



Director of Instruction: Mr. Richard Zerbe
Principal: Ms. Harjinder Sandhu
Vice Principal: Mr. Aaron Singh
PAC Chairpersons: Melissa Hayward-Cheung
School Liaison Trustee: Ms. Janet Fraser



SPRING and RENEWAL

Hello Henderson Community! We hope everyone had a safe, relaxing and rejuvenating Spring Break and Easter long weekend. We know many in our school community observed or will soon be celebrating several holidays: Holi, Qingming, Passover, Easter, Ramadan, and Vaisakhi. None of these celebrations resembled or will resemble what they have been in the past, but we continue to make the best of the situation we find ourselves in and continue to find joy and celebrate with safety and Covid protocols in mind.

Thank you all for remembering to do Health Checks each morning and coming to school each day wearing a mask. We appreciate how difficult it has been for some parents, not being able to come into the school. Please remember that you should not be dropping off or picking up items from your child during the school day. If an emergency situation arises please call the office. If you need to be on site for some reason, please come to the door or window by the office and we will come out and assist you. We know that these precautions can seem inconvenient, but all of the precautions are helping keep us all safe.

Many of you have been asking about traditional school events. We did not have individual pictures in September, but we are happy to report that we have booked individual photos for Friday, April 23rd. We will also be holding some of our traditional school events before the school year ends. We will be sending home more detailed information on the events and how it might be possible for families to join us online. Unfortunately, we will not be able to host any large gatherings. We will have an online Welcome to Kindergarten event for students entering in September 2021. We will still run both Marafun (May) and Sports Day (June) while maintaining our Covid Protocols. Our Grade 7 Leaving Ceremony will also be planned, following all of the Provincial Health Ministry and VSB guidelines. Please stay tuned for more details and again thank you for your patience.

Keep working together and giving it your best Henderson! Together we can do this!

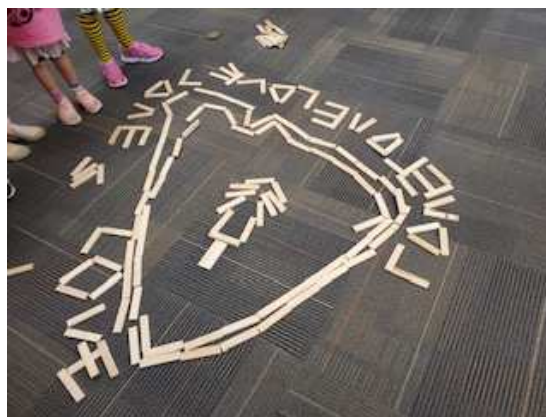
Ms. Sandhu

Mr. Singh

Continuing to Be Grateful

Welcoming Back Mr. Singh

& Looking Back on Great Projects and PAC Support!



As we welcome back Mr. Singh. Ms. Matterson and the classes she works with share the work they have been doing with the work of author and illustrator, Peter Reynolds. This last term most Divisions dove into artwork, discussions and

the writing process with their inquiry into Reynolds's work. Thank you to Mr. Singh and the PAC as it was with your support that Reynold's character of Vashi, from "The Dot" came to life on our library wall. The image is there to inspire us all to have the courage to make our own mark every day and, in any way, to help colour this world with our unique gifts!

Getting to Know Our Community – Honouring Each Other

Here is just a little information on what and why our community members are celebrating. To learn more, we can search out more information on our own or we can continue to engage in dialogue to find out more about each other and in turn learn more about ourselves.



HOLI (March 29th)

Holi is an ancient Hindu festival, which later became popular among all Indian communities as well. Holi marks the arrival of spring after winter. It signifies the victory of good over evil and is celebrated as a day of spreading happiness and love. The celebration starts on the night before with Holika Dahan, where people perform rituals in front of a bonfire, praying for their inner evil to be destroyed, just as Holika was killed by fire. The carnival of colours begins the next morning, where people come out on the streets to play with colours and drench each other with coloured water!



QING MING FESTIVAL (April 4th)

The Qingming Festival pays respect to the ancestors and celebrates the warming weather of spring. It's a time for honouring the past with a spirit of celebration that includes space for both reflection and renewal. This day is also referred to as the Pure Brightness Festival or as Tomb Sweeping Day. It is observed quietly among families by visiting gravesites of relatives and enjoying time outdoors, sharing stories of ancestors. This festival takes place every year on April 4th or 5th on the first day of the fifth solar term of the Chinese calendar.



PASSOVER

(evening of March 27th to evening of April 4th)

Passover commemorates the Biblical story of Exodus – where God freed the Israelites from slavery in Egypt. The celebration of Passover is prescribed in the book of Exodus in the Old Testament (in Judaism, the first of five books of Moses are called the Torah). The holiday is often celebrated for eight days (seven in Israel), and incorporates themes of springtime, a Jewish homeland, family, remembrance of Jewish history, social justice and freedom – including recognizing those who are still being oppressed today. All of these aspects are discussed, if not symbolically represented, during the Passover seder. The Passover Seder plate is a special plate containing 6 -symbolic foods eaten or displayed.



Good Friday (April 2nd)

EASTER (April 4th)

Easter commemorates the Resurrection of Jesus; Easter also celebrates the defeat of death and the hope of salvations. Christian tradition holds that the sins of humanity were paid for by the death of Jesus and that his Resurrection represents the anticipation believers can have in their own resurrection. Easter is the most important Christian festival of the year. The Bible says that Christ died on the cross on a day called Good Friday and was resurrected and came back to life on Easter Sunday.



Easter Eggs & the Easter Bunny

These are modern traditions! Originally during Easter churches did not allow the eating of eggs in the week before Easter. So many saved the eggs laid and decorated them to make them Holy Week eggs, that were then given to children as gifts.





During Victorian times, the tradition was adapted by making satin covered cardboard eggs filled with Easter gifts!

The first chocolate eggs appeared in the 19th Century in France and Germany. The chocolate was bitter and hard! As chocolate making techniques evolved, hollow eggs like the ones we have today were developed and chocolate eggs quickly became a favourite Easter tradition.

During the 19th Century, it is thought the idea of the Easter Bunny also became common. Rabbits usually give birth to a big litter of kittens, so they became a symbol of new life. The legend has it that the Easter Bunny lays, decorates and hides eggs as they are also a symbol of new life and hence began the Easter Egg Hunt! This Easter Bunny tradition however is not followed in all countries that celebrate! In Switzerland, eggs come from a cuckoo and in parts of Germany by a fox.



RAMADAN (evening April 13th to May 12th)

Ramadan commemorates the month during which Muhammad received the initial revelations of the Quran, the holy book for Muslims. Fasting is one of the five fundamental principles of Islam. Ramadan is a holy month of fasting, introspection for developing more self-control, and prayer for Muslims, the followers of Islam.

The five pillars of Islam are: swam/ fasting, salat/prayer, zakat/charity, shashadah/acknowledging God and Mohammed as the highest being, and Hajj/all Muslims go to Mecca in their lifetime.



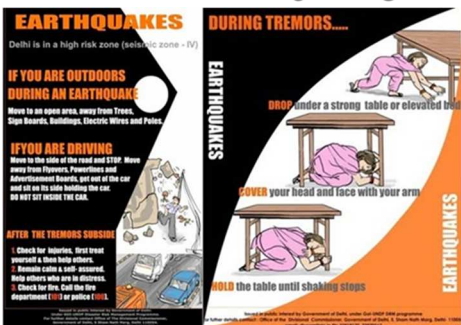
VAISAKHI (April 13th)

Vaisakhi/Baisakhi is a long-established spring harvest festival for Sikhs and Hindus in Punjab. For Hindus it also marks the beginning of Hindu solar New Year. For Sikhs, it commemorates the creation of the Khalsa

Panth, the transformation of the Sikhs into a family of soldier saints, which was founded in 1699 by Guru Gobind Singh. A Nagar Kirtan, a parade to celebrate the occasion, is usually held on or near this day and along the parade route people of all ages walk together, happy, joyous and sing hymns for the Guru Granth Sahib, the Sikh Holy Book. The parade procession is led by traditionally dressed Panj Piaras. The Guru Granth Sahib will be carried in the procession in a place of honour. Food is donated and handed out along the route of the procession. Everyone, all faith and all people are invited to participate and eat in community.



Earthquake Preparedness



The Big One at 2pm is our annual VSB Emergency Preparedness Earthquake Simulation Drill, which will be held on Thursday, May 6TH. At Henderson, we have a school emergency plan which all staff have familiarized themselves with and this gives us and the students an opportunity to practice what to do if we were hit by an earthquake. This year we will not incorporate a

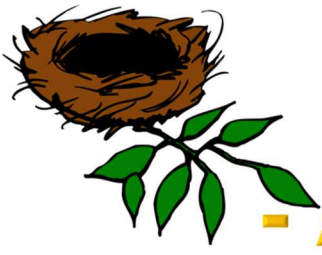


large "Student Release" component of our emergency evacuation. We will do it next Spring if our school Health and Safety Protocols allow. It is helpful to use to go through this drill so that we are prepared in case a real emergency situation should arise. This might also be a good time for you as a family to review what your home plan is should an earthquake hit. There are many great resources out there to support you. Here are a few web based ones:

<http://www.earthquakecountry.org/sevensteps/>

<http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-recovery/preparedbc/know-the-risks/earthquakes>

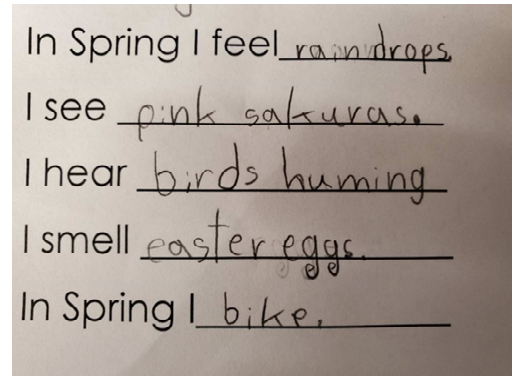
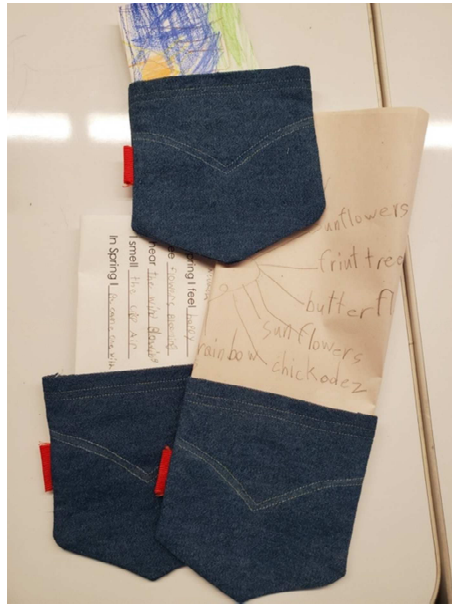
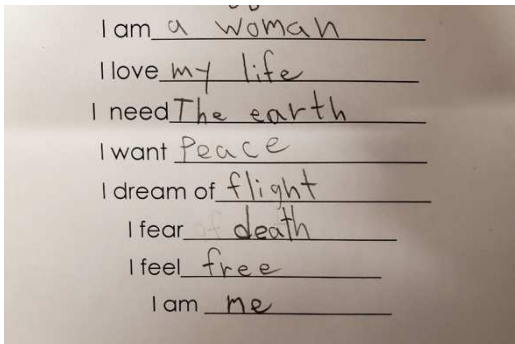
http://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/public-safety-and-emergency-services/emergency-preparedness-recovery/embc/preparedbc/eparedbc_household_preparedness_guide_web_final_2015.pdf



The Nest News

-April is Poetry Month

April is Poetry Month internationally. We enjoy reading, writing, and creating poetry throughout the year at Henderson. We have many divisions exploring the art of poetry during the month while getting to know themselves as being poets. A couple of draft poems from Divisions 11 and 13 below show how students start by using themselves, the senses, and our environment to spark the initial ideas and words to prompt lists, acrostic and sensory poems. We can't wait to share with you as we get deeper into our study and share more of the finished pieces with you.



<https://app.edu.buncee.com/buncee/880b745c5b984fe2b1326edda617e4ca>

Student Learning Survey 2021

The Provincial Student Learning Survey is unique in its scope, size, and usefulness to schools. It gathers information from parents/guardians/caregivers, teachers and students on topics related to school environment, safety, and achievement. The information is used for planning in individual schools and provides a district and provincial perspective. Early in 2021 the Student Learning Survey will be administered to students in grades 4 and 7, their parents/guardians/caregivers, and all school staff. We encourage parents/guardians/caregivers to participate in this survey, as the results are important in identifying and celebrating current strengths, as well as determining where the school needs to focus improvement. The surveys contain standard questions for the Province – in addition, questions from the school and/or district that focus on local conditions or issues may be included. The survey can be completed electronically and can be accessed on the Internet at http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat_survey. Any computer with an Internet connection can be used, and access to the e-survey is simple and secure. The survey can be accessed through the link with or without an anonymous logon code by selecting the school district and school name where your child attends school. Provincial, District and School Reports for previous years can be viewed at the same site under the Results section.

The e-survey site will be open until April 30th. If you have any questions, please contact us at 604-713-4837.

FOOD PROGRAM SUPPORT

Our local Peace Church, at 659 E 52nd Avenue, has been designated as the Food Hub for the SVNH Food Hub Program. The Food Hub will provide weekly customized grocery boxes that reflect household size and dietary or cultural preferences and will include pantry staples as well as perishables.



The model SVNH has chosen for equitable food access, while meeting nutritional needs, aims to build relationships and opportunity for community participation with an aim to increase household food security, reduce social isolation and enhance support networks for marginalized community members.

Registration is required. Contact Julie Diesta at Julie.diesta@southvan.org or at 604-324-6212, ext. 143. This program starts on February 18, 2021

COVID-19 UPDATE

Mouth Rinse/Gargle Test Kits

The Vancouver School District is pleased to inform you that BC Children's Hospital and Vancouver Coastal Health are making COVID-19 Mouth Rinse/Gargle test kits available for students who become symptomatic during the school day. This follows a successful four-month field test at ten schools in the District. Kits will be distributed to all elementary and secondary schools in the District during the month of April.

As is practice, if a student presents with COVID-19 symptoms during the school day families will be contacted to pick their child up as soon as possible. A kit will be offered to the parent/caregiver to take home when the child is picked up. Acceptance of a kit is voluntary. Instructions on how to administer the test at home are included in the kit. The sample can be dropped off at any LifeLabs location or at BC Children's Hospital for processing. Results from these tests will be received through the same processes as tests taken at COVID-19 test centres.

The health and safety of students and staff remains the top priority of the Vancouver School District. Families are reminded to continue to monitor their children for symptoms of COVID-19 before sending them to school each day.

What did you learn in school today?



KNOWLEDGE INFUSION

For many years Moberly and Henderson have been hosting an in-house summer school program, known as *Knowledge Infusion* for their students. This year we would like to invite students at Trudeau and Sexsmith Elementary School to register for a FREE summer school course at either Moberly or Henderson school. Summer courses at these two schools are not being advertised in the regular summer school brochures or on the VSB website.

In May, teachers at your school will hand out registration forms to students for the Knowledge Infusion program which will offer the following courses. There is no fee for this program.

Language Arts and Mathematics Grade 1-6 (Remedial)

Students will review Language Arts and Mathematics skills taught in this past school year. Emphasis will be on reading, writing and basic computation skills appropriate for the child and grade level. The summer environment is motivating and enables students to be successful with their learning. Students must register in their grade level as of June 29, 2021.

Getting ready for Grade 1

Help your child get prepare for grade one! Get ready to spend some time reviewing concepts learned in the past year and learn what to expect for Grade 1. This preview course will cover concepts such as reading, writing, math, and art. This course is for children who completed Kindergarten in the 2020/2021 school year.

Getting Ready for Highschool:

The transition from grade 7 to grade 8 is one of the most important phases of a young student's life. In this course, students will prepare themselves with learning experiences that focus on academic and social skills, preparation in a new environment and long-term management for life in high school. We will also be learning to use various technologies to help organize ourselves and be prepared for the challenges ahead.

PROGRAM DETAILS

Times: **8:30 am to 11:50am**

Dates: July 6th to 21st, 2021

Location: **Henderson Elementary School** (451 E 53rd Ave.)



Mark Your Calendars

- ❖ April 15th and 16th Safe Cycling Program with HUB Cycling for Divisions 5, 7, 8 and 9
- ❖ April 19th to 23rd Environment Stewardship Week
- ❖ April 22nd Earth Day
- ❖ April 23rd Individual Photos
- ❖ **April 26th** Pro-D Day – **No School for Students**
- ❖ May 19th Virtual Welcome to Kindergarten for 2021-2022 Kindergarten Families
- ❖ May TBA MaraFun
- ❖ **May 24th** Victoria Day – **No School**
- ❖ June TBA Sports Day
- ❖ June TBA Grade Seven Leaving Ceremony
- ❖ June 29th Report Cards go home & last day of school for students

