

## *New information items:*

## **FSA Update**

Families of students in Grades 4 and 7 received their child's results last week (sent home with students). If you have any questions about the assessment, please contact your child's teacher.

## **Early Learning Assessments**

Students in Kindergarten – grade 2 will be participating in a continuation of Phonological Awareness (reading readiness) and will begin their Numeracy skills in the coming weeks. Please contact Mrs. Williams, Ms. McDonnell or Ms. Ross if you would like more information on the assessments. Results will be communicated to parents just before spring break.

## Band and Strings Registration for 2022 -2023 school year is now OPEN

The Elementary Band and Strings Program is a unique instrumental music program that is distinctive to the North Vancouver School District.

The program complements the BC Ministry of Education's Arts Education curriculum and provides school-based instrumental ensemble instruction to students in the intermediate grades (Grades 5 - 7 for Band and Grades 4 - 7 for Strings).

## Registration before March 11th will:

- Directly determine our ability to offer a band and/or strings class at your child's school.
- Fee for 2022-2023: \$495. Late Fee (after March 11<sup>th</sup>) \$545.00
- Allow you to participate in our Band and Strings' Monthly Instalment Plan.

## Please Note:

- There is NO fee to withdraw from the program prior to June 15, 2022.
- Students who withdraw after June 15 will be charged a \$75 fee.

**Late Registration** begins March 11 and ends September 30, 2022. Enrolment during Late Registration is based on class size, as well as school site offerings (determined after registration in March). Late Registration for the 2022-2023 school year is \$545.

To register for the NVSD Band or Strings Program via School Cash Online, please <u>click on this</u> link.



## **Physical Literacy**

Beginning in early December, Queensbury was 1 of 20 schools to be part of a Physical Literacy Mentorship Project offered as part of a multicomponent school-based health promotion initiative for B.C. elementary schools. The program is being offered in 20 schools where Physical Literacy (PL) Leads will work directly with teachers and their classes in supporting instruction and assessment around physical activity and physical literacy. Our Physical Literacy lead is Jodie Schafer, a gr. 6/7 teacher from Lynnmour Elementary. We have approx. 5 more weeks of instruction from Mrs. Schafer.

Queensbury classes participating in Physical Literacy are: Mrs. Roy, Ms. Amy, Ms. Harrington, Ms. Walters, Ms. Wilson, and Mrs. Williams.

#### **Project Objectives:**

- Develop instructional and applied knowledge of Physical Literacy skills through co-teaching mentorship model
- Enhance school-wide understanding and culture of physical activity and literacy across all grades
- Establish a baseline of student data on Fundamental Movement Skills using the PLAYbasic assessment tool
- Identify and share Physical Literacy instructional and assessment resources for teachers
- Support school-based initiative(s) to make learning active and physically engaging across all instructional areas

## What we did at Professional Day yesterday....

Our staff invited our Family of Schools Teacher Leader, Diana Morris, to discuss the theories related to executive functioning. Teachers, EA's and office staff learned strategies and supports to put in place and discussed why executive function abilities are on the decline in our population. Sarah Ward's strategy 'Get Ready, Do, Done, Get Done' system was introduced to staff through practical ideas and strategies. Supporting students with task initiation, personal organization, and time management is a focus in many classrooms this year.

#### **Diversity and Inclusion Committee**

At Queensbury, Black Excellence Day information was included in our daily announcements, and students and staff were encouraged to wear their black shirts on Friday, January 14<sup>th</sup> to acknowledge the movement. The grade 6/7 classes participated in the Burnaby School District's virtual conference for students held on the 14<sup>th</sup>. The presentation was exceptional and we heard some great feedback from the kids. We also read articles about the start of Black Excellence Day this year, and the change from Black Shirt Day last year. In addition, we looked at Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and his connection to this day. The district referred us to a number of great resources, which many classes utilized for their learning.

Please access the following websites for further updates

<u>School District Website</u>

<u>Queensbury Website</u>

Sutherland High School Website



A big thank you to Miss Whitney (EA) for creating our Lunar New Year bulletin board. It's a beautiful display of "the year of the Lion".

We will continue with daily announcements during Black History month as we learn about notable Black Canadians and the contributions they've made to our history. Our Diversity and Inclusion committee is looking into securing an author visit for Black History month, as well as a Jazz musician from Cap U. We have also booked Presentation House to come in for the grade 6/7s. Individual teachers will be approaching this month in different ways, so please feel free to reach out to your child's classroom teacher for more information.

#### **Kindness Month**

February also is a time that we focus on Kindness. As we have done for the past 3 years, we will begin the month with a virtual assembly on what it means to be kind and accepting of others. This is also a great time to welcome our new staff and students, and provide an opportunity for a refresher of our code of conduct. Diversity and Inclusion themes will be incorporated into this presentation.

## From the Library

The North Vancouver City Library has a number of exciting programs for tweens and teens offered this winter. For January 2022, all will be offered virtually through Zoom. See below for more details and for links to register:



#### **Tween Trivia & Gaming**

**WHEN:** Every other Saturday, 2pm – 3pm For those in grades 5 - 7 WHERE: Held virtually on Zoom Looking for something fun to do with other tweens online? Join the North Van City Library virtually on Zoom every other

Kahoot. What better way to spend your

time on a rainy weekend?

Click Here to Register

**Teen Creators Collective** 





**WHEN:** The last Thursday of the

Month, 3:30pm – 5pm

WHO: For teens in grades 7 – 12 WHERE: Held virtually on Zoom for

January

The Teen Creators Collective is for artsfocused youth looking to broaden their design skills, and meet fellow teen creators. Each month, the Collective explores a new creative theme. For January, we are looking at Illustrative journaling and poetry.

### **Click Here to Register**

## **Salmonid Program**

We are thrilled to announce the arrival of 100 Chum eggs (within the next week) from the Seymour Hatchery! Thank you to Mrs. Young, Mrs. Kennedy, and Ms. Harrington for setting up a tank upstairs and downstairs for all to enjoy. Classes will be learning about the Salmon life cycle and will plan a special celebration (Covid friendly) when the Chum are ready to be released into the creek.

#### **Grade 7 transition to high school**

Grade 7 parents should have received information about the grade 7/8 transition process from Ms. Roy, Ms. Amy or Miss Duncan this week. If you have not received the information and welcome letter from Sutherland High School, please connect with your child's classroom teacher. If your grade 7 child is planning on attending another Secondary school other than Sutherland, please complete a cross boundary request form through Central registration before March 5, 2022.

### Supervision before school / after school

Just a reminder to parents that we do not have formal supervision before or after school. Please try to drop your child(ren) off as close to 8:40 as possible. With Covid-19 protocols in place, we kindly ask that children and families head home right after school instead of gathering on the playground.

Please access the following websites for further updates

<u>School District Website</u>

<u>Queensbury Website</u>

Sutherland High School Website



## **Standing Information Items:**

## **Queensbury's School Handbook**

A copy of our current handbook is available on our website. A condensed version is located in the front of the student agendas.

## **Queensbury's School Plan**

Our team is working hard to update our goals this year.

More information to follow!