



3150 Colwood Drive
North Vancouver

604-903-3540

Attendance: 604.903.3544

e-mail: highlands@sd44.ca

February 2020



Ms. Wright's grade 7s and Mrs. Holliday's kindergarten students show kindness to the neighbourhood by picking up trash around the outside of the school property and at Fairmont Park.

Dear Parents,

It is hard to believe that half a year of school is already over! January and February have been very busy with students celebrating Valentine's Day, playing Triple Ball (volleyball), observing Pink Shirt Day, Body Science Workshops, and going on field trips, in addition to their other busy classroom experiences. We have appreciated your continued support in providing a stimulating and productive learning environment at Highlands.

We would also like to thank parents for helping us teach our students to become more independent by making every attempt to drop your child off outside of the school, and not escorting them into the school or classroom.

The second formal report card will be available on the parent portal on Monday, March 9 at 3:00 pm. The process for accessing your child's report card is the same as for first term report cards and is explained on the school's website (<https://goo.gl/qLRE4y>) Please note that the report cards are deleted from the parent portal at the end of the school year. Parents need to save or print them from the parent portal before the end of the school year if they wish to retain a copy for future use.

Reporting is the final stage of a process which includes the assessment and evaluation of your child's progress with respect to the expected learning outcomes. In addition to the formal reports, teachers maintain on-going communication with parents throughout the school year. This could include telephone conversations, interim reports, written communications, portfolio reviews, brief dialogues or conferences. We encourage you to contact your child's teacher when you have concerns and to continue to support your child's progress by encouraging positive attitudes, work habits, and effort.

Sincerely,

T. Henderson, Principal

N. Rickard, Vice Principal

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At Highlands, every child is encouraged to become an independent, self-motivated student with a positive attitude towards learning and a sense of responsibility and empathy for others.

Our Virtues Theme for March is Compassion

What Is Compassion?

Compassion is having kind feelings toward someone who is hurt or troubled. It is caring deeply and wanting to help, even if you don't know them. It is being kind and forgiving to someone who has hurt you.

Why Practise It?

When people feel hurt or in trouble, they often feel alone. Feeling alone can make things even worse. Without compassion the world is a hard and lonely place. Being compassionate helps us to feel less alone. Compassion helps us to be understanding of others and ourselves.

How Do You Practise It?

Compassion begins by noticing when someone feels sad or troubled. Put yourself in their place and ask how you would feel if it were happening to you. Think about how you can help. Take time to listen, and then say kind things like "What are you sad about?" and "How can I help?" Be forgiving when others make mistakes. Be a friend when someone needs a friend.

"Let no one ever come to you without leaving better and happier."

- Mother Teresa

March/April Calendar

March 2 & 3- 2:00 pm dismissal for parent/teacher conferences

March 9 - Second Term Report Cards available online

March 14 - 29 - Spring Break

April 10 - Good Friday Holiday

April 13 - Easter Monday holiday

April 29 - 2:00 pm dismissal for Staff Collaboration



"Flying Salmon" - by Mackenzie, Kindergarten, Ms. Mclean's class

Call in/Sign Out reminder

Please use our call-in line (604-903-3544) for ANY lates or absences, including family vacations. This can be accessed 24 hours/day, 7 days/ week. Informing your child's teacher is appreciated, but the main communication contact for lates and absences is our callback number. Office staff will then advise teachers.

When signing in or out at the office please remind your child to write their last name, time, as well as marking off who their teacher is. The time is important so that we have an accurate attendance record.

Students who arrive at school between 8:50 and 9:20 sign in inside the office. If students arrive after 9:20 or leave during the day, they must sign-in or sign-out on the sheet located inside the office. Students leaving the school at lunchtime should sign out & in at the office.

The school does not accept verbal permission for students to leave the school (eg. to walk home due to an illness). If a situation arises we would be able to accept an email authorization.

Parent notes need to be dated and explicitly say who will be picking up the child if it is not the parent. For student safety reasons, we require photo ID to be presented at the office as well if it is not the parent picking up the child.

Thank you for supporting us in this critical aspect of student safety.



Thanks to HPAC for providing funding to support the enhancement of our learning spaces. Student-sized exercise bikes with desktops installed by the school district's Facilities department allow students to work and exercise at the same time!

Some Reading Tips for Parents

Pair books with activities

Read the book before seeing a movie or even after it. Find non-fiction books around activities that your child is interested in and read to learn the 'how to' as well as to encourage and validate their enthusiasm.

Read the same book your child is reading and discuss it

This is the way to develop capacity for thought and insight and provide joint discussion around literature.

Let kids choose what they want to read including graphic novels/books and picture books

Being too prescriptive with what kids read will only discourage the reading habit.

Download audio books from iTunes or audible.com

Listen to them in the car, or turn off the TV and have the family listen to them together.

Lost and Found

Please remember to check the lost and found when you visit the school on March 2 or 3 for conferences.

Any items left after March 9 will be donated to charity. Please remember to label your child's belongings so that it is easier to return the lost items to the rightful owners.

Communication between home and school

Please note that the school office is only able to contact parents via phone, cell phone (not text), or e-mail and it is a parent's responsibility to make sure that the school is able to make emergency contact through one of these options if necessary.

**Remember to check the
Highlands website for up to date news and calendar:**

<http://www.sd44.ca/school/highlands/Pages/default.aspx>

New Registrations

Grade 1 - 12

All children new to North Vancouver (not currently attending a North Vancouver School District school), must register at Central Registration beginning January 20, 2020. Registration deadline for priority placement is February 28, 2020 at 4:30 pm.

All registrations require the student's original birth certificate and proof of current residence at the date of application, (BC Hydro bill, Purchase agreement, or if Tenancy agreement), and all relevant legal documentation regarding guardianship. If not born in Canada, bring proof of citizenship or applicable proof of status in Canada. Report cards from the previous school are also required. Please visit <http://www.sd44.ca> for more detailed information (go to "Schools" near the top of the page- on the side tab "Student Registration and Transfer Requests" - follow the appropriate link)

Late French Immersion – Grade 6 Entry

Late French Immersion is designed for non-French speaking students. Following two years in Grade 6 and 7 at the elementary level, Late French Immersion students complete their bilingual program with their peers from the Early French Immersion program at a secondary French Immersion school. After September 30, 2020 we will no longer accept new registrations for entry into the Late French Immersion program for the 2020-21 school year.

Transfer Requests

Students requesting a transfer from one North Vancouver school to another North Vancouver school must submit a Transfer Request Form between January 20, 2020 and February 28, 2020 at 4:30 pm for priority placement. All transfer forms must be submitted in person to the Central Registration Office. If applicable please bring proof of new address and any relevant legal documentation involving guardianship.

Following February 28, 2020, no further transfer requests will be accepted unless the student has moved into the requested catchment area.

Please note, International students must contact the International Department to discuss any changes to their school placement; these enquires are not processed by Central Registration.

Continuing Students

Students currently attending schools in North Vancouver are not required to apply annually to continue their registration in their current school.

Grade 7 to 8 Transfer Requests

Grade 7 students who would like to attend a secondary school other than their designated feeder school (see below), must complete a transfer form and submit it to the Central Registration office prior to February 28, 2020 at 4:30 pm. Placement will depend on space and facilities availability.

Example: if a student attends the Grade 7 French Immersion program at Sherwood Park Elementary School they would automatically feed into the Grade 8 French Immersion program at Windsor Secondary School. If the student wanted to attend Seycove Secondary School because it was their catchment secondary school (English program) they would have to submit a Transfer Request form before the February 28, 2020 deadline.

Questions? Please e-mail Central Registration at Registration@sd44.ca

Central Registration Office

Education Services Centre – 2nd Floor
2121 Lonsdale Avenue
North Vancouver BC V7M 2K6