

# Norgate Xwemélch'stn News

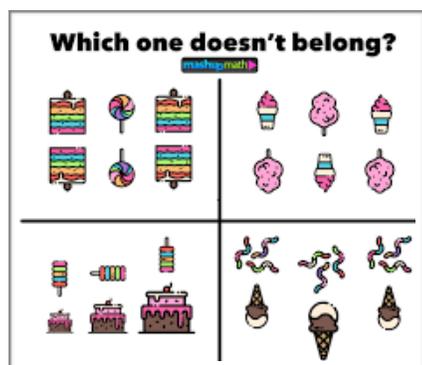
*We would like to thank the Coast Salish people, specifically the Skwxwú7mesh Nation and Tsleil-Waututh Nation, on whose unceded traditional territory the North Vancouver School District resides. We value the opportunity to learn, share and grow on this traditional territory.*

## Spotlight on: Thinking & Social Skills

### Number Talks & Open-Ended Math Tasks

Our classes have been engaging in open-ended math tasks and Number Talks as part of their math learning. Working with “low floor/high ceiling” math problems and tasks opens math up for students. With these kinds of tasks, all students are able to engage at their own level and take it in a variety of directions, depending on their strengths, ability and previous knowledge and understanding. This means the same task can be used with a variety of grade levels. These open-ended tasks also loan themselves well to collaborative learning. Students can work together in partnerships and/small groups to solve the problem together, thus developing their social skills. Try this one out at home. The grade sevens have been working with it this past week:

**If you were to write all the numbers from 1-1000, how many times would you write the number 7?**



Sample of a Number Talk problem

Number Talks, developed by Ruth Parker, provide a great means for students to share their mathematical thinking, acquire/enhance problem-solving skills, and develop flexibility with numbers. What is more is they're fun! During Number Talks teachers present a single mental math problem for students to solve. By verbalizing and showing their thinking (through writing, with images and/or with manipulatives), students do their best to come up with possible solutions. It is fascinating to see and listen to the the different ways students approach the problem!



### First Term Report Cards

Next Friday, December 11 our first term report cards will be published. Given that during the first term we host Student-Family-Teacher conferences as our primary way of communicating student progress the report cards will only include the Conference Goals established during the SFT conferences and proficiency levels for subject areas for your child.

## Spotlight on Communication Skills

### Building Literacy Skills Through Daily 5/Daily 3

There are many ways to build students’ literacy skills, and teachers in the school are using the Daily 5 or Daily 3 to have students engage in a variety of literacy-focused “stations” with teacher support. The Daily 5 helps students build their literacy skills by engaging in: Read to Self, Read to Someone/ Read with Teacher, Word Work, Work on Writing, and Listen to Reading. Through this approach we are noticing students are developing their stamina for literacy-focused activities - they have been able to extend the time they focus on each station. And, they are developing their capacity as skilled communicators!

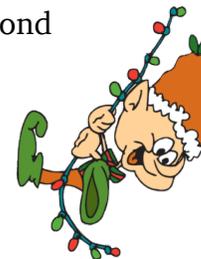
## Family Survey

We miss having the opportunity to connect with parents and guardians during these strange times as we cope with COVID restrictions. Your voices and perspectives are important to us, and we would very much appreciate you taking the time to complete a short survey to share your views. Please scan the QR code to access the survey.



## Warm-Up to the Winter Holiday Fun

We are excited to have some fun as we head into the holiday season! Friday afternoon sing-alongs, creating and displaying decorations, planning class celebrations, and our second annual Tacky Door Contest are in the works. We also plan to have pyjama day on December 18th to usher in the holiday. For our Tacky Door Contest, staff and students will be decorating the doors inside the school - there’s been quite a buzz about the school as this gets underway. We will share photos of the doors for you to vote on next Friday!



### NEXT WEEK AT A GLANCE (DEC. 7 - DEC. 11)

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		2:15 Early dismissal 2:15 Grade 6 After school program provided by Capilano Community Services (permission forms required)	3:00 Grade 7 After school program provided by Capilano Community Services (permission forms required)	2:15 - Holiday Sing-Along  Report Cards will be published after school