

May 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), & səliwətał (Tsleil-Waututh Nation).

Welcome to May!

We have many amazing things on the go at Norquay, a small sampling: the Gausse math contest, badminton intramurals, track and field, ultimate frisbee, the talent show, book exchange and, of course, SPORTS DAY!

We want to give a huge shout out to the PAC for organizing all events through the lens of community, fulfilling their mission and goals in a good way.

Norquay PAC Mission:

Our mission is to work cooperatively with the parents and the school for the benefit of all children.

We believe that PAC consists of every parent or guardian of a student at our school. The variety of events and initiatives that the PAC coordinates are a benefit for all the children in our school.

Norquay PAC Goals:

- To build a strong community and sense of belonging
- To facilitate communications between the parents/guardians and the school
- To raise funds for the school to be used for community building and extra curricular initiatives.

One way the PAC fulfill their mission and goals is by hosting events by donation, families pay what they can, that way everyone can participate and feel included. This year for sports day the PAC will be having a 'by donation' pizza day for lunch. Please see attached for ordering options and note the deadline for orders. When students eat together, they feel a sense of belonging which builds community, and this impacts their learning in a good way. Thank you for your support! For more information about the PAC: <https://norquaypac.ca/>

We look forward to a wonderful May.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, May 8

Earthquake Drill - Big One at 2

Tuesday, May 13

PAC meeting at 6PM, online only (AGM)

<https://ubc.zoom.us/j/62272374717?pwd=ZHVOL2c4djZlVDk0dnY1UjBRnFLUT09>

Wednesday, May 14

Talent Show (Primary)

Thursday, May 15

Talent Show (Intermediate)

Friday, May 16

Sports Day

Monday, May 19

Victoria Day, school closed

Thursday, May 22

On Our Way to K event (incoming K students)

Tuesday, May 27

Grade 6 Immunization

Wednesday, May 28

Book Exchange

Thursday, May 29

Book Exchange

Friday, May 30

Book Exchange



Div. 2 Student



POWER IN YOUTH

A huge thank you from the Power in YOUTH team. This grade 6 and 7 group has been actively supporting thoughtful community initiatives this year. The group, alongside Ms. Meghan and Mr. Mulligan, put together the soft plastic recycling drive, the drive to support women in need, the 'different yet united' campaign and so much more.

Their recent initiative to support those impacted by the Myanmar Earthquake Emergency raised \$362 in cash and \$496 online for a total of \$858. This money raised will go to help the 1.6 million displaced people who live in central and northwest parts of Myanmar, where the earthquake hit hardest. Your generous donation will provide lifesaving support including: emergency shelter, essential relief items, and protection.

Thank you Power in YOUTH for changing the world, one small step at a time.

LIBRARY CORNER

Yay! Well done Norquay! The Book Fair was a **Sunny Success!**

Thank you to volunteers, students, families, and teachers (during Conferences!) for **making reading cool** and making our Book Fair one of the highlights of the year.

Primary Grades are continuing to **Inquire, Connect, and borrow their 'next books'**. Grade 7s are continuing their **Cedar Boxes** and exploring what a box could be or what it could contain.

We loved seeing all the families at CAMP READ! We received so much positive feedback that we are going to have **PICNIC** read on June 6th with lemonade and pretzels (thank you PAC). Mark your calendars, more information to come.





SUPPORTS FOR FAMILIES

We were deeply saddened by the tragic losses at the Lapu Lapu Festival over the weekend. Lapu Lapu was a courageous Indigenous Phillipino leader who valiantly resisted colonialism in 1521. The Lapu Lapu event on the weekend was in honor of his enduring legacy. In this difficult time, we extend our heartfelt condolences to all affected. Please know that we are here to support you in any way we can, please reach out to the school or message Ms. Ivey (school counsellor) at jivey@vsb.bc.ca.

We also want to share the [Free and Low Cost Food Map - English](#) that was recently updated (April 1, 2025). It is produced by the City of Vancouver and identifies free and low cost food programs across the City.



HEATHER WILMS RESIDENCY

Heather Wilms, B.A., B.Ed., M.A.Ed., is a reading intervention teacher and university sessional instructor on Vancouver Island, British Columbia. Her work includes mentoring, modeling, and building resources and intervention programming that supports teachers and students in Kindergarten through to Grade 7. Heather has twenty-three years of experience as a classroom teacher, learning support teacher, and district lead teacher for English Language Learners. She has also worked as a district and provincial educational instructor, presenting workshops on issues that impact teachers and students at the classroom level. The district was offering opportunities to have Heather come to schools for a four day residency (two days in April and two days in May). A group of interested staff came together to put forward a proposal and Norquay was chosen! Literature and past experience is showing that teachers learn best when given the opportunity to learn collaboratively as students (or by watching other teachers work with students) prior to trying it themselves with their own class (embedded professional development). Aspects of this learning lab model was used during the first two days of this residency in April and will continue in May. Heather also did a session for the SSA team as well as drop in sessions at lunch. We look forward to seeing her again in May. Thank you Norquay staff for your commitment to learning.



BOOK EXCHANGE PLANNING TEAM

The 31st Annual Book Exchange will be held on Wednesday, May 28th, Thursday, May 29th, and Friday, May 30th. Children may bring in their gently used children's books beginning Tuesday, May 20th. For each book brought in, your child will receive a ticket to exchange for a book on Wednesday, May 28th and Thursday, May 29th. On the morning of Friday, May 30th, the remaining books will be available for purchase, to help buy books for next year. Picture books will be \$0.50 and chapter books will be \$1.00.

HOW CAN PARENTS HELP?

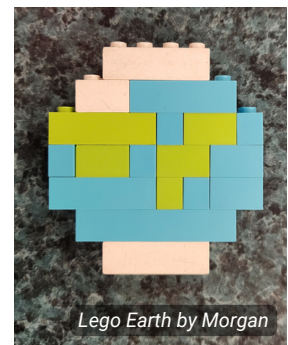
- Please make sure that the books being brought to the school are in good condition, (i.e. no rips or scribbles inside) and that they are appropriate for children.
- Volunteers are needed to help set up on Wednesday, May 28th in the morning. Also, we will need help during the daytime on all three days of the Book Exchange. If you would like to volunteer to help at this event, please click [link](#).



Div. 17 Ms. Qiu



Div. 28 Ms. Wong/Ms. Chaplin



Lego Earth by Morgan

PAC CORNER

Thank you everyone for all your support. We have had many successful and fun events lately! We supported the Math Festival, pizza days, Camp READ, an online workshop on digital safety and so much more! Please see below for some information about our next big event, the Spring FAIR!

- **Spring Fair Marketplace:** Call out for marketplace vendors for our Spring Fair event!
 - Come and sell your crafts, hobby items, or trinkets at the Spring Fair!
 - Friday, June 20th 3-6pm (set up starting at 2pm)
 - \$20/table or \$10/table for students.
 - Sign up online, deadline May 23rd: <https://forms.gle/a3RCdLqhHPsMAKy9>
 - NO food and NO "garage sale" items to be sold.
- **Spring Fair Volunteers Call Out:** come and join the fun! Parents, Guardians, Norquay Alumni and others with a willing hand, sign up to help with the school's biggest PAC event of the year!
 - Friday, June 20th: various time commitments available
 - Sign up before May 23rd to be entered into a draw for a FREE Norquay hoodie sweater customized with your name
 - All volunteers will receive a hot dog or pizza on the day of Spring Fair
 - Student Volunteers (Alumni/Grads) can be provided with a certificate of volunteer hours upon request
 - Gr 6/7 student volunteers can sign up to help with parental permission
 - Sign up online: <https://forms.gle/o3yvvsCczaDBQJvYA>
- **Spring Fundraisers:** Order deadlines approaching! Apr 30-May 3. Tea, Samosas & Dumplings: Pickup at school May 12th.
- **Ongoing fundraisers:** Just Mulch and Return It Recycling.
- **Sports Day Pizza + Freezie Delivery Volunteer:** sign up to deliver pizza + freezies on Friday, May 16th.
 - Note: volunteer times are different from previous pizza days with various times between 11am-3pm help needed. <https://forms.gle/76NZgVFkgrmUTUaV8>

Office Administrative Assistant: Sandy Lowe
Principal: Deena Kotak Buckley
Vice Principal: Steve Mulligan
PAC Chairpersons: Hannah Tan
School Liaison Trustee: Victoria Jung
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