



NIGHTINGALE NEWS

Principal: Angela Hughes
Director of Instruction: Janis Meyers

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Dates to Remember	1
Message from Ms. Hughes	1
Safe Arrival Information	1
PAC Updates	2
Kindergarten Registration	3
Welcome Winter Spirit Day	3
Family Affordability Fund	4
Diversity Calendar	4
Outside Rain or Shine	4
Terry Fox Donations	5
Artist In Residence	5
Basketball	6
Call for Adult Crossing Guards	6
Gently Used Jackets	6
When Should Children Stay Home	6
Active Travel Grant	6
School Closures—Snow	6
Nightingale Halloween	7-8
Nightingale Art	9-16

REPORTING STUDENT ABSENCES

If your child is sick and unable to attend school, please report your child's absence:

Call 604-713-5159 school code 59#

Report your child's first and last name, division number, and teacher's name. It is important that you do call this number, even if you have sent a message to your child's teacher via e-mail. This will let the office know your child is absent so that we know they are safe at home. Teachers do not necessarily check their e-mail or they may be away themselves and we would not have access to the information. Thank you.



Dates to Remember in December

Friday, November 25	...Non-Instructional Day (Indigenous focus day)
Friday, December 16	...Last day of school before Winter Break
Monday, December 19- Monday, January 2	...Winter Break
Tuesday, January 3	...School Reopens after Winter Break

A Message from Ms. Hughes

This month, recognition of Remembrance Day at Nightingale was on November 10 and I would like to thank the students who participated. The songs, poems and messages of peace give us all hope for a peaceful future. The school will be writing a cheque to The Poppy Fund the donations we received and we thank those families who were able to contribute this year.

lest we forget



Today, staff participated in an in-service day focused on Indigenous education through a district-wide virtual conference. Staff also took some time throughout the day reflecting on and reviewing the presentations. This important work is ongoing throughout the district following our anti-racism in-service last school year and our Indigenous focus days in the previous three school years.

We would like to humbly acknowledge that we are learning, unlearning and relearning on the unceded, un-surrendered, and traditional territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm | Musqueam, Skwxwú7mesh | Squamish & səliwətaʔ | Tsleil-Waututh Nations. With this acknowledgement comes the commitment to engage in ongoing acts of reconciliation.



PAC Updates

At Florence Nightingale Elementary, we are fortunate to have an engaged parent community and wonderful educators that are dedicated to helping our children become well-rounded learners. We witness the excitement as they come home and sing a new song, share a moral lesson learned, or present a masterpiece perfect for framing and hanging on the wall.

Funding from the government and the VSB only goes so far. **Generous support from parents and caregivers like you helps to enrich our kids' education.** This year, through the 'Rise up Hawks' campaign, your contribution will help enhance arts and culture initiatives at our school including the following:

The Artist in Residence program—AIRS provides equitable access to high-quality visual arts education run by professional artists. PAC provides on-going support for supplies so that the students can explore different mediums and concepts while creating a sense of connection and community.

The music program—Purchasing instruments to support music at Nightingale so that Mr. Bonnell can continue to inspire our children to spread joy through music.

Literacy—Enhancing the classroom libraries so that teachers can tailor the class's reading and interest level while also providing the opportunity for self-selection.

If you are able, please make a gift to help our school continue to offer our children the resources and opportunities they deserve. We respectfully ask you to consider a minimum contribution of \$100 per child. The 'Rise Up Hawks' campaign is running now through till January 31 with a goal of raising \$8,000 for the school. You can make your gift today at this [link](#).

Every contribution, large or small, will make a difference and 100% of your gift will go directly to support our kids' education. Donations are confidential and charitable tax receipts will be issued by the VSB for donations over \$10. We thank you in advance for your generosity — and for helping the wonderful staff, administration and teachers bring a bright experience to our kids.

Greg Kozak and Graham Plant, PAC Co-Chairs



At Nightingale we love our school!

Kindergarten Registration 2023-2024

Kindergarten registration continues into December and January. Please let any of your neighbours know that they may apply, if their child was born in 2018. The registration process will

have two steps:

- ♦ Step 1: Complete the online registration at vsbapplynow.vsb.bc.ca—print out the completed registration form
- ♦ Step 2: Phone the school to make an appointment to bring in your documents (604-713-5290). At the time of your appointment, bring the completed registration form along with the required documents to your catchment school. Thank you.

Supporting documents needed:

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



NOTE: The registration process is not complete until you have completed both steps in the process. Priority registration for in-catchment students ends on January 31st. If we have more applications for kindergarten than we have available spaces, a draw will be held.

School Spirit Day November 30

Thank you to the Student Council for organizing our first school spirit day of the year!



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Family Affordability Fund

As you are aware, the Family Affordability Fund was recently distributed to school districts. Over the past couple of weeks, I asked for feedback from staff and families with respect to allocating these funds and we are now ready to implement the general plan as follows:

- Targeted funds to help individual families with food security (gift cards for grocery stores)
- Targeted funds to help individual families with other items such as children's clothing (jackets, boots, etc.) or to subsidize fees in the school year (such as grad hoodies, field trips)
- Universal funds to help all families (e.g., subsidize class field trips for every family so the trip is less expensive for all, subsidize a performance cost so it is less expensive to all families, grad hoodies/events etc.)

The school was allocated \$25,000. This is one-time funding and must be spent by the end of June. The first two items are to support those families in financial hardship. If your family is in need of financial assistance and would benefit from one or both of the above two items, please reach out to me at aahughes@vsb.bc.ca, and we will assist where we can. Item number 3 will be determined throughout the year and will benefit all families.

Diversity Calendar

Listed below are some of the observances, holidays, celebrations and notable dates in December. *I extend my apologies if I missed an observance that your family recognizes, please do let us know!* This addition to the newsletter is *intended to be inclusive* and we welcome any and all additions. If you would like your family observances or celebrations to be acknowledged, please do let us know in the office and they can be added to the newsletters.

December 8— [Bodhi Day \(Buddhist\)](#)

December 19—[Hannukah](#) begins

December 21—[Winter Solstice](#)

December 25—[Christmas Day](#) (Christian)

December 26—[Kwanzaa](#) (African American/Canadian) and [Boxing Day](#) (Canada)

December 31—[New Year's Eve](#) (Canada) and [Omisoka](#) (Japan)

Visit the [Nightingale website](#) for other school and VSB news.



Outside Recess Rain or Shine

colder, rainy weather. As a reminder, living on the west coast we have to always be prepared for rain showers so please remember to have your child come to school every day ready for this. A rain jacket, boots and even a change of clothes are a good idea. Children play actively outside each day, rain or shine. It is usually the adults that are concerned with them getting wet rather than the children worrying. As I always say, there is no such thing as bad weather, just inappropriate clothing!

Thank you for supporting us in having children play outside rain or shine to get fresh air and exercise. If they are dressed appropriately, they will still have fun. As the weather becomes wetter and colder, there may be some families who need some support in acquiring the appropriate outer wear for their children. Please do reach out to me if you are in need of some supports in this regard.



At Nightingale we love our school!

Well Done!

Thank you to all the families who were able to donate for the Terry Fox Run. This year, our total raised was \$1570! Well done Nightingale!



A friendly reminder...

If you have not already done so, please pay school fees online at:

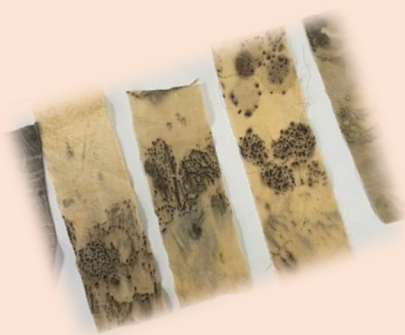
[School Cash Online](#)



Artist in Residence

A message from Maggie (who we are all so thrilled to have back at Nightingale!):

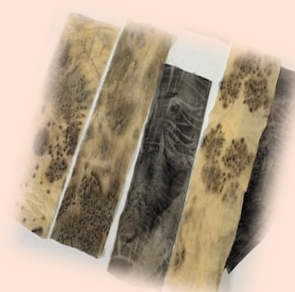
I am so grateful to be back with all of you at Nightingale. This year in the Art and Discovery Studio, we will be exploring the theme of *Lost and Found*: acknowledging the ways in which loss is part of being in the world, and also what brings us together. Through a series of art projects, we will be exploring losses big and small, and create space for students to discover the paradoxical coexistence of losing and finding in the stories of



our lives. As part of this journey, we are creating a whole school art collaboration called "the tending and mending project" that will be located in the main atrium of the school. Here, students, caregivers and staff can stitch a piece of printed fabric onto a long and ever growing bandage as a way of sitting with and tending to feelings of hurt; whether from a bump on the playground, an argument with a friend, the feeling of missing someone or something important, the feeling of being overwhelmed by things beyond our control or simply from having a bad day. It can also be a quiet place to slow down and show care for the hurt

of others by stitching a word or an image onto one of the fabric pieces already attached. It is the hope that as this bandage grows, it will become a beautiful symbol of the strength and depth of care and connectedness in our school community. Once we get started, I would also love to have volunteers to help with keeping a steady supply of threaded and knotted needles to be kept in the office for students and others in our school community to use throughout the day for stitching. Please let Angela Hughes or Colleen Mieczanec know if you would like to be involved. Thank you for your support of the Art and Discovery Studio and the AIRS program. It is an honour to be a part of this wonderful school community.

Sincerely and Warmly, Maggie.



At Nightingale we love our school!

Basketball Season



Basketball season is upon us! Thank you to Mr. Yuen and a grade 7 parent for sponsoring our Tuesday morning practices for grades 4-7. Practices start in the gym at 7:45 a.m. In the new year, the VSB basketball season officially starts. More information will be posted to the Nightingale website in the new year.

Call for Adult Crossing Guard Volunteers

Thank you to those parents and caregivers who have reached out to volunteer as a parent crossing guard on 12th Avenue. We are still looking for more volunteers before we can set up this program and have our volunteer training. If you are able to help, please e-mail Paul at pauljlsakov@gmail.com. Paul is a parent at Nightingale who has generously offered to facilitate this initiative and schedule those parents who are able to volunteer. Thank you Paul!



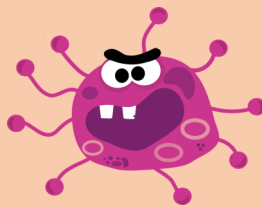
Gently-Used Jackets Available

We recently received a donation of clean, gently used winter jackets. If you are in need of a jacket for your child, please feel free to come to the office to take a look. If none of them are suitable, a reminder that we could help you with the Family Affordability Fund. The jackets are in the following sizes:

- Girls 5T, 5/6M, 11-12, 5/7
- Boys 12M, 10-12, 8-9



When Should My Child Stay Home Sick...



As the respiratory virus season is now in full swing, this is a reminder that children should not be coming to school if they are sick, including if they “only have the sniffles”. It is important that we all remain

vigilant and stay home when sick. As per the [Communicable Disease Plan](#) health check (page 20) please be aware that staying home does not just apply to children with COVID symptoms but to any children who have illness that they could pass on to others.

Thank you for helping to keep everyone in our school community safe and healthy.

School Closure Due to Snow

On very snowy days, by 7:00 am, the VSB will post information about snow closure on its website at www.vsb.bc.ca and will inform local media stations, including:

CKNW (980 AM), CIVB(1470 AM)
 CBC (690 AM, 105.7 FM)
 CFHG (96.1 FM), CKWX (1130 AM)
 BCTV/Global (Cable channel 11)
 CITY TV (Cable channel 13)



Active School Travel Grant Questionnaire

In the 2021-2022 school year, the PAC applied for an Active School Travel Grant. They were successful in this application and are looking for ways that we can utilize this grant money to support active travel in the community. If you could please take a few moments to complete the following survey it would help us as we create our plan:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SMMTWRW>

Thank you!



“PROUD TO BE HAWKS”

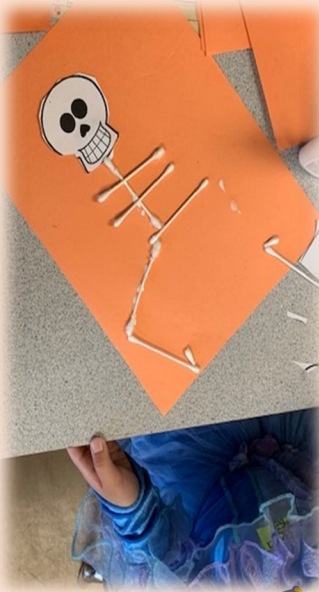
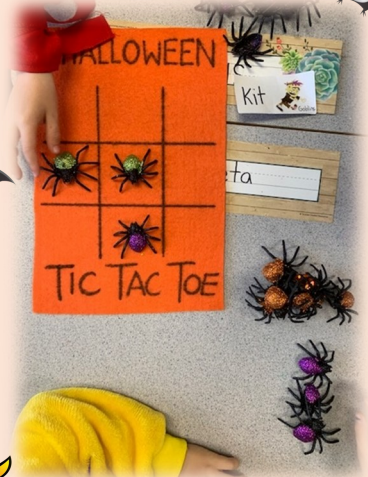
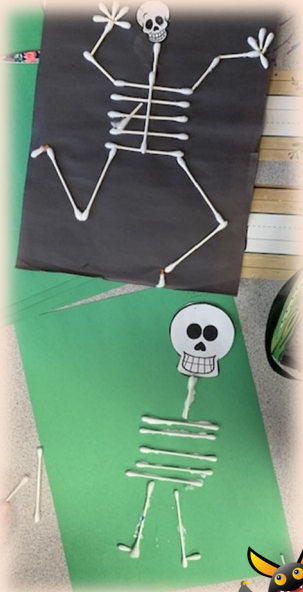


At Nightingale we love our school!

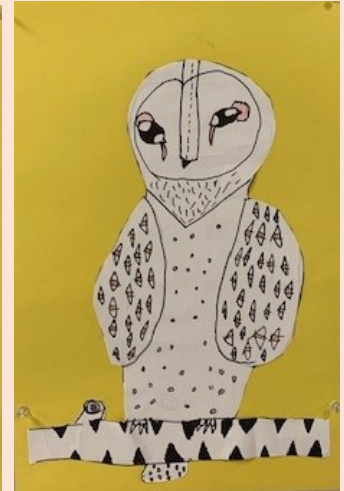
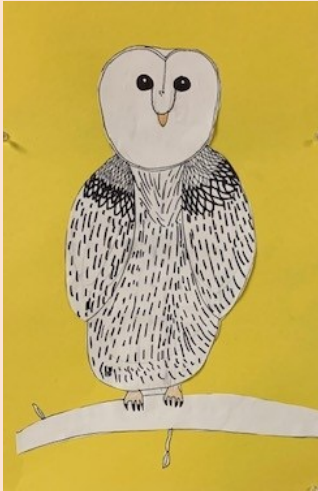
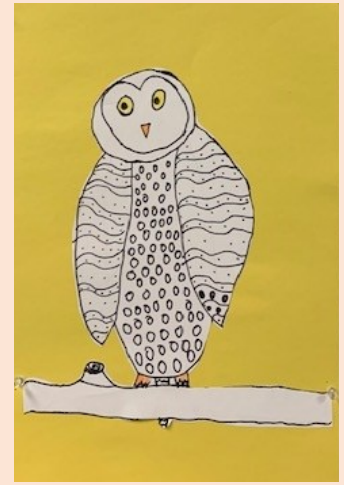
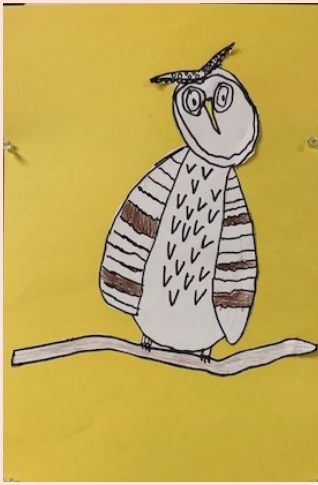
Nightingale Halloween



Halloween Activities

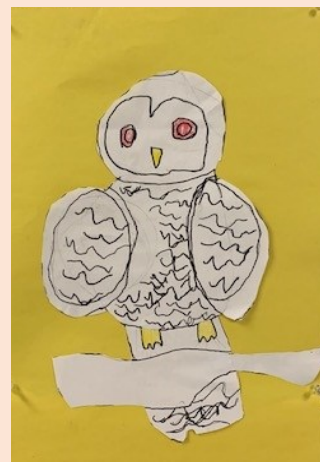
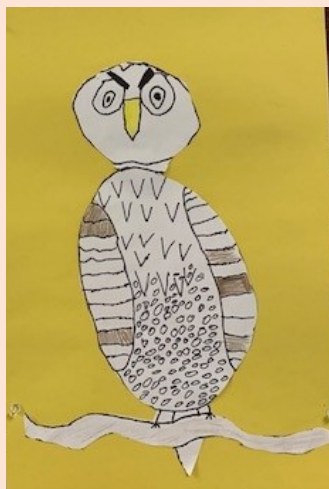


Nightingale Art



Owls by Division 5

Nightingale Art



Halloween Friends by Division 12



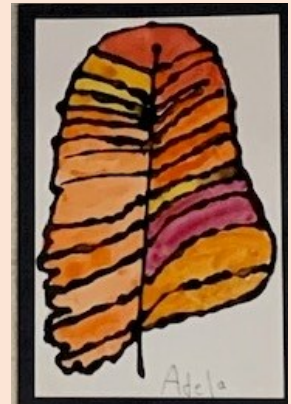
Nightingale Art



Nightingale Art



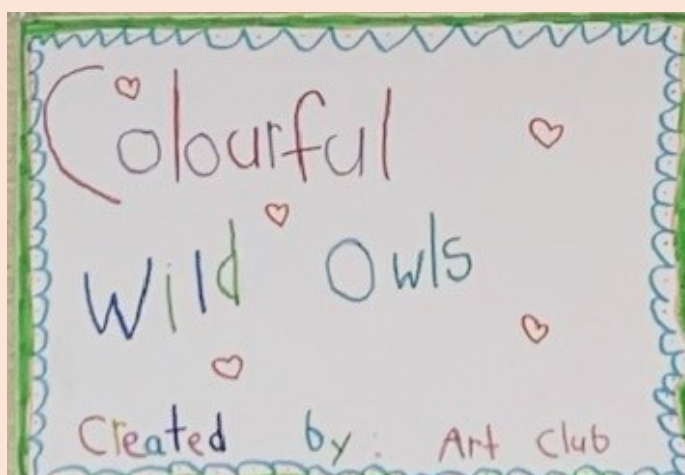
Nightingale Art



Division 10

Art Club

Nightingale Art



Nightingale Art



Scarecrow Art by Division 6

Nightingale Art



Scarecrow Art by Division 6