What educational practices, strategies, programs, and school wide common language might we implement to increase students' skill development in Social Emotional Learning (SEL) to better self-regulate and thus be more equipped to engage in learning? How can we make First Peoples teaching and learning more authentic?**

As a school we are using the common language found in the Second Step Program. This program teaches a variety of social-emotional skills to children, like nurturing positive relationships, managing emotions, and setting goals – so they can thrive in school and in life.

Ways to Feel Calm



Solve Problems with STEP

Say the problem

Think of solutions

Explore the outcomes

Pick a solution



Netiquette & Digital Citizenship

In today's world we all find ourselves immersed in technology. Much of our day, no matter what our age, is filled with screen time. The impact on our lives is to make things easier, to be more connected and more informed about the world. However, there are challenges that come with all of this access to technology. It is important that we continue to have discussions on the safe and responsible use of technology. We need to be equipped with knowledge and the tools to be cyber aware. We need to have ongoing conversations with our children to know what they are doing online, that they are staying safe, that they are not using technology in lieu of building the friendship and social skills they need to interact with their friends and community. Students need our guidance to make wise choices online, respecting themselves and others, showing empathy and staying safe.

We have an Acceptable Use of Technology form that students and parents sign at the beginning of the year. At school we monitor technology use and have "blocks" set up to control what students have access to. Below are some reminders of what you can do at home with your child to protect them if you have them playing and learning online.

- Set up usernames, profiles and gamer tags that do not include any personal or private information.
- Use several different, not easily guessable passwords.
- Parents should always know their child's passwords.
- Do not have any personal information identifiable in profile pictures (example a picture in front of your home or school).
- Set up all user profiles as private and leave account information blank or as parents come up with alternatives you can use.
- Make sure your child knows in person all of the people they accept as virtual friends. Virtual friends should be real friends they have from their school, neighbourhood, sports teams/clubs and family/family friends, NOT strangers.
- Everything students post should be positive and kind.
- If someone else posts something inappropriate or mean, students should not engage in commenting or "liking" the post. Instead, you can make a positive comment of support, block or remove the post or ignore the creator of the mean behaviour.
- In order to help students, decide what is appropriate or inappropriate behaviour, one strategy is having them think how their own caregivers, parents or grandparents would react.
- If a mean comment is directed at them, we need students to not react immediately, but reach out for help from an adult to see if they should make a positive comment back, block or remove the post, or



ignore the creator of the mean behaviour.

- Make sure you as a parent know about all your child's social media profiles.

Many classes have had discussions in the library Lab about safe technology use through the Telus Wise Education Programs. Thank you to Melissa Hayward-Cheung for facilitating these sessions. We will continue to discuss online safety with all Grade 2-7 students.



Hawks Hoops

The Henderson Hawks basketball season is officially underway. This year we have 5 teams: Grade 6 Junior Boys Team, Grade 6 Junior Girls Team, Two Senior Boys Teams, and a Grade 7 Senior Girls Team. Teams are meeting bright and early for morning practices and spending some of their lunch hours playing basketball. The student athletes are displaying great determination and commitment on the court. A big shout out to the staff members who volunteer their personal time to coach our athletes, Mr. Chao, Mr. Lung, Ms. Sandhu, and Ms. Parmar without them Henderson sports would not be possible. Games will be played after school versus other neighboring schools for the months of January and February. Go Hawks Go!

Rugby Sevens & Vancouver

Elementary Rookie Rugby Festival

This month Vancouver will play host to 16 nations as part of the World Rugby 7s Series. As a part of its legacy, Rugby Canada is committed to growing the game of rugby through its community outreach program. This year, UBC Rugby had two players come visit us over the course of three weeks to provide Divisions 1 to 6 the opportunity to learn skills. We are excited to participate in the new Rugby Festival that will take place over three days later this month. This festival will have our students connect with players from various national teams as they continue to develop their rugby skills. We see the value that sport brings to the social emotional development and health of our students. Sport helps develop critical thinking, communication, decision making and problem-solving skills, just to name a few. By exposing our students to as many physical activities as possible, the earlier we can connect them to physical activities they enjoy, the more likely they are to maintain physically active lifestyles and good health.



Henderson Clubs

It is so wonderful that we are able to offer so many activities students to be creative and active. Along with service activities and sports, we have many Clubs during the lunch break! We have:

Mondays:

School's Out Activities (Grade 4-7)



Tuesdays:

Crochet Club (Grade 7 with some) with Ms. Mack & Ms. Lehmann

Wednesdays: Garden Club with Ms. Leahy

Drama Club (Grade 6/7) with Ms. Smith, Ms. Ineke & Ms. Emily
School's Out Activities (Grade 4-7)



Thursdays:

Crochet Club (Grade 4/5) with Ms. Mack & Ms. Lehmann

Fridays:

School's Out Activities (Grade 4-7)

Parent Advisory Council (PAC)

Parents and Caregivers play an important role in the school and we encourage them to participate as much as they can. Henderson School is well supported by our PAC. The PAC provides wonderful support in many areas of the school— planning and organizing special events, fundraising for field trips and school needs, and communicating with parents, caregivers, and the school. They are always open to new members and welcome both new families and returning families to become involved. All PAC information can be found on the PAC website: www.hendersonpac.com

The PAC coordinates a Hot Lunch program for families wishing to purchase a hot lunch. This program is a fundraiser and orders are placed online. If you wish to have your child participate but need assistance ordering, please contact Ms. Fether in the office.

Upcoming PAC Meetings:

The PAC welcomes all parents and caregivers to monthly meetings throughout the school year. No RSVP needed to attend. Meetings are Mondays in the Nest (school library). Doors at open at 6:30 and childminding is provided. Start time: 6:45pm

- February 26, 2024
- March - no meeting
- April 15, 2024
- May 13, 2024
- June 17, 2024 (AGM and elections)

SNOW CLOSURE



Winter is upon us and in the event of unsafe weather conditions (e.g., snow), a CLEAR ANNOUNCEMENT stating that schools are closed will be provided by 6:00 a.m. to local radio stations.

CKNW (980 AM)

CKWX (NEWS 1130 AM)

CBC RADIO (690 AM, 105.7 FM)

BCTV/Global (cable channel 11)

FAIRCHILD Radio (CJVB AM 1470/CKHG FM 96.1)

CITY TV (cable channel 13)

In Addition, Information on snow closures will be available online at www.vsb.bc.ca

Mark Your Calendars



- **February 7th** – **Early Dismissal 2:00pm** - Communicating Learning Conferences
- **February 8th** – **Early Dismissal 2:00pm** - Communicating Learning Conferences
- **February 10th** - Lunar New Year



- **BC Family Day February 16th** – Pro-D Day – **No School** for students
- **February 19th** – Family Day – **No School** – Enjoy the day with your family!
- **February 26th** – PAC Meeting in the library @6:30 pm social time 6:45pm start
- **February 28th** – Pink Shirt Day
- **March 18th to 28th** – Spring Break – **No School**
- **March 29th** - Good Friday – **No School**
- **April 1st** – Easter Monday – **No School**