

June Newsletter



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



It is hard to believe we are already at the end of such a wonderful school year. There is so much to feel proud of and grateful for, and it has truly been the people, our students, staff, and families, who have made this year so special. June has been full of energy, laughter, and moments that remind us how strong our community is.

The Track and Field Meet was one highlight, filled with teamwork, perseverance, and school spirit. A heartfelt thank you to Mr. Lucky, Ms. Hughes, Ms. Ba, Ms. Knight, Ms. Challenger, and Ms. Appleton for making it such a success. Soon after, students attended the Ultimate Jamboree at Prince of Wales Secondary, where the excitement continued. We are grateful to Mr. Lucky and Ms. Knight for guiding and supporting our students.

Another wonderful highlight was the Spring Fair on Friday, June 19. With beautiful weather and strong community spirit, it was a joyful day for all. This event takes a full year of planning, and we are incredibly thankful to our PAC for their outstanding work in bringing it together.

A few other meaningful moments this month included the unveiling of our Nature Play area alongside our Family Read-In. There was something special about gathering for the ribbon cutting and then seeing families settle in to read, talk, and enjoy the space together. It felt like a celebration of what we value most. A big thank you to Jen and Val, a current Norquay parent and a Norquay alum, for being champions of this space and for sharing this moment with us. Stories, lemonade, and pretzels created such a warm, welcoming atmosphere.

This time of year always brings a mix of emotions. We say goodbye to Ms. Chaplin and Ms. Lin with appreciation for all they have contributed. We also celebrate our Grade 7 students and all those moving on to new opportunities. While we will miss you, we are excited for what lies ahead and know you carry a piece of Norquay with you.

Please remember that Term 3 Summary of Learning reports will be available on SpacesEDU after 3:30 pm today. We also look forward to the Grade 7 Leaving Ceremony tomorrow.

As summer begins, we hope it brings time to slow down and enjoy what matters most, including time with family and friends, moments outdoors, a good book, a new adventure, or simply the space to rest. Before the year ends, we invite you to stop by the office to see our Cookie People display, a small but powerful reminder of the joy, creativity, and belonging that have grown this year.

Thank you for being part of such a caring and vibrant community. We wish you all a safe, happy, and restful summer, and we look forward to welcoming you back in the fall. Please see the attached 2026-2027 fee schedule, calendar, and bell schedule. If you will be returning late to Norquay, please complete the attached form.

On behalf of all of us at Norquay, all the best for a wonderful summer. It has been an amazing year, and we look forward to seeing you on Tuesday, September 8, 2026.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, June 24

- Grade 7 leaving ceremony

Thursday, June 25

- Last day for students, students dismissed at 3pm
- Tug-O-Peace (9AM)
- Families versus staff
- Families and staff versus grade 7s

Tuesday, September 8

2026-2027 school year begins:

- 9:00 – 9:30: Grades 1 to 7:

- Returning students please go to your last year's classes
- New students please report to the library
- Unregistered students please report to the office
- 10:00 – 10:30: incoming Ks: Please meet at the gym

Wednesday, September 16

First FULL DAY for Kindergarten students

Thursday, September 17

Earth Rangers assembly (primary)

Monday, September 21

Professional Development Day, classes not in session

Tuesday, September 22

PAC meeting at 6pm, at Norquay

Thursday, September 24

- Individual photo day
- Meet the Staff/PAC BBQ 3:00 – 5:00pm (To be confirmed)

Monday, September 28

Dancers of Damelahamid presentation (intermediate only)

Tuesday, September 29

- Orange Shirt Day, please wear orange

Wednesday, September 30

National Day of Truth and Reconciliation, schools closed

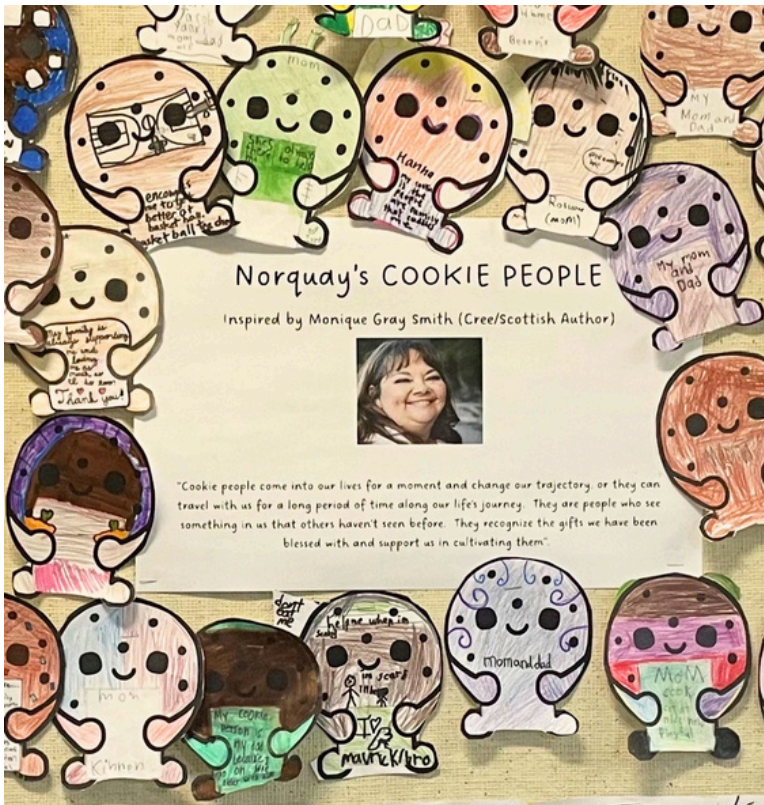


FROM THE LIBRARY

We have had a **SUPER YEAR** of **Learning, Connecting, Reading and Making** in the Norquay Library and all around our school. *
****ALL BOOKS ARE DUE BACK TO THE LIBRARY** so they can be ready for September!*

We hope everyone has a summer full of nature, reading and family time. Of course, the Summer Reading Club at the VPL is a great way to relax and read during the summer.

See you in September!



WATERING - KEEP OUR GARDEN GROWING!

If you are available over the summer, we would love your help caring for our school garden.

To keep everything thriving, please consider signing up for a watering shift:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1fhOncgfN2d9q-r5WFdV3l8MPrTQgOc-rdQFzNEyRzMM/edit?usp=sharing>



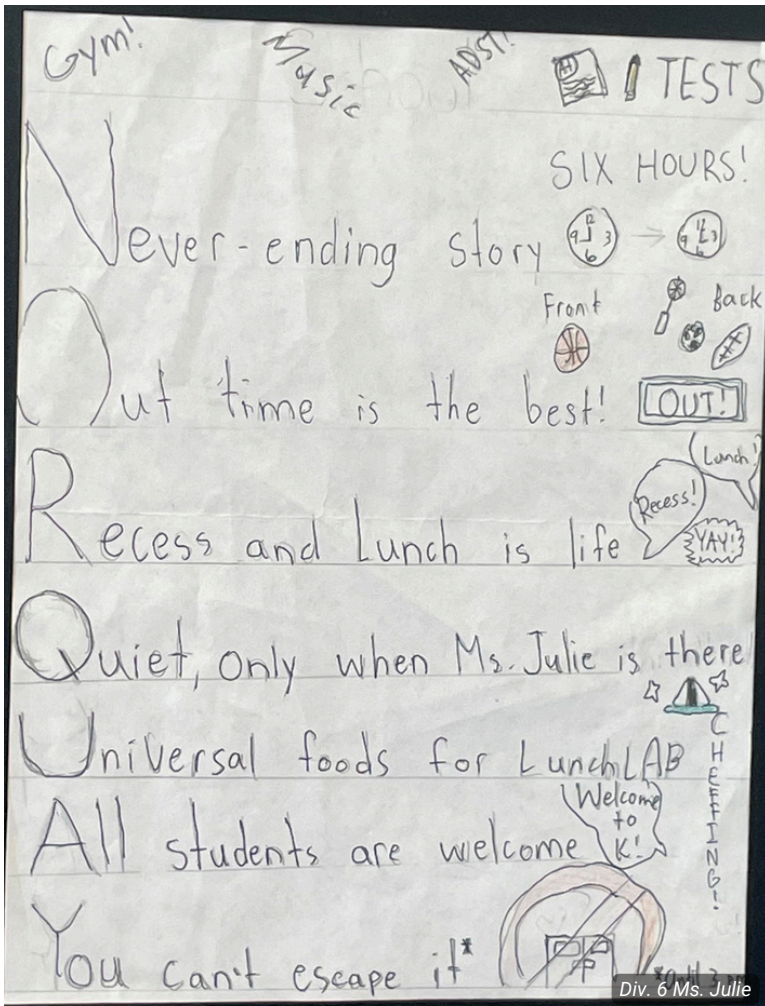
YELLOW FISH STORM DRAIN AWARENESS PROJECT

Our school community took part in the Yellow Fish Storm Drain Awareness Program, a meaningful hands-on initiative that helps students understand how their actions impact local waterways. Through this program, students learned that storm drains flow directly into nearby rivers, lakes, and oceans, without any treatment. This means that everyday substances like soap, oil, and paint can harm fish and wildlife habitats.

As part of our community action, students, staff, and volunteers painted bright yellow fish symbols beside storm drains using safe, non-toxic paint and stencils. These colourful reminders encourage everyone to keep pollutants out of storm drains. We are proud to share that we were able to mark 9 catch basins around Norquay Elementary along Duchess Street and Euclid Avenue. Students also helped distribute information to nearby households to raise awareness about protecting our environment.

This project was especially meaningful for our students, who were excited to connect their storm drain paintings to the salmon they had previously released, reinforcing their understanding of how stewardship supports aquatic life.

Families of our Grade 1 classes were invited to join us on Saturday, June 6, and we appreciated the enthusiasm and support from those who participated. A huge thank you to Florence and Helen (two parents from the Norquay community) for making this happen!



Div. 6 Ms. Julie



Div. 13 Ms. Adams & Mr. Mercer

PRINCIPAL & VICE PRINCIPAL FOR A MORNING

In June, Celia and Annabelle stepped into the roles of Principal and Vice-Principal for a morning and what a fantastic job they did! During their time in the office, they took on a variety of important tasks, including helping to inventory new outdoor equipment, completing confidential shredding, monitoring our PAC team as they sorted wristbands for the Spring Fair, making announcements, and handing out birthday pencils. When asked about their favourite part of the experience, Celia shared, "I liked shredding," while Annabelle said, "I was excited to hand out birthday pencils!" Both students agreed that they had a lot of fun.

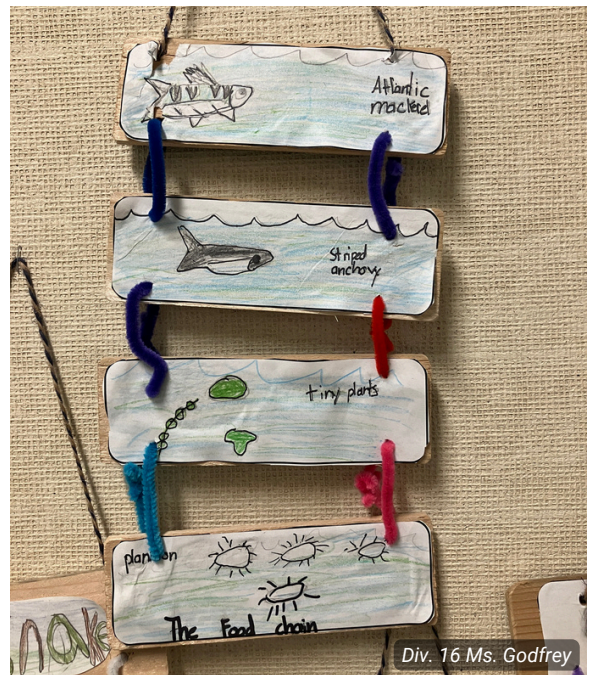
It has been wonderful to have students supporting us in the office once a month throughout the year. We truly value this opportunity to connect with our students in a different way. If you would like your child to be entered into the draw to be Principal/Vice-Principal for a morning, please consider attending a PAC event or volunteering. We can't wait to continue this wonderful opportunity for our students again in September! Thank you for your continued support of our school community!

VANCOUVER PUBLIC LIBRARY

The [Vancouver Public Library's Summer Reading Club](#) is back! They have lots of activities planned throughout the summer in addition to 7 weeks of reading challenge. This is a fun, free program that offers kids and families the opportunity to keep reading and learning all summer long, in whichever languages and ways work for them! It launches June 15th. To participate, all you need to do is set a goal and try out different library challenges - like listen to a story, attend a virtual library program, or, of course... read something! Once your challenges are complete, visit your local library to pick up a medal.



Div. 16 Ms. Godfrey & Div. 20 Ms. A. Wong



Div. 16 Ms. Godfrey

Ep. 5 5 KEY TAKEAWAYS

Practical Insights for Families on Supporting Language & Literacy



Early language development lays the foundation for later reading and writing.

Vocabulary and oral language skills build the foundation for reading comprehension.



The quality of talk matters, not just the quantity.

Back-and-forth conversations help children respond, extend their thinking, and build stronger language skills.



“Decontextualized talk” helps children build vocabulary, critical thinking, and academic language.

Talk about past, future, possibilities, and big ideas builds the language children need for school and beyond.



Everyday routines are powerful opportunities for language growth.

Mealtimes, bath time, errands, and more—small moments can lead to big language gains.



Shared reading is most powerful when it becomes interactive.

Ask questions, make connections, predict, talk about feelings, and invite children to retell in their own words.

Meaningful conversations today. *Stronger readers tomorrow.*
Source: UK Live Literacy Insights Series, Ep. 5
Harvard Graduate School of Education

JAL HAIKU COMPETITION

Exciting news! Lucas, in grade 4, won an award in the JAL Foundation Haiku contest! Well done and congratulations!

- Results are announced here: <https://www.jal-foundation.or.jp/haiku-contest/awards/en/?y=2025&c=CA>
- View Lucas' poem here: <https://www.jal-foundation.or.jp/haiku-contest/canada/haiku/2025-7/en/>

Well done Lucas! We are proud of you!

BIKE to school WEEK

Additional Bike Trips: 12 x 10 grid
Additional Active Trips: 17 x 10 grid
First Bike or Active Travel Trip: 36 x 7 grid

Get social! #Bike2School @WeAreIt @hubcycling

BOOK EXCHANGE

Celebrating a Love of Reading – Thank You from the Book Exchange Committee!

Our 32nd Annual Book Exchange was a wonderful celebration of reading, with an incredible 4,122 books finding new homes: sparking joy, imagination, and a love of stories across our school community. Together, we also raised \$223.80 to help purchase much-needed chapter books and graphic novels for next year's exchange.

We are deeply grateful to the PAC for their generous support in helping us bring great books to students, and to Vancouver Kidsbooks for their thoughtful donation of engaging non-fiction titles. A heartfelt thank-you also goes to our amazing parent and grandparent volunteers, whose time and enthusiasm made this event such a success.

We hope everyone enjoys their new books and spends the summer discovering new adventures, ideas, and a lifelong love of reading.

With gratitude,
The Book Exchange Committee



BIKE, WALK, OR ROLL TO SCHOOL WEEK!

Each year, we observe growing awareness and enthusiasm throughout the week, with participation consistently increasing from the beginning to the end. Students are motivated by small incentives, and positive peer influence also plays a role in encouraging involvement. We have noticed that parents are becoming more open to participating as they see others in the community taking part. While weather always has an impact on turnout, we experienced a mix of sunny and less favorable days this year and still saw strong overall participation. A huge thank you to Edna, parent volunteer and all the student volunteers for another successful year!

