

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:

Pink Shirt Day

On Wednesday, the school celebrated Pink Shirt Day - a day to recognize the importance of standing up against bullying and to promote compassion instead. At school we held a virtual assembly to celebrate the day. This presentation was opened by Indigenous Support Teacher, Dallas Guss, who shared the "Yew-Yews Song". This song fit the day given that Yew-Yews (orca) represent harmony, community, family and compassion. They take care of one another like we take care of one another at school. Dallas also shared a message with students and staff members about how far the school has come in reducing bullying amid students, and in using Circle Teachings as a means to foster and support



positive student learning and behaviour. Grade 7 student, CG then shared the traditional territorial acknowledgement, and did so with clarity and pride. And we were grateful to Grade 7 student CC and Grade 6 student JD who shared about how Pink Shirt Day came about and how it has grown to show the importance of being inclusive rather than discriminating against others. It was my honour to share my thoughts as well:

Pink Shirt Day is celebrated not only nationally but also internationally to recognize the importance of choosing to be accepting, caring, and inclusive. Pink Shirt Day takes place in February, on the heels of Valentines Day and during Black History Month.

I know classes have been learning not only this month but all year long about how and why to be kind, about ways to show empathy, and have been encouraged to put empathy into action to show compassion. You've also learned about historical and current events during which people mistreated one another on basis of differences in race, skin colour, gender identity, beliefs, sexual orientation, culture and more.

Reminders!

Second Term Report Cards

Report cards will be published after school on Friday, March 5. These report cards will reflect your child's progress since the beginning of this school year, and will include comments related to the goals set during conferences, as well as for all subject areas. Instructions for how to access your child's report card online can be found [HERE](#).

Student Information & Forms

Thank you for ensuring we have provided us up-to-date contact information, including Emergency Contacts.

Often people are judgmental or fearful of one another because of our differences. We can be quick to think differences are weird, and to impose our cultural norms and views on others. But past and present history have taught us that harassment and discrimination divide us rather than bringing us closer together. We're hopeful that more and more people choose to be open-minded; to view peoples' differences as beautiful and to celebrate our shared humanity. Indeed, that is what it is to be internationally minded. It is so heartening that so many of you, our amazing students and staff members, make the choice on a daily basis to treat others with respect, to show empathy and to extend compassion towards others. Imagine if we treated every day as if it was Pink Shirt Day.

Continued Vigilance Requested



Please refer to current restrictions [HERE](#).

You might be aware that there was a spike in confirmed COVID-19 cases and associated exposures in communities and schools this month, and most of these occurred during or just after the Family Day weekend. This tells us we must collectively continue to be vigilant in abiding by the recommendations of Public Health officials, in order to safeguard our own and others' health. We so greatly appreciate all families' continued vigilance in completing Daily Health Checks for their children and keeping students home when they are ill.

Moreover, with brighter days as Spring approaches, and leading up to the much-anticipated Spring Break, we ask that everyone does their part to reduce the spread of the virus and its variant(s). We know how much this pandemic has taken a toll on us all. Nonetheless, what we see daily at school is how well your children have adapted to the required protocols and how they are happy and find levity during what has been a challenging time for us all. Being able to interact with and learn with their peers at school has kept a level of normalcy for the children through this difficult pandemic.

NEXT WEEK AT A GLANCE (MAR. 1-5)

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Grade 4 & 7 FSAs continue this week		2:15 Early dismissal 2:30 Gr. 6 Cap Services After school program	3:00 Gr. 7 Cap Services After school program	Term 2 Report Cards will be published after school