

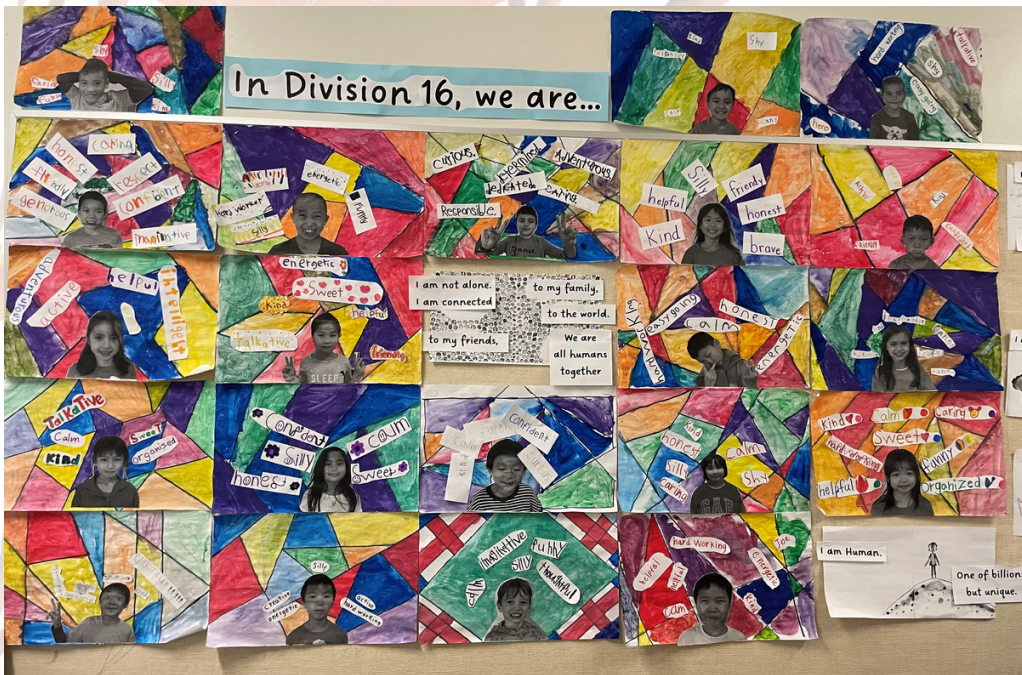
# November Newsletter

Humbly acknowledging the traditional and ancestral territories of the hən̓čə́mih̓ə́h̓ speaking people of x̱m̓məθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Sḵw̱x̱wú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation), and səliłwətał (Tseil-Waututh) Nation.

As we shared last year the report card format has changed. During the summer of 2022, a development team of teachers, school leaders, and district leaders supported the Ministry in developing materials to support teachers, school leaders, and families in the upcoming shifts to student reporting. We are attaching a brochure that we shared last year that outlines the changes: [Student Reporting Brochure for Families](#).

On Friday, students will be receiving their first written learning update of this school year, and it will be with this new format. All students are making progress in their own way. We hope you enjoy going over these updates with your children and sharing their excitement for learning.

This month we intentionally shared photos as artifacts of the excellent learning going on every day at Norquay. We look forward to this continued excitement for learning over the month of December with many opportunities for connection to learning, to each other, and to community.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### December 1

Report cards sent home

### December 4

Zero Heroes performance K to 4

### December 8

- Gift card and Purdy's pick up at 3:30PM (for those who ordered)
- Walking school bus survey due: <https://forms.office.com/r/6RWX0gzjyK>

### December 12

Movie afternoon/PJ Day - primary  
(more information to follow)

### December 19

- Concert in the Garden (8:30-9AM), music by Van Tech band
- Movie afternoon/PJ Day - intermediate (more information to follow)

### December 22

- Last day for LEGO donations
- Last day of classes for 2023

### January 8

Classes resume for 2024

### January 19

Welcome to 2024 Waffle Breakfast  
(more info to follow)

## LIBRARY CORNER

Norquay Library has had a **top-notch November** including **Mark-Making, Deep-Reading, Block-Coding, Algorithm-Making** and **Question-Asking**.

As we move into December, we will have **THREE, TWO, and ONE** book-borrowing weeks as we approach Winter Break.

We also plan on doing more **woodworking** by making Winter gifts (shhhhhh!).

**Students: what are you reading this week?**

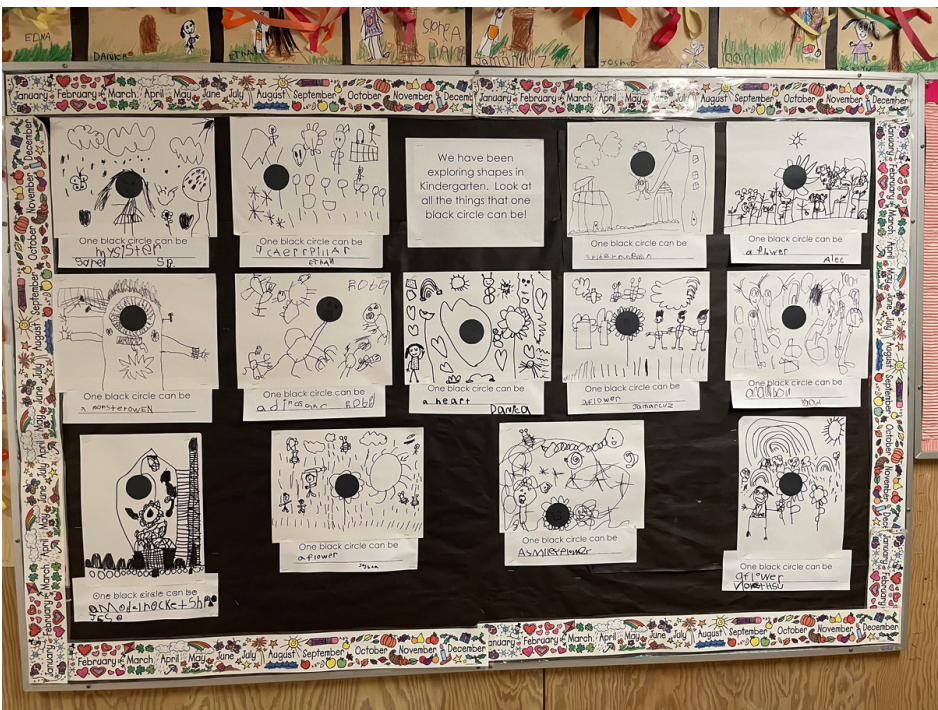
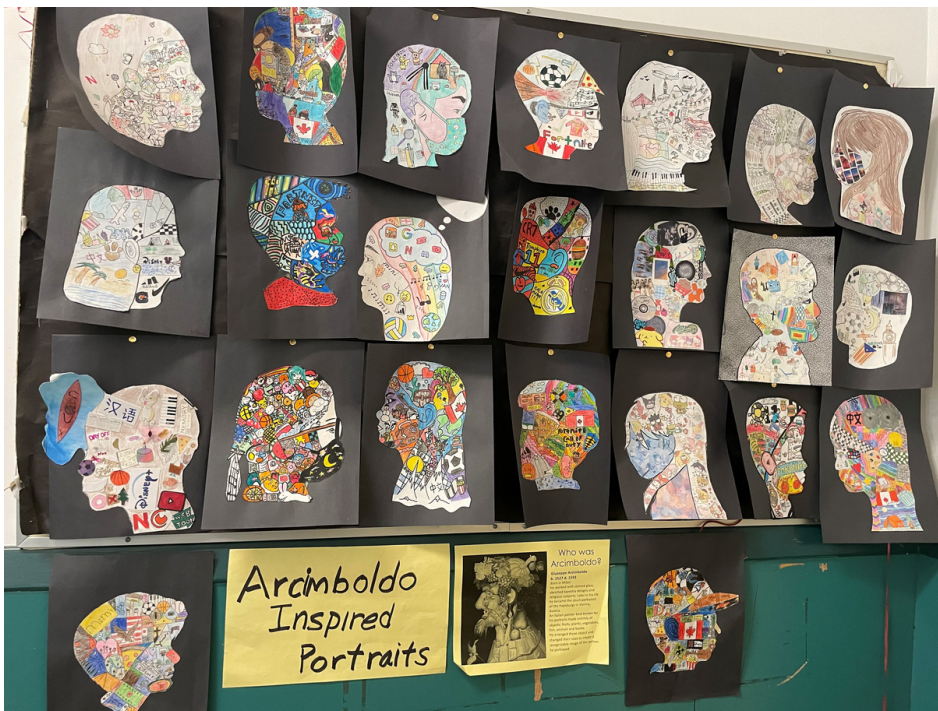
What's next?

See you soon!



## STUDENT AND FAMILY AFFORDABILITY FUND

Last year, The Ministry of Education and Child Care gave schools one time funding to make sure families have access to food and nutrition, students have the school supplies they need, and to cover any additional fees so that students in need can take part in activities, such as field trips. If your family needs some targeted support as the winter season approaches, please reach out to Ms. Kotak, Mr. Mulligan, Mr. Lipsky, or Ms. Ivey by calling the office or emailing.



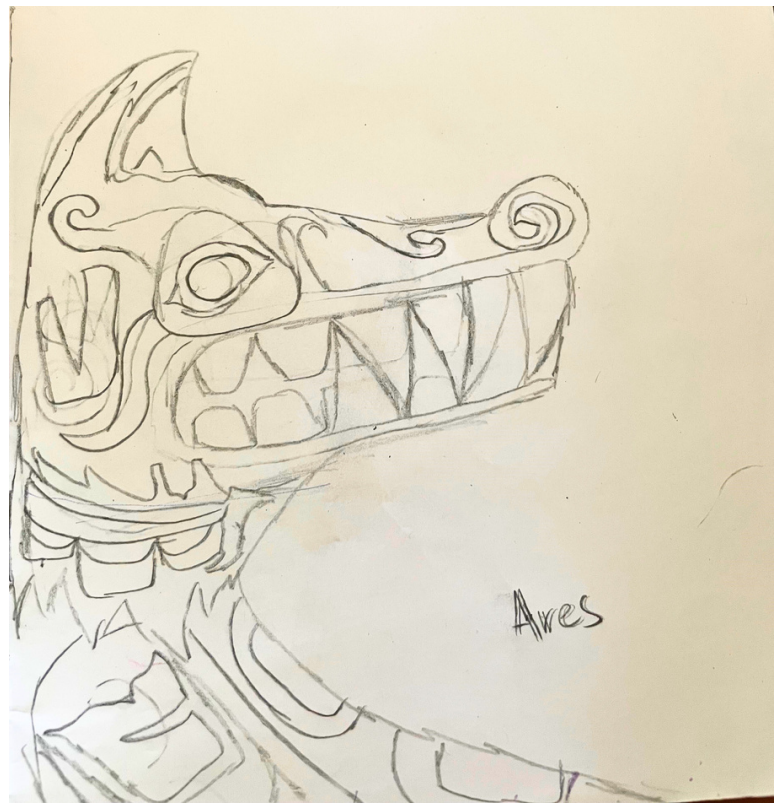
## WALKING SCHOOL BUS (WSB) INITIATIVE

As part of our commitment to keep students safe and reduce our environmental footprint, we are looking to see if there is interest in the WSB initiative. Kid Commute is a program designed to create a safe and enjoyable way for children to travel to and from school. It involves a group of students walking together under the supervision of dedicated adult Walk Leaders, creating a "bus route" children can join and walk to/from school together. We would love to know if you are interested, so please complete this survey: <https://forms.office.com/r/6RWX0gzjyK>. This information will determine the best routes! The deadline to complete this survey is December 8th.



## POPPY FUND

Thank you for your donations to the poppy fund. We raised \$539.80 in cash and \$228.00 online, for a total of \$767.80. Through your generosity, the Legion helps all of Canada's veterans and their families. Thank you to Mr. Loong and Division 5 for championing such a worthy cause.



## PAC CORNER

We have had an exciting month and the PAC have some updates and opportunities to share with you:

- **Adult Crossing Guard:** the safety of our children getting to/from school is a top priority and we are aiming to launch an Adult Crossing Guard program. The goal is to have an identified guard at the Slocan and Duchess Street zebra crossings to ensure the children are safe and that cars are not obstructing or potentially causing harm. If you are interested in being involved, please fill out the survey [HERE](https://forms.gle/qeSRqRv4A4REUCXf6): <https://forms.gle/qeSRqRv4A4REUCXf6>.
- **LEGO Drive:** Calling all neglected LEGO pieces! Donate clean & used or new LEGO pieces to fill up our LEGO bin for kids to access during indoor recess time. Donations can be dropped off at the office by Dec 22.
- **Babysitting Course (Gr 6 & 7's):** Norquay will be hosting a babysitting course on Jan 22 (Pro-D) at Norquay. It is approximately 8 hours (exact time TBD) and \$75/student. For more information please go to First Aid Hero: [Babysitting Training – Coursebit \(kinsta.cloud\)](https://www.kinsta.cloud/course/bit).

*\*\* If you need financial support for your child to participate, please email the principal or vice-principal.*

Connect with us: We love to hear from families and can be contacted in many ways:

- Website: <https://norquaypac.ca/>
- Email: [norquaypacteam@gmail.com](mailto:norquaypacteam@gmail.com)
- Ongoing fundraising: <https://norquaypac.ca/current-pac-fundraisers/>

## CELEBRATIONS

You may have heard that we have started a new celebratory event at Norquay! We are recognizing student birthdays by month. On Monday, we called all September birthdays and sang them happy birthday, and they received a birthday pencil. On Tuesday we did this for the October born staff and students, and later this week, we will celebrate those born in November. We will keep up this tradition every month, and include the July and August born children before the end of the school year. We believe that celebrating each other brings us closer together.

December is a time that most families celebrate togetherness, hope, peace, and light. This is done in many ways and with many different days of significance. During the morning announcements in December, we will be sharing information about traditions from across the globe. If your family celebrates something special in December, let us know and we will be happy to include it in the morning announcements. The more we learn about each other, the more connected we become.

There are many free (and paid for) opportunities to experience 'light and connections' over the holiday season: [Winter Light Displays](#).

**Office Administrative Assistant:** Sandy Lowe  
**Principal:** Deena Kotak Buckley  
**Vice Principal:** Steve Mulligan  
**PAC Chairpersons:** Hannah Tan  
**School Liaison Trustee:** Chris Richardson  
**Director of Instruction:** Janis Myers

4710 Slocan Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V5R 2A1

Telephone: 604-713-4666  
Fax: 604-713-4668  
Safe Arrival: 604-713-5159 ext. #61

# KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR CHILDREN BORN IN 2019 BEGINS ON NOVEMBER 1

All kindergarten applicants are required to submit an application to their English catchment elementary school. This includes families who wish to apply for choice programs (Early French Immersion, Montessori, Indigenous Focus School, Early Mandarin Bilingual, Nootka Fine Arts) and/or make a cross boundary application to attend a non-catchment school.

The priority registration period for Kindergarten opens on **November 1** and closes on **January 31**. Students who submit an application within this priority period will be accommodated before late applicants.

## Applying for kindergarten is a 2-step process:

### **Step 1:** Online Application (ApplyNow)

- Completion of an online application form (<https://applynow.vsb.bc.ca>) for the school year **2024-25**

*If your child was born outside of Canada, you will need to complete your registration online through the VSB - Newcomer Welcome Centre (NWC).*

### **Step 2:** Verification of documentation

- Contact your English catchment school office to set up an appointment to bring your supporting documentation
- Bring supporting documentation to your English catchment school office during your scheduled appointment

## Supporting documents needed:

- Proof of residence in Vancouver
- Child's birth certificate
- Immigration documentation (if applicable)
- Immunization records
- Court orders/documents (if applicable)



If you want to apply for a Choice Program or cross-boundary, you must first apply to your English catchment elementary school. Applications for Choice Programs and Cross Boundary applications will begin to be accepted in early 2024.

In the event there are more in-catchment applicants than available space\* at the school, the following process will be used to prioritize enrolment:

## Kindergarten Applications Received Between November 1 and January 31

- In-catchment** kindergarten applicants with siblings in attendance at the school (and who will be attending next year) will be placed first.
- The names of all other in-catchment registrants will be entered into a **random draw** for the remaining kindergarten spaces.
- Students who cannot be accommodated will be placed on a waitlist in the order in which their name was drawn.
- Between January 31 and the second Friday in June students on the ordered waitlist will be accommodated as space becomes available.

## Kindergarten Registrations Received AFTER January 31st

In-catchment kindergarten students who apply **after** January 31 will be accommodated **if** there is space. If there is no space, their names will be added to the bottom of the existing waitlist.

**Note:** There will be **no priority** given to registrants with siblings if they register after January 31.

For more information on kindergarten registration visit: <https://www.vsb.bc.ca/page/5195/priority-kindergarten-registration>

\* Available Space includes physical capacity, resources, staffing, or educational programs available or planned for a school as defined by the District (Administrative Procedure 300).

