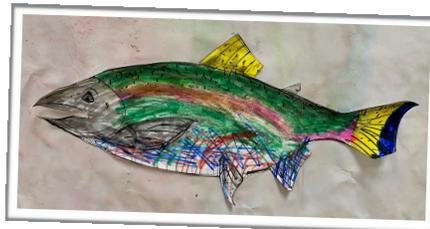


Norgate Xwemélch'stn News

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: Salmon Welcoming



We are grateful to the Grade 7 students for leading this year's Salmon Welcoming Ceremony. The ceremony includes sharing of the "The Squamish and the Salmon People" legend and providing teachings about the importance of salmon, as well as interesting facts about local salmon species.

Moreover, each student is invited to brush the salmon tank with a cedar bough to provide the salmon eggs positive energy to complete their full life cycle to return to McKay creek, their home creek. And, led by Dallas Guss who is a parent and Indigenous Success Teacher at our school, students join in "*The Salmon Song*" composed by elder Latash. By participating in Salmonid Enhancement programs and ceremonies such as these, we aim to help students develop a deep appreciation for the importance of local species for the health of BC ecosystems so that they may choose to become stewards of local plant and animal species and their environments.



Student Learning Conferences

Next week, classroom teachers are looking forward to meeting with students and parents/guardians to discuss students' progress since November. Teachers have already sent home a form (paper and/or online) to find out days/times that could work for your family. Please call the school or email the teacher if you have yet to set up a conference.

Forms & Payments for Agendas

We have yet to receive updated forms, as well as \$5 payments from many families for student agendas, and will very much appreciate receiving those we are missing. Katie, our Office Assistant, can help should you have questions about forms/ payments.

Thank you for your generosity...

On behalf of the recipient family, and the Family Services of the North Shore, *thank you* to everyone who contributed to the Christmas Bureau hamper we provided to a local family in need this past December. Thank you to the Parent Advisory Committee members who took the lead on brightening a family's spirits during what has been a challenging year for everyone. This is a testament to our school community's generosity and ethic of care.



Virtual Scholastic Book Fair

Our teacher-librarian, Ms. McLeod, is excited to share that even though we are restricted by COVID, great opportunities for students and families to get good books are still possible! This year, instead of an in-person book fair, she has arranged a [Virtual Scholastic Book Fair](#) for the school from February 15-26. You will be able to order books for your children online at reasonable prices, and by doing so will help our school earn rewards towards additional book purchases for our school library. As soon as we have our school link and further information, we will pass it your way!

Student Learning Survey 2020/2021

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.

In the next couple of weeks, 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 of students 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 the school.

Valentine's Day

With Valentine's Day approaching, we've had a number of questions about whether students are permitted to distribute Valentines cards and treats. We have been advised that it is only okay for students to give out cards to the students in their learning group (their class). And, while the gesture of giving treats is always appreciated, at this time students are not permitted to give treats to their classmates. Thank you for helping your child understand that given the pandemic, Valentine's Day will have to be different this year. At school, teachers will help students share care and appreciation for each other - instead of cards and candy, they can share what they appreciate about each other verbally and through their actions. Ms. Chang has been helping some of the primary classes learn a "love song mash-up" this will be shared with the rest of our school community via virtual means on Friday of next week. And, to show appreciation for our school's many cultures and languages she has filmed members of our school community saying "I love you" in different languages. This too will be shared with classes next Friday.



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NEXT WEEK AT A GLANCE (FEB. 8-12)

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	2:00 Early dismissal for Student Learning Conferences	2:15 Early dismissal Gr. 6 Cap Services After school program	2:00 Early dismissal for Student Learning Conferences 3:00 Gr. 7 Cap Services After school program	<i>Please remember there is no school Monday as it's Family Day. We hope you enjoy a lovey long weekend!</i>