**Wednesday, October 30, 2019**

**NRP Newsletter**

**Administrator’s Message**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The first two months of school have been very busy at NRP. Student are all settled into their new communities, have made new friendships and have established relationships with their new teachers. The school has very few student placements available and there are waiting lists for some grades. The school continues to receive new student applications each week.

While the year has had a positive start, we continue to experience challenges with traffic congestion and parents illegally parking on Ortona Road creating unsafe conditions for the students. We strongly encourage you to change habits, unfortunately it is only a matter of time before an accident occurs. In the current situation, it would not be possible for emergency vehicles to access the school site.

This year we have had many of our grade 6 and 7 students volunteer in service and leadership activities ranging from office monitors, crossing guards, playground leaders and primary class lunch buddies. We will continue to look for opportunities for students to develop leadership skills and make a variety of social connections. As well, students of all ages have opportunities to participate in a variety of school sponsored clubs and some private rental group activities. Clubs are sponsored by VSB staff volunteers and private rental student activities are organized by outside groups such as Mad Science and Young Rembrandts. Some examples of school clubs are coding, dance and debate clubs. As the year progresses we endevore to create more noon hour and after school opportunities for students.

While students are allowed to bring their phones and personal devices to school, we have requested that students keep their phones turned off and put away during the school day. The students may use their phones and devices in class upon teacher request for classroom activities. Students bring their devices to school at their own risk.

The grade 4 and 7 students are in the midst of completing the Ministry of Education’s Foundation Skills Assessments (FSA). The assessments are intended to provide a “snapshot” of student achievement in the areas of literacy and numeracy, take about 5 hours of class time, are completed both online and in booklet form. The FSA is not used for report card purposes. While the Ministry and the VSB encourage students to participate, the BCTF does not. Parent information has been sent home from the stakeholders. Student assessment results are sent home from the school once the tests have been marked at the VSB.

We are fortunate to have an active and supportive PAC. All parents are considered members of the NRP PAC. Our PAC coordinates the hot lunch program, organizes Fairs, hosts parent information sessions, provides countless volunteer hours and provides funding for many school wide and classroom activities and supplies. On a final note, I would like to acknowledge the PAC for providing the staff with a wonderful luncheon.

Thank you for your support.

Ian Cannon Teena Smith

Principal Vice Principal

**Kindergarten Registration**

Kindergarten registration for the next school year commences on November 1, 2019. Parents may apply online at [www.vsb.bc.ca/kindergarten](http://www.vsb.bc.ca/kindergarten) . If your child was born outside of Canada, please register at the Newcomer Welcome Centre at Moberly Elementary School. If you have any neighbours with children entering the school system next year, please encourage them to register prior to January 31. 2020. It is anticipated that there will again be a wait list for Kindergarten.

**Direct Appeal Fundraiser**

With this newsletter is information on the school’s direct appeal fundraiser effort. This voluntary contribution directly supports the school and student learning. The information also includes instructions on how to make a donation, all donations over $10 are eligible for a charitable tax donation receipt from the VSB. Please review the attached direct appeal letter for more details.

**School Goal**

This year one of our school goals is fostering community and a sense of belonging. MDI results have indicated that students at NRP do not always feel connected. Research indicates that in order to improve academic achievement we must first address the underlying social and emotional needs. Therefore, we have started a committee of staff to find ways to improve and track our goal. We have had an assembly with students telling us what belonging means to them, we have started many leadership opportunities as indicated below, and we are using our code of conduct and core competency language to discuss this with students. We look forward to sharing with you ways to help support our goal at home and ways that we are supporting students at school.

**Conferences**

# Teacher conferences are on November 6 and 7 beginning at 2:00 pm. The conferences are considered one of the 5 required home-school communications that must occur this year. Your efforts to attend the conferences are appreciated.

# School Conferences - Parent Instructions

1. Go to our school appointments web site for your school. <http://nrp.schoolappointments.com>
2. Register for an account by clicking the "**REGISTER**" menu tab and filling in the on-line form. Choose a user id and password for yourself and then click the "**Register Now**" button.
3. Add your children into the system by clicking the "**Add a Student**" button. Click "**Insert New**" button to add more children.
4. Click the "**date**" icon beside each child's name to schedule appointments. Select the staff you wish to book appointments with and the "**View Calendars**" button. Use the "**Ctrl**" or "**Command**" key to select multiple staff to view at the same time.
5. Click on available time slots to book your appointments.

**School Sports**

The cross-country running and soccer seasons have recently ended and students are now involved in volleyball. The cross-country season ended with the City Meet at Trout Lake. School sports teams would not be possible without our teacher coaches and parent volunteer drivers.

**Halloween**

The learning communities will contact their families sharing Halloween plans with you. For students wearing costumes to school, please help ensure costumes are age appropriate, culturally sensitive and students are able to put them on without adult assistance. Toy weaponry needs to be left at home. Have a fun Halloween night!

**Lost and Found**

The school’s lost and found is located next to the west stairwell in the main foyer. The lost and found is already very full and parents are encouraged to look for their child’s belongings. At the Winter Break, all unclaimed items will be donated to charity.

**Office Reminders**

Please remember to contact the office to update your contact information: email, phone numbers, addresses etc.

If a student arrives late or leaves early he/she must sign in/out at the office.

Please use the school App to report absences, if a child is absent and we do not why, the office is required to contact you.

To pay school fees please use Cash Online.

**Upcoming Events**

November 6 & 7 – Conferences, 2:00 pm dismissal

November 8 - Professional Development Day

November 11 – Remembrance Day