

November Newsletter



With deep gratitude and respect, we are honoured to be learning and unlearning on the ancestral and unceded lands of the $x^w m \theta k^w \acute{a} y \acute{a} m$ (Musqueam), $S k w x w \acute{u} 7 m e s h \acute{U} x w u m i x w$ (Squamish Nation) & $s \acute{a} l i l w \acute{e} t \acute{a} \ddot{a}$ (Tsleil-Waututh Nation).

Welcome to November. November is significant for the theme of peace as we reflect and learn about Indigenous Veterans Day and Remembrance Day.

Indigenous Veterans Day is observed in Canada on November 8, in recognition of Indigenous contributions to military service, particularly in the First World War, Second World War, and the Korean War. National Aboriginal Veterans Day was first observed in Winnipeg on November 8, 1994 and has since been observed nationwide. Canadians recognize Remembrance Day, originally called Armistice Day, every 11 November at 11 a.m. It marks the end of hostilities during the First World War and an opportunity to recall all those who have served in the nation's defense. It is a day to honour the fallen and calls to embrace peace.

We will be making daily announcements teaching students about these important days, and on Friday, we will be having an assembly, led by students in Division 2. Norquay will also be collecting donations to support Canadian veterans and their families, supported by Mr. Loong's class. Your donations are an important part of honouring their efforts and sacrifices, and they help to ensure that ongoing supports are available when they are needed. We will be collecting cash donations of any size in classrooms starting Monday, November 4 until Tuesday, November 12. You can also make online donations, until Friday, November 15 by cutting and pasting this link:

<https://vsb.schoolcashionline.com/Fee/Details/144055/196/False/True>.

A reminder that schools will be closed on Monday, November 11. Lest we forget.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, November 7

Individual Photo Retakes

Friday, November 8

Indigenous Veterans Day/Remembrance Day assembly

Monday, November 11

Remembrance Day, schools closed

Friday, November 22

Professional Development Day, classes not in session

Thursday, November 28

PAC family photo fundraiser from 3pm to 8pm in the gym

Tuesday, December 3

School-wide pizza day, thank you PAC
PAC meeting at 6pm, online only:
<https://ubc.zoom.us/j/62272374717?pwd=ZHVOL2c4djZlVDk0dnY1UjBRRnFLUTO9>

Monday, December 16

Written learning updates to go home, term 1

Friday, December 20

Last day before the winter holidays

Monday, January 6

School reopens

Friday, January 17

Welcome to 2025 breakfast, thank you PAC

Monday, January 20

Professional development day, classes not in session

Friday, January 24

Lunar New Year Lion Dance, thank you PAC

LIBRARY CORNER

First, a **BIG THANK YOU** to **Jeff Chiba Stearns**, local author, for a wonderful day of connection, art and storytelling on November 1. This will be one of the highlights of the year!

Thank you to Norquay PAC for making this possible!

Second, we will be doing lots of **making, book read alouds and inquiry** this month.

Finally, make sure you have a **book in-hand** for rainy days this month!

See you soon!



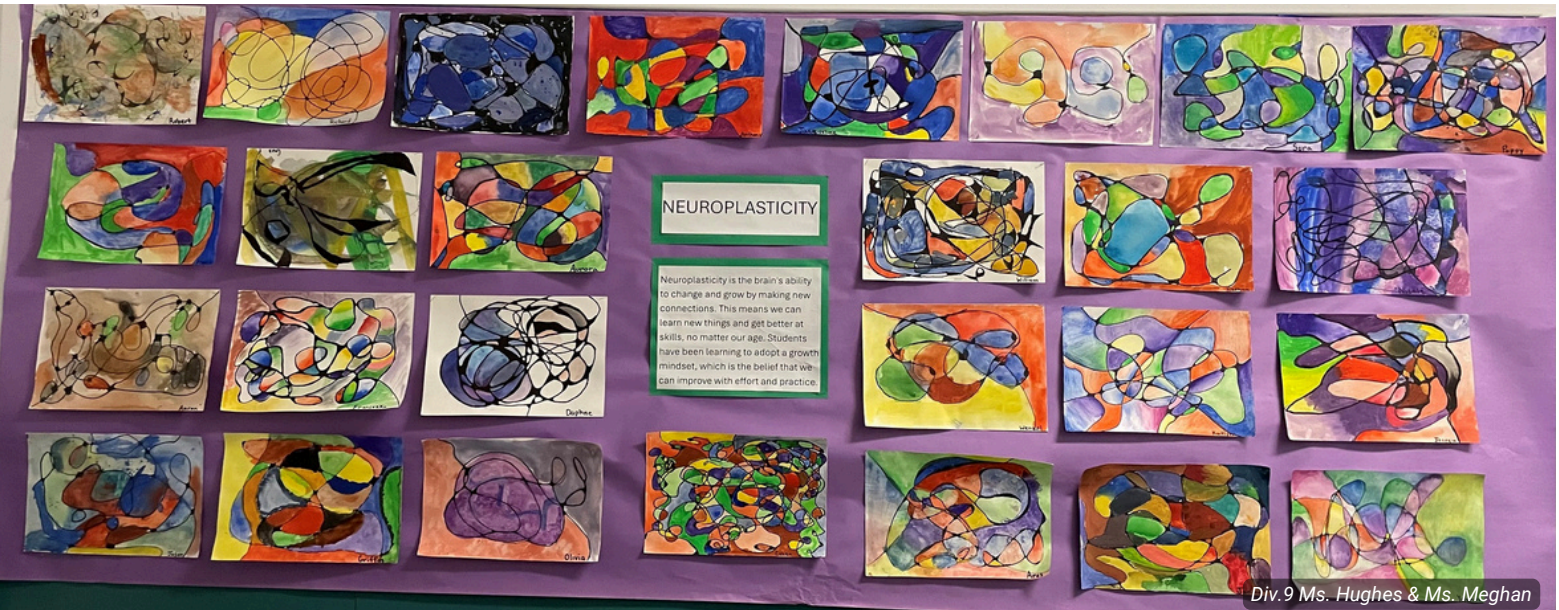
TERRY FOX

A big thank you to the staff, students, and Terry Fox planning committee. The total raised online and cash is \$2017.55. Last year we raised \$1875.86. Way to go Norquay community! Thank you for supporting a true Canadian legacy.

PRINCIPAL FOR A MORNING

"Hi, my name is Mila and I was principal for a morning in October. Some things I did were: shredding paper, ate an apple, put out the apples for the students, made an announcement, helped with the staff week at a glance (WAAG) and opened and delivered mail. My favourite part was shredding paper. I think being a principal is a lot of work and FUN!"

If your child would like to be principal or vice-principal for a morning, please consider volunteering or join a PAC meeting and your child's name will be entered into the draw.





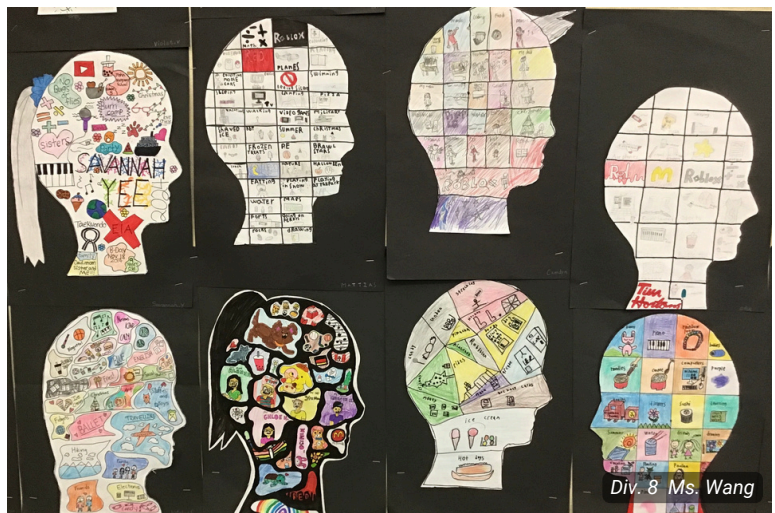
VSB PODCAST: AFTER THE BELL

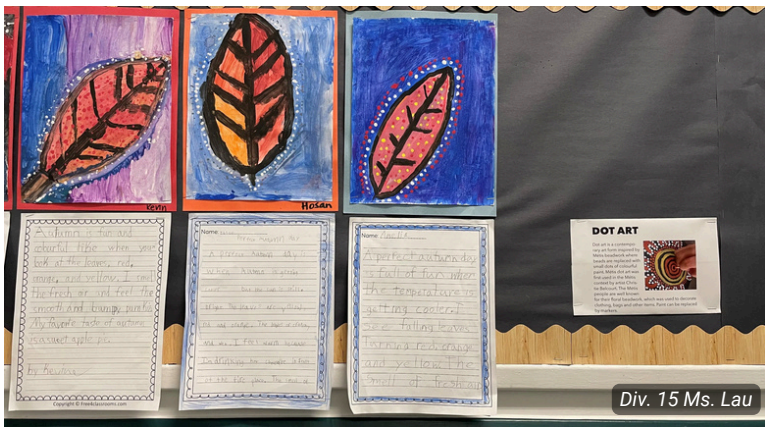
The podcast, **VSB: After The Bell** shares stories directly from those responsible for our publicly funded education system. This podcast gives listeners a direct and inside look at Vancouver's public school system and the people in it. Tune in for candid, intimate and honest conversations about what's happening in schools. We'll have conversations with students, educators, decision makers and staff about vital events, topics and issues in education. The latest episode is about artificial intelligence. Are you curious about how AI can enhance learning? Do you have concerns over privacy or appropriate use of AI in the classroom? In the latest episode of VSB: After the Bell, we discuss everything from Administrative Procedures to AI hallucination and everything in-between. Listen to the latest podcast episode [here](#).



PHOTO RETAKES

Thursday, November 7 is photo retakes. You can complete the attached form or pick a copy up in the office. Please give completed forms to your classroom teacher. We look forward to seeing the smiling faces!





Div. 15 Ms. Lau



Div. 25 Ms. Paris



Div. 20 Ms. A. Wong

COUNSELLING CORNER

We are very lucky at Norquay to have Ms. Ivey (area counsellor) at the school on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday. Area Counsellors' services facilitate the educational, personal, social and emotional development of elementary students in schools. Area Counsellors provide support to individual students, groups of students and classes in response to the current needs of the school. If your child is needing support, please feel free to reach out to the school or email: jivey@vsb.bc.ca.

YEARBOOK

Please be advised that the yearbook consent in MyForms has been deactivated in response to recent feedback. We have received a new consent form that needs to be completed for the yearbook, we will send it soon. The information received through MyForms has been archived.



Div. 22 Ms. Chang



Div. 26 Ms. Ong

CHANGE OF SEASONS: KEEPING SAFE

With the end of daylight saving we know the days are darker. A few things to keep in mind to keep the community safe:

- Regular reminders of pedestrian safety tips
 - Always look both ways before stepping into the street, even at a crosswalk.
 - Make eye contact with drivers to ensure they see you before crossing.
 - Avoid distractions like phones or headphones while crossing.
 - Never assume that vehicles will stop—be cautious and aware at all times.
- Drop off/pick up: If you are leaving your car for any reason during pick up and drop off, please park in a space designated for general parking (30min Green P, 2 hour green P, unrestricted). Pick up and drop off zones (red P, 3min Green P) are designed to accommodate several cars trying to get to the same location at the same time, which only works if everyone keeps the flow of vehicles moving. Lane North of Norquay: There is very clear no stopping signage posted in the lane to the north of the school. ([Street and Traffic Bylaw 2849 section 17.6\(a\)](#)). Do not park or stop in any way that obstructs travel through a lane or along a street ([Street and Traffic Bylaw 2849 section 19.1\(d\)](#)). Please see image for more information:

The attached map shows marked zones for parking. Please note that bylaw enforcement makes regular checks at Norquay, any cars not following the posted signs will be ticketed. Thank you for keeping our community safe.



- Please drop off students as close to 8:55AM as possible and pick up as close to 2:58PM as possible. A reminder that drop off and pick up is outside.

Thank you for all you are doing to keep the community safe.

PAC CORNER

It was so great to see so many families at movie matinee! Such a great way to build community and get to know each other.

The Norquay PAC Holiday Fundraisers are here! Our goal is to raise \$3000 for new sports jerseys! Please see fliers for more details:

- Family Photo sessions:
 - Thurs Nov 28th 3:45-8pm time slots. \$25 per 15 minute session includes 1 printed 8x10 and access to purchase additional images from photographer
 - Entrance to the gym by the basketball courts.
 - Please see attached flyer, sign up link: <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1PyrGNFyuUwHm7qPctBLsmHueNkdVIKuxKpEldDQ2nuA/edit?usp=sharing> and etransfer: norquaypacorders@gmail.com to secure your spot!
- Purdy's Chocolates:
 - Order and payment deadline: Sunday, November 24
 - Order pick up date: Thursday, December 5, 3:00-3:30 pm @ Norquay Lunch Room
 - Order campaign link: <https://fundraising.purdys.com/1571651-121141>
 - Browse the online Purdy's Holiday Fundraising Catalogue: <https://www.purdys.com/media/wysiwyg/GnF/Xmas2024/SFR-Xmas-2024-Digital-Catalogue.pdf>
- Please note that the Seymour Ski & Snowboard season is coming soon! We are still waiting for Seymour to send us the sign up link.

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

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Safe Arrival: 604-713-5159 ext. #61

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR CHILDREN BORN IN 2020 BEGINS NOVEMBER 1

All kindergarten applicants are required to complete an online application for their English catchment elementary school. This includes families who wish to apply for District 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 online 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 **2025-26**

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:

1. Proof of residence in Vancouver
2. Child's birth certificate
3. Immigration documentation (if applicable)
4. Immunization records
5. Court orders/documents (if applicable)

If you want to apply for a District Choice Program or cross boundary, you must **first apply to your English catchment elementary school**. District Choice Programs and cross boundary applications will be accepted in early 2025. For more information, go to: govsb.ca/kchoice and govsb.ca/crossboundary

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

1. **In-catchment** kindergarten applicants with siblings in attendance at the school (and who will be attending next year) will be placed first.
2. The names of all other in-catchment registrants will be entered into a **random draw** for the remaining kindergarten spaces.
3. Students who cannot be accommodated will be placed on a waitlist in the order in which their name was drawn.
4. Between January 31 and the second Friday in June students on the ordered waitlist will be accommodated as space becomes available.
5. In the event there are more in-catchment registrants than can be accommodated at either catchment site, students will be placed at a neighbouring school until 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.

In the event there are more in-catchment registrants than can be accommodated at either catchment site, students will be placed at a neighbouring school until space becomes available.

For more information on kindergarten registration visit the VSB website: govsb.ca/kindergarten

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

