November 6, 2026 stəywətɛ:ɲ Point Grey Secondary School OUR VSB

Community Newsletter

Phone: (604) 713-8220 I Website: www.vsb.bc.ca/point-grey
General Email: pointgrey@vsb.bc.ca I Attendance Email: pointgreyattendance@vsb.bc.ca

With deep gratitude and respect, we are honoured to be learning and unlearning on the ancestral and unceded lands of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam Nation).

Principal's Message

Dear Students and Families,

Congratulations to our Student Council for organizing such a fun "HalloWeek" last week – there was pumpkin carving, pumpkin hunting, fall fiesta celebrations, trick-or-treating, and, of course, the fabulous costume catwalk. If families are curious to learn more about what Student Council has planned for the rest of this school year, you are invited to please join us at the next PAC meeting on Wednesday, November 25th, where Student Council will be featured as special guests.

We are also grateful to the many students participating in our annual CANley Cup fundraiser, including those in Social Studies 10, Student Council and our Food Bank Society Club. Please see the next page for more information about this important school community initiative.

On Tuesday, November 10th, we honour our veterans during our Remembrance Day Assemblies. Thank you in advance to our committee of students and teachers organizing and participating in this year's assemblies.

In this newsletter, you will find information about CANley Cup, school office reminders, communicating student learning, student art displays, athletics highlights, music highlights, counselling updates, PAC updates, and important dates for 2026-2027. We encourage students and families to continue checking our school website for class schedules, monthly calendar, student agenda, and other updates throughout the school year.

Thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter and for connecting with your students about their learning.

With appreciation,

Michelle Wood
Principal

Mission Statement

We are committed to supporting and teaching a diverse group of students to learn, to critically reflect, and to care for themselves and others as they prepare to find their places in the world.



Did you know? Point Grey is defending a 15-year title as the winner of the CANley Cup – a fundraising competition across all 18 VSB high schools that benefits the Greater Vancouver Food Bank! Point Grey consistently comes out on top in the competition of dollars donated per student, and with each dollar being equivalent to three cans of food, our community is making a significant contribution to combatting hunger in our city. With the GVFB being ranked one of the top ten most efficient charities in Canada, and 30% of its beneficiaries being children, it's a pretty great place to put your charitable dollars this holiday season.

Help us stay on top and help the GVFB!

Donate via the link attached below or drop a cheque made out to the Greater Vancouver Foodbank at the PG office, before December 11th. Donations over $20 will receive a charitable tax receipt, whether through the website or via cheque.

Thank you!

Link to Point Grey Secondary GVFB fundraising page: https://vfd.foodbank.bc.ca/fundraiser/pointgrey2026

~Point Grey Secondary Food Bank Society Club, Sponsored by Mr. Mey

CAPACITY CAFÉ

NOVEMBER 24TH, 2026

What We Learned

Parents and caregivers please join us for this unique **learning opportunity** to hear from youth leaders across Vancouver's high school district about **important teen issues**. Youth leaders connected to SACY will be asked a series of questions related to **topics** such as:

- high school challenges
- substances
- mental health
- what they wish parents knew

Parents and caregivers will be asked to participate in the event as, **"active listeners,"** with **no questions** asked **for the duration of discussion**.

Come ready to **show your engagement** by way of **listening** to the thoughtful responses of our speakers and **reflecting** on the concerns shared when later **considering** your own **teen's high school experience**.

We will **gather in a circle** with SACY youth leaders, parents, caregivers, and SACY facilitators **sitting with each other**.

Reminders

Date: November 24, 2026

Time: 5:30pm - 7:30pm

Location: Prince of Wales Secondary
2250 Eddington Drive, Vancouver, BC
V6L 2E7
Please **arrive at 5:30pm** for refreshments, **circle starts at 6pm**.

Registration

Scan QR code or contact a facilitator!

Parent Facilitators

Savoy Williams
savoy.williams@vch.ca
604 612 9109

Hayden Averill
haverill@vsb.bc.ca
604 690 9261



Library Learning Commons, Book Display, Remembrance Day: Lest We Forget



Library Learning Commons, Book Display, Cozy Books for Fall

School Office Reminder – Attendance Procedures

Parents/Guardians, please email pointgreyattendance@vsb.bc.ca for reporting absences.

Please make sure to include in the email the following information to avoid delays in updating attendance records:

1. Student's first and last name
2. Student number
3. Grade
4. Date(s) of absence
5. Time of absence or periods of missed classes
6. Reason for absence

VSB School Forms

If you haven't already done so, please complete the required VSB student forms online. These forms only need to be completed once, and you will not need to submit them again each school year unless you wish to change your consent for any of the forms. **Please visit: https://myforms.vsb.bc.ca**

To log in you will need the student nine-digit PEN # (Personal Education Number). Please note this is different from the School Student #. The PEN # can be found:

- On any previous report card;
- Logging into MyEd, under top tab My Info; or
- Clicking "Request Student PEN" on the sign-in page at https://myforms.vsb.bc.ca

Darker Mornings, Shorter Days: *tips for a safe commute*

As our mornings grow darker, we can all help students get to school safely. This year, we didn't turn clocks back on November 1st, as B.C. moved to year-round Pacific time. A few simple steps can help keep everyone safe on the way to and from school:

- Wear bright or reflective clothing
- Use lights when cycling or scootering
- Cross at marked crosswalks and follow traffic signals
- Stop, look and listen before crossing. Wait until vehicles have stopped before stepping onto the road
- Put phones and other distractions away during commutes
- Drivers should slow down, stay alert and take extra care around schools, crosswalks and drop-off areas

As the days grow shorter, please give yourself a little extra time and take extra care on your way to and from school.

Communicating Student Learning

The purpose of assessment is to move learning forward in an equitable and inclusive way. It helps us answer the following questions:

- *Where am I now?*
- *Where am I going?*
- *How do I get there?*

Each reporting period is an opportunity to celebrate learning and offer feedback for future learning. These reports will be available from the MyEducation Student Family Portal for four weeks. Please ensure you download or print a copy for your records. Parents/Guardians are also encouraged to contact individual subject teachers or counsellors for information on student progress.

Reporting Timeline

Semester 1
- Informal Learning Update published **October 16, 2026**
- Written Learning Update published **November 27, 2026**
- Summary of Learning published **February 5, 2027**

Semester 2
- Informal Learning Update published **March 11, 2027**
- Written Learning Update published **May 7, 2027**
- Summary of Learning published **June 29, 2027**

Full Year Courses
- Informal Learning Update published **November 27, 2026**
- Written Learning Updates published **February 5 & May 7, 2027**
- Summary of Learning published **June 29, 2027**

Parent-Teacher Conferences

There are two virtual Parent-Teacher Conference Evenings this year: one was on **Thursday, November 5, 2026** (for Semester 1) and the other is on **Tuesday, May 11, 2027** (for Semester 2).



Ceramics 9/10 Display – Fabric Book Sculptures – After Louise Bourgeois
Design and make a book sculpture that tells something about yourself or your family



Art 8 Display – Mixed Media Skeleton Studies
Oil pastel, coloured pencil, and watercolour paint

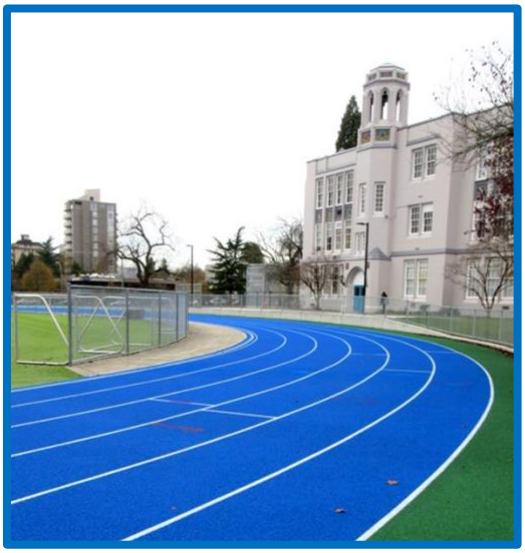


Art 9/10 Display – Haunted Harvest



These ceramic pumpkin lanterns began as two hand-built pinch pots from clay. Students carefully joined the pinch pots together to create a hollow form, then used wooden spooks to add the deep ridges that give pumpkins their characteristic look. Students then designed and cut our expressive faces and added an opening for a tea light to shines through. They brought their creations to life with colourful underglazes before finishing them with a clear glaze for a glossy surface. Each pumpkin has its own personality, from spooky and silly faces to plague-inspired bumps and creative accessories like rats and hats. Through this project, students explored hand-building, carving, painting, and glazing techniques while turning a simple lump of clay into a one-of-a-kind work of art.

Athletics Highlights



Congratulations to all our fall sports teams on their successful seasons!

Our **Field Hockey team** battled their way into the playoffs before unfortunately falling to Hamber in a close game. The **Senior Boys Soccer team** has wrapped up a successful season, while our **Bantam and Juvenile Girls Soccer teams** have both qualified for the playoffs. The **Senior Boys Soccer team** will also be heading to Zones, with a chance to qualify for the Provincial Championships in Prince George this December.

Our **Swim Team** will be competing at their final meet on November 6. Best of luck to all our swimmers!

As we wrap up the fall season, winter sports are getting underway! Basketball, Senior Girls Hockey, Wrestling, and Ski and Snowboard teams are all gearing up for their seasons.

Keep an eye out for team announcements for more information about tryouts, schedules, and upcoming competitions. Good luck to all of our winter athletes!

To find out when everyone plays, check out the website www.vancouverschoolsports.ca. GO HOUNDS!

~ Mr. Lai, Athletic Director

Music Highlights



We have over 85 music students learning together at Loon Lake over the past three days. Thank you to families and the Point Grey Music Supporters' Society for making this music retreat possible. Also, we would like to congratulate Viola Chang, Betty He, Serena Lee and Chelsea Yu who represented our school at the BC Music Educator Association Honour Ensembles Concert Series in October. Please stay tuned for upcoming music concerts on December 9th and 10th at 7pm in our school auditorium.

~ Ms. Ip & Mr. Fleming

Counselling Update

Microsoft Teams

A reminder to ask your students to check the "All Students" and Grade Level Microsoft Teams in Office 365 for important information that gets posted regularly. If students need help accessing their account, they can contact one of their teachers or their counsellor. Below are two examples of what is posted in MS Teams for students:

Planning to Apply to Post-Secondary? Not sure where to start? Help is here!

Grade 11 & 12 students: Need a little help with college, university, trades, or other post-secondary applications? This workshop will show you exactly how to navigate the application process using **EducationPlannerBC and Student Transcript Service.** Whether you're ready to apply now or just beginning to explore your options, this workshop will help you get organized and take an important step toward your future.

Join **Ms. Sullivan's Workshop** and learn how to:

- ✅ Create and set up your EducationPlannerBC account
- ✅ Search and compare programs across B.C.
- ✅ Understand the application process and key deadlines
- ✅ Access your Ministry transcript
- ✅ Send your transcript to universities and colleges through EducationPlannerBC
- ✅ Make sure your post-secondary institutions receive the documents they need
- ✅ Ask questions and get support before application season gets busy

🗓️ **Monday, November 9**
⏰ **During FIT**
🔑 **Library - Bring your laptop!**
🎓 **Your future starts here. Don't miss out!**

Shad Canada

Application Opens: September 15, 2026 www.shad.ca/apply
New for 2027 **Early Application Deadline:** November 8, 2026
Application Deadline: January 6, 2027, 11:59 PM ET

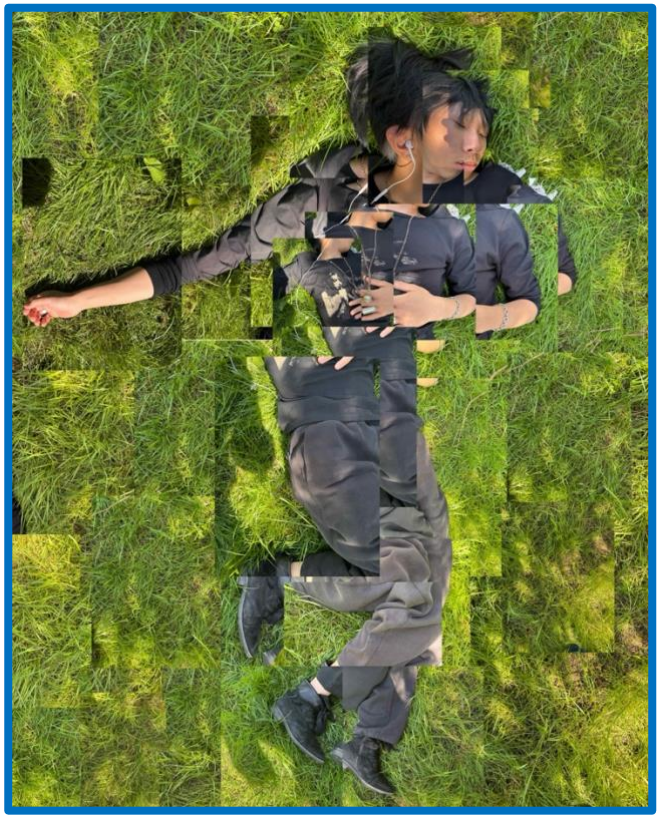
Shad 2027 program dates:
Live-in / A-Plus / Unplugged/En Français: July 4 - 30, 2027 | 24/7
Virtual: July 5 - 30, 2027 | Monday – Friday, 11 am – 5 pm ET

Financial support is available
$5 million in fee assistance is available each year to help remove financial barriers. Approximately 1 in 3 Shad participants receives financial support. Additional scholarships are available for eligible students. Learn more at: www.shad.ca/scholarships

Please connect with your child's counsellor if you have any questions:

- Janice Sim, Counsellor for Grade 9 & Grade 8 (Last Names A-H)
- Kasey Chittenden, Counsellor for Grade 10 & Grade 8 (Last Names I-P)
- Farah Slaihi, Counsellor for Grade 11 & Grade 8 (Last Names Q-Z)
- Shelley Sullivan, Counsellor for Grade 12

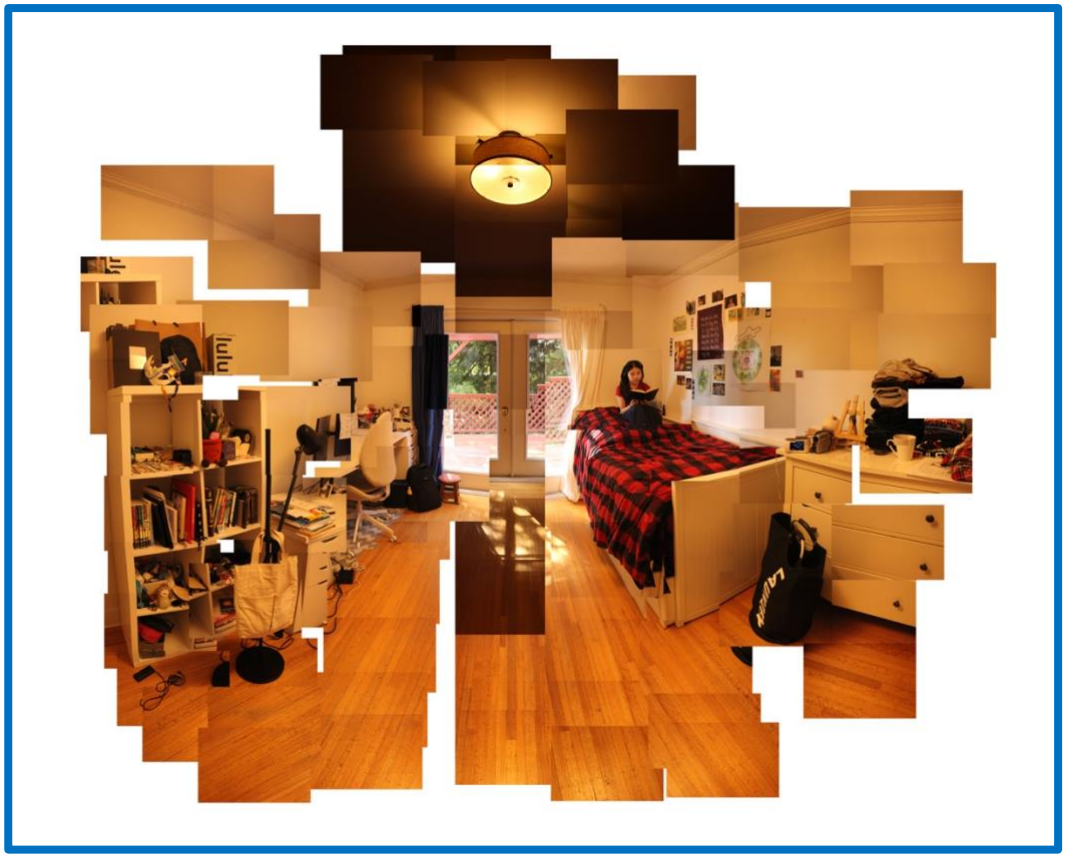


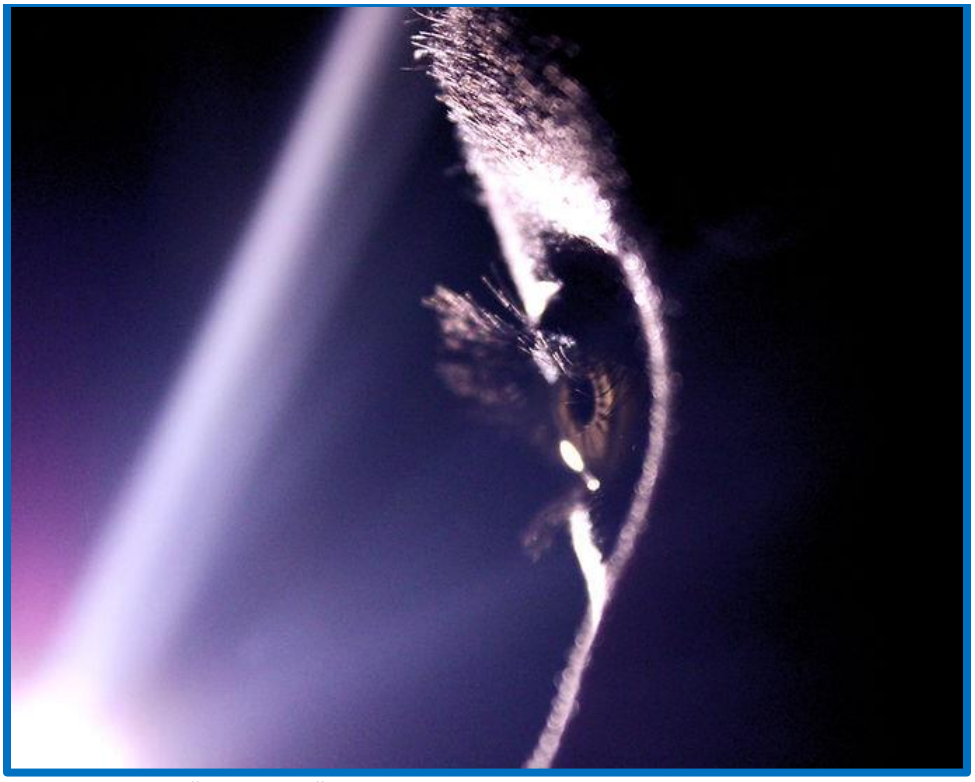


Photography 11: Composite Photography

Inspired by David Hockney's Photographic explorations, students were asked to question the weakness of the photographic image as an accurate representation of lived experience. A photograph is captured in a fraction of a second far faster than we have capacity for experiencing a photograph represents a single "frozen moment" whereas we experience the word in constant motion (have you ever seen a candid photograph of yourself mid blink?). A camera monocular, while we experience the world around us, generally speaking, with two eyes – it is what allows us depth-perception. The collaged combination of many photographs, representing many tiny moments is an attempt to recognize the gap between the lived experience and the assumed "truth" of the photograph, presenting a more accurate version of our way of perceiving the world.

Photo Above: Kingston Chan, Grade 12
Photo Below: Kevin Nie, Grade 12





"Magnolia" Photographer: Kristina Imrie, Grade 12
PG Visual Arts Blogs: https://pointgreydesign.weebly.com/



Photographer: Anneliese Letendre, Grade 11
PG Visual Arts Blogs: https://pointgreydesign.weebly.com/

Parent Advisory Council (PAC)

Are you wanting to make sure you stay connected to PAC information and events? Parents and Guardians are invited to join our email list for PAC newsletter subscription and/or our Parents WhatsApp Group by following this link: https://www.pointgreyparents.org/about-pac/stay-connected-with-point-grey-pac

All parents and guardians are also warmly invited to visit our stəyweteːn̓ Point Grey PAC website https://www.pointgreyparents.org for more information on the latest information.

November PAC Meeting – Our next PAC meeting will be on Wednesday, November 25th @ 7:30pm in the school library. We look forward to seeing you then!

Upcoming Dates in November and December

Remember to check our school website main page under "Announcements" for daily schedules, monthly calendar, student agenda, and other information as the school year progresses.

- Wednesday, November 4th.....Grade 9 Take Our Kids to Work Day
- Thursday, November 5th.....Early Dismissal @ 2:05pm, Parent-Teacher Conferences (online)
- Tuesday, November 10th .....Remembrance Day Assemblies
- Wednesday, November 11th.....Remembrance Day (school not in session)
- Friday, November 13th .....Last Day for Current Class Rotation
- Monday, November 16th .....First Day for New Class Rotation (AM classes flip and PM classes flip)
- Tuesday, November 17th .....Mini Parents' Association Meeting @ 7pm, In-person, Staffroom
- Wednesday, November 18th.....Collaborative Planning Day – Late Start for Students @ 10:10am
- Wednesday, November 18th.....PG Mini School Information Night @ 7pm, Auditorium
- Friday, November 20th .....District ProD Day (school not in session for students)
- Wednesday, November 25th.....PAC Meeting @ 7:30pm, Library
- Friday, November 27th .....Written Learning Updates (S1 Courses) and
  .....Informal Learning Updates (Full-Year Courses) Published in MyEd by 3pm
- Monday, November 30th .....Strengthening Connections for Indigenous Youth @ 1:30-3pm, Cafeteria
- Monday, November 30th .....Music Supporters' Society Meeting @ 7pm, Zoom
- Thursday, December 3rd.....FIT Freeze for Core Competency Reflection & Goal Setting @ FIT
- Wednesday, December 9th.....Winter Music Concert @ 7pm, Auditorium
- Wednesday, December 10th.....Winter Music Concert @ 7pm, Auditorium
- Tuesday, December 15th .....Mini Parents' Association Meeting @ 7pm, Zoom
- Thursday, December 17th.....Mini School Application Deadline @ 3pm
- Friday, December 18th.....Last Day of Classes before Winter Break (back to school Mon, Jan 4th)

Calendar 2026 -2027
stəywətɛ:ɱ Point Grey
Secondary School

Vancouver School Board

SCHOOL OPERATION OVERVIEW	
Number of Days in Session	186
Number of Days of Instruction	179
Number of Days of Non-Instruction	5 Professional Development Days 1 Non-Instructional Day 1 Administrative Day (June 30)

IMPORTANT DATES	
First Day of School for Students	Tuesday, September 8, 2026
National Day of Truth & Reconciliation	Wednesday, September 30, 2026
Thanksgiving Day	Monday, October 12, 2026
Remembrance Day	Wednesday, November 11, 2026
Last Day of Instruction Before Winter Vacation	Friday, December 18, 2026
Winter Vacation Period	Monday, December 21, 2026 - Friday, January 1, 2027
School Re-opens after Winter Vacation	Monday, January 4, 2027
Family Day	Monday, February 15, 2027
Last Day of Instruction Before Spring Vacation	Friday, March 12, 2027
Spring Vacation Period	Monday, March 15, 2027 - Thursday, March 25, 2027
Good Friday	Friday, March 26, 2027
Easter Monday	Monday, March 29, 2027
School Re-opens after Spring Vacation	Tuesday, March 30, 2027
Victoria Day	Monday, May 24, 2027
Last Full Day of Pupil Attendance	Tuesday, June 29, 2027
Administrative/School Closing Day	Wednesday, June 30, 2027

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND NON-INSTRUCTIONAL DAYS (SCHOOL NOT IN SESSION)	
Monday, September 21, 2026	Professional Development Day (School - moveable)
Friday, October 23, 2026	Professional Development Day (Province wide)
Friday, November 20, 2026	Professional Development Day (District wide)
Friday, February 12, 2027	Professional Development Day (District wide)
Monday, April 19, 2027	Non-Instructional Day (District wide)
Friday, May 21, 2027	Professional Development Day (School – not moveable)

COLLABORATION DATES	COLLABORATION TIMES
Wednesday, September 16, 2026	Early Dismissal for Students @ 1:35pm
Wednesday, October 21, 2026	Early Dismissal for Students @ 1:35pm
Wednesday, November 18, 2026	Late Start for Students @ 10:10am
Wednesday, January 20, 2027	Late Start for Students @ 10:10am
Wednesday, February 17, 2027	Early Dismissal for Students @ 1:35pm
Wednesday, April 21, 2027	Late Start for Students @ 10:10am
Wednesday, May 19, 2027	Late Start for Students @ 10:10am
Wednesday, June 9, 2027	Early Dismissal for Students @ 1:35pm

PARENT CONFERENCE DATES	EARLY DISMISSAL TIMES
Thursday, November 5, 2026	Early Dismissal for Students @ 2:05pm
Thursday, April 15, 2027	Early Dismissal for Students @ 2:05pm



Europe Trip Information Meeting - Information Meeting Fri, Nov 6th @ 6pm, Room 206

- Open to Grades 10, 11 & 12
- Extended learning opportunity to **Germany, Austria, Slovakia, and Hungary!**
- This trip is an opportunity to learn through direct experience, explore new cultures, and develop a deeper understanding of our world. Throughout our journey, we will discover connections between **science, technology, history, literature, art, architecture, and sports** while visiting museums, cultural landmarks, exhibitions, and performances.
- We will have the **full itinerary** available for you and your parents/guardians to review and discuss at the November 6 meeting. Please feel free to invite friends and their parents/guardians who may be interested to come to the info meeting.

If you have any questions, please see Ms. Liang, Ms. Shepelev and/or Mr. Jones