



June 2026

QUILCHENA NEWS

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June 2026



Photo Credit: Meg Taylor

REPORTING ABSENCES

If your child is absent, please call the Quilchena Safe Arrival Line at 604-713-5159 EXT 68#. This way the office can input your child's attendance accurately in our student system first thing in the morning.

Are you returning to Quilchena?

We sent out a survey to families in our January newsletter asking if your child will be coming back to our school for September 2026. Thank you for your responses. We realize things may change between then and now and even through the summer. If your child is planning to attend another school in the new school year, please be sure to let the office know by emailing studentrecordsquilchena@vsb.bc.ca. Please be sure to include your child's first and last names and current grade. If you know which school they plan to attend, that helps too. This helps keep our enrollment numbers current and helps us accommodate all of the students who are hoping to attend our wonderful school!

Hello Quilchena Families,

We had a very eventful June at our school. We had a Talent Show, Sports Day, Volunteer Tea, Grade 7 graduation and of course our 100 year celebration/PAC BBQ. It was a lot of work but we also had a lot of fun!

I'd like to send out a big thank you to our entire school community for working together to make our Centennial a memorable event. It took a lot of coordination from students, staff, parents and members of the community to bring it all together. Alumni of all ages had a great time!

We have some staff members who will be leaving our school this year. Mme Keiver, Mme Jihane, M. Pierre, Ms. Badgley, Ms. Whelan, Ms. Christy, Ms. Mannion and Mme Renee. Thank you for your contributions to our school community, and best wishes at your new schools.

I hope all of our students, staff, and families have a restful, relaxing summer break and return refreshed and ready for the new school year in September!

Mike Singh
Principal



Photo Credits: Patrick Wong

Sports Day

On June 5th, we had our annual Sports Day event. Thankfully the weather held up and the sun even came out during our Sprints and Tug of War. A big thank you to the PAC for providing snacks to keep our athletes hydrated and nourished.

Well done Wolves!!



This month's gallery features photos from:

- Eco Fair
- Div 6 at Van Dusen presentation
- Div 10F Pop Art
- Grade 7 Freezie Sale
- Talent Show
- Div. 7 releasing Butterflies
- M.Pierre
- Div 9 at Kits Beach
- Track and Field Zone Final



Gauss Math Contest

In May, a number of Quilchena students participated in the Gauss Math Contest, an enrichment and challenge opportunity available to students in Grades 4–7 across Canada. This year, 31 Quilchena students and 1 student from Carnarvon chose to take part in the contest, demonstrating a willingness to challenge themselves and extend their mathematical thinking.

The Gauss Contest offers three levels of recognition. Students may write either the Grade 7 or Grade 8 level contest. All participants receive a Certificate of Participation in recognition of their commitment to the contest. Certificates of Distinction are awarded to students whose scores place them in the top 25% of participants at their school, while Certificates of Outstanding Achievement are presented to the highest-scoring students at the school.

We congratulate all of our participants for their effort, determination, and enthusiasm for mathematics.

Grade 7 Contest Results
Outstanding Achievement
Jimmy Zhang (Score of 124)

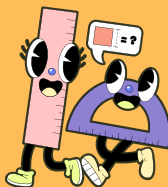
Certificate of Distinction
Erin Li, Elizabeth Liu, Sophia Yang, Siyan Chen, Adam Thomison

Certificate of Participation
Linh Nguyen, Andre Stelmachovich, Mason Chen, Brandon Oh, Ethan Liu, Nathan Mui, Victoria Li, Hayden Yan, Peggy Chen, Chelsea Cheung, Ryan Wang, Harrison Yang, Polina Olfert, Dayoung Oh, Seunghoon Shin, Catherine Cowan, Lucas Truesdell, Alex Wu, Katrina Mark, Grayson Anderson

Grade 8 Contest Results
Outstanding Achievement
Andy Mu (Score of 136)

Certificate of Distinction
Kayoung Oh, Jessica Pang

Certificate of Participation
Nathan Wong, Carissa Co, Armann Freimanis



Together we Raised

\$11,821 in Direct
Donations (AQA)

\$3,400 in Hot Lunch



Thank you to all Quilchena families for a wonderful year! Your donations to the PAC and hot lunch orders funded:

Field trips

Laptops and technology

Classroom wishlists including art supplies, butterfly kits, and reading programs

Library furniture

Musical instruments

Gym equipment

PAC Events including Eco Fair, Pumpkin Patch and the BBQ

Sign up for the PAC Newsletter [here](#) to make sure you don't miss any of our events! Check out our website at www.quilchenapac.org to learn more.

See you in September for our Welcome Back to School event on September 8th for parents of grade 1-7 students and September 9th for parents of Kindergarten students.



Staff Spotlight

My name is Matena and sometimes the children refer to me as Ms M. I'm a new SSA at this school. I've worked for the VSB for 6 years and I have experience in many types of school settings, Inner city, east side and west side. Although each experience has been different and unique its been very rewarding.

My heritage is Greek and I'm very fond of my culture. Europe is my favourite place to visit but I also have explored other areas in the world Fiji, Africa, New Zealand and Thailand. I love to visit beautiful beaches in different parts of the world with warm hospitality and full of culture.

My life is simple and I eat whole foods and mostly Mediterranean. I'm very active and I love to watch all sports. I'm a huge fan of Soccer, Baseball, Basketball boxing, Football and F1.

Throughout the years I studied Martial Arts and earned a Black belt in Kempo. I'm also a retired semi pro boxer. Sports is a very important component in my life as it keeps me focused and disciplined. Currently, I compete in dragon boating in the women's competitive team in False Creek. Recently my team competed at the Nationals in Montreal. It was a memorable experience!

My active lifestyle keeps me busy but I also enjoy spending time with my daughter Mikhalina (16) and my Golden doodle Apollo as well as family and friends. I also seek quietude and the beauty of nature as this keeps me grounded.

My experience at Quilchena has been very positive. The community has been warm and welcoming and so far the friendliest schools I've worked at. I'm very grateful to be a part of your community!

Matena ❤️

STANLEY PARK ECOLOGY

EcoCamps in Stanley Park

Summer Day Camps

Stanley Park Ecology's EcoCamps offer kids the chance to learn and grow through hands-on, nature-based activities. Campers spend their days exploring forests, beaches, and wetlands while building curiosity, confidence, and care for the natural world.

- Monday to Friday, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
- Ages 7 - 11
- Volunteer opportunities for ages 16+
- \$325 per week

Scan below to register:

Photos: Jenna Leith, Richard King
stanleyparkecology.ca/ecocamps/ school@stanleyparkecology.ca

FUNDERLAND SUMMER CAMP

www.Funderland.ca
Try A Week

\$51 OFF/week
for Last Few Spots
Book Now

Indoor & Outdoor

Jun 26-Sep 4
K - Grade 4 **Mon-Fri**
Age: 5-10 **9:00-4:30**
Field Trips **Free Parking**

GAME ROOM

SCIENCE

FACE PAINTING

ART WORKSHOPS **RECREATIONAL SPORTS** **Baking**

EDUCATIONAL **FIELD TRIPS**

Fees: \$299/w-\$369/w

Book Online
WWW.FUNDERLAND.CA
Location: 1708 W 16th Ave., Vancouver V6J2M1 CALL: 6043456259

Centennial and PAC BBQ

This year on Thursday June 11th, we had one huge school wide event. Not only did we celebrate 100 years of Quilchena but we also had our annual PAC BBQ. A great time was had by alumni and current students.

Inside the building we had various decade rooms from the past 100 years, an archive room, a time capsule and lots of great pictures and memorabilia from years past. Outside the building we had food trucks, carnival games, a rockin DJ and much more!

A big thank you to all of the volunteers that helped organize both of these events. Special shout-out to Meg, who organized the BBQ. Thank you to Simone, Noelle, Ingrid and Maggie who helped with the Centennial and Kasey who helped organized the high school volunteers for the event. We also had a handful of parents who helped volunteer their time. Thank you for contributions!

There was some special merchandise printed up to commemorate our 100th year. It was so popular that it completely sold out! If you're still interested in getting some of the limited edition t-shirts or mugs, please let us know [here](#). If we have enough demand, we will place another order in the Fall. A special thank-you to talented graphic artist and parent at our school Molly Winston for designing the logos for the merch!



Photo Credits: Steve Tan

Celebrating 100 years: Learning about our past

During our Centennial celebration, many of us had an opportunity to learn about our past by talking to former alumni.

One of our former students Betty Corbet who is 95 years old, attended Quilchena from 1940-1942. She was interviewed by the one of our students Rosalie Thiessen and we learned that life was a lot different back then! Read on to find out more.



A Moment in History: Celebrating 100 years at Quilchena!

Alumni Betty Corbett was born in 1931 and attended Quilchena for grades 5 & 6 (1940-1942). Interview by Rosalie T.



What are your best memories of Quilchena?

-I enjoyed being with my classmates and I participated in the school theatre plays. I had good teachers, and I enjoyed learning. Outside, we played hopscotch, we drew with chalk or played our own games. There was no money in those days for a playground or sporting equipment.

Did Quilchena host a Sports Day?

-Sports Day happened in every Vancouver school the Friday before May 24th (Queen Victoria's birthday), and we also had a Maypole dancing event on the first day of May.

What were your favourite subjects and interests?

- English literature, French, Latin, and music. I played piano and sang in the Bach choir.

What were your favourite books as a young girl?

- *A Girl of the Limberlost*, by Gene Stratton-Porter, published 1909
- *Little Women*, by Louisa May Alcott, published 1868-69

What did you pack for your typical lunch to school?

- During World War II, there wasn't a lot of food widely available, and everyone had ration books to purchase essential food such as milk, eggs, flour, meat, etc. It was hard to get real peanut butter so sometimes we had artificial peanut butter. Otherwise, I had cooked, sliced beets on home-made whole wheat bread.

What did you usually wear to school?

-I always wore a skirt and a blouse, and in the winter months, a cardigan. Women and girls didn't wear pants until after WWII.

Were there any daily routines at Quilchena?

Each morning, we sang hymns and said the Lord's Prayer.

Who did you look up to?

Queen Elizabeth II was 5 years older than me, and I wanted to be like her, so I kept a scrapbook about her. She worked during WWII and was a real inspiration to all women.

What was it like growing up during the World War II?

-We had to practice blackouts regularly and cover all our home windows so no light was visible. We also had to time how quickly we could run home from school in case there was an aerial raid, and we had to report our time to our teachers. I had to run home with my little sister in Grade 1, and I could make it in 13 minutes. One evening we had a blackout order, and the next morning we could see in English Bay, a large warship with tall smokestacks, transporting troops that had come into 22Vancouver.

What advice do you have for Quilchena students?

Be positive! Keep your mind and thoughts positive

FUN FACT!

Did you know that in the 1940s the land stretching south from Oakridge Centre to Marpole was all forest with a few farms in between?

September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 Pro D Day CLOSED	22	23	24 Photo Day Meet the Teacher	25 Terry Fox Run	26
27	28	29	30 CLOSED Day of Truth and Reconciliation			

