



Welcome Back, Ravens!

Ridgeway's Start of Year Newsletter 2024

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2	3	4	5	6
Labour Day / Schools Closed	First Day of School! Grades 1-7 8:45-am-10:45am Returning students meet last year's teacher at your classroom line up location at 8:45. New students to Q Court (fenced sports court at the front of the school)	Full Day of School Grades 1-7 8:45am -2:50pm Meet last year's teacher at classroom line up location at 8:45. New students to Q Court (fenced sports court at the front of the school)	Grades 1-7 8:45am -2:50 pm Meet last year's teacher at classroom line up location at 8:45. Students transition to new classes* Kindergarten Gradual Entry Begins	Grades 1-7 8:45am - 2:50pm Kindergarten Gradual Entry continues.

Welcome to the 2024-2025 school year!



We begin our year together thinking about the land and the Coast Salish peoples, specifically the Skwxwu7mesh Nation and the Tseil-Waututh Nation, upon whose traditional territory our school and the North Vancouver School District resides. We value this opportunity to come together as an educational community to learn, share, and grow on this traditional territory.

In this newsletter, you will find information about the first days of school along with general information about Ridgeway. Moving forward, you can expect weekly communication (Ridgeway's Week Ahead) from the office with updates and important events.

On behalf of the entire Ridgeway staff, we are looking forward to a wonderful year ahead filled with learning, exploration, and fun. Thank you for your partnership!

Our Code of Conduct

At Ridgeway, we strive to provide a safe, welcoming, and inclusive environment for all so we can develop as unique individuals and learners rooted in community, connection, and story. We do this by creating engaging learning environments that honour diversity, collaboration, communication, and justice.

A responsible Ridgeway member R.O.C.K.S.! We are respectful, we show ownership, we cooperate, we are kind to ourselves and others, and we are safe. Students, staff, parents/guardians/families, and visitors are expected to follow our code of conduct. More information can be found on our school website [here](#).

Ridgeway Elementary Code of Conduct



Personal Digital Devices (PDD):

Students are expected to leave personal digital devices (cell phones, tablets, etc) at home, or in their bag/backpack during instructional time. Personal digital devices use is not permitted at Elementary school. Students are not able to answer calls or texts during the school day.

Should an **urgent situation** arise, and you need to contact your child **please call the main office (leave a message if needed)**. We will contact you as soon as possible if there is an emergency with your child.

Please note, allowances may be made by the staff for instructional purposes, digital literacy, appropriate use based on age and developmental stage, accommodations within a student's Individualized Education Plan, accessibility, medical and health needs, and/or equitable support for learning outcomes.

Specifically for Elementary School Students: Across all NVSD elementary schools, there is no student access to or use of PDD at any time on the school campus during the school day. This is essentially a "bell-to-bell" restriction from the beginning of school to the end of the day. Parents are reminded that elementary students are always under direct supervision and that the school will communicate with home for emergent needs if they arise. Excerpt from the Superintendent's message on Personal Digital Devices for the 2024-2025 School Year.

Ridgeway's Calendar

Our [school calendar](#) is available on our website. Click here for a one-page "[Year-At-A-Glance](#)" for your convenience.

Please make a plan to pick your child up promptly at dismissal time. Please note our early dismissal days and make arrangements for timely pick up on those days. Our bell schedule is below and can be found [here](#) on our website.

We will continue to share important dates using our weekly Ridgeway's Week Ahead and will update these calendars as needed.

Ridgeway Bell Schedule 2024/25	
Entrance Bell	8:45 a.m.
First Instruction Period	8:50 - 10:20 a.m.
Recess	10:20 - 10:40 a.m.
Second Instruction Period	10:40 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Lunch	12:00 -12:45 p.m.
Third Instruction Period	12:45 – 2:50 p.m.
Dismissal	2:50 p.m.

Important Dates in September

September 3- First Day of School

September 4- First Full Day of School

September 13- Consent forms due to office

September 16- First Full Day for Kindies

September 19- Slice Night Open House hosted with PAC, more info to come

September 20- Terry Fox Run

September 25- Staff Collaboration / Early Dismissal for Students at 1:50 pm

September 27- Orange Shirt Day

September 30- National Day for Truth and Reconciliation / Schools Closed



Kindergarten Gradual Entry

We look forward to welcoming all Kindergarten students to gradually transition into school starting on Wednesday, September 6th.

Please see your email for information about your child's specific schedule.

Students attend full days (8:45-2:50) starting on September 28th. Please meet your child's group by the blue playground along 8th Ave.

Welcome to our littlest Ravens!

Ridgeway Elementary Kindergarten Gradual Entry Schedule 2024

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2 Labour Day/ Schools Closed	3 No Kindergarten students in Session Today	4 No Kindergarten students in Session Today	5 Groups 1, 3, 5, 7 9:30-11:00 am Groups 2, 4, 6, 8 1:10-2:40 pm	6 Groups 1, 3, 5, 7 9:30-11:00 am Groups 2, 4, 6, 8 1:10-2:40 pm
9 All Groups 9:00-11:00 am	10 All Groups 9:00 am-1:00 pm *Please send a snack & a lunch	11 All Groups 9:00 am-1:00 pm *Please send a snack & a lunch	12 All Groups 8:45 am-1:00 pm *Please send a snack & a lunch	13 All Groups 8:45 am-1:00 pm *Please send a snack & a lunch
16 All Kindergarten students attend full day onwards 8:45 am- 2:50pm				

Medical Alerts and Allergies

If your child has any medical conditions that may need to be addressed at school (allergies, etc.), please contact the office as soon as possible. We will send home the required paperwork. Please ensure required medication, such as an EpiPen, is brought directly to the office.

We are a peanut and nut aware school. Please be mindful of the policy in your child's classroom as we have a number of students and staff with life threatening allergies to peanuts/nuts.

We are a scent free school. Please ensure your child does not use or bring scented products to school, including scented hand sanitizer.

Get Involved! Ridgeway PAC

There are many volunteer opportunities at Ridgeway!

We have a dedicated and supportive Parent Advisory Council (PAC). They hold PAC meetings where all parents are welcome to attend.

Check out the [PAC website](#) for more information and to learn about ways to get involved.

What if my child is absent?

It is very important we know where students are and appreciate your support with this important matter.

Ridgeway participates in the Safe Arrival Program through School Messenger. The Safe Arrival Program is an app that allows parents to quickly indicate that their child will be absent.

We encourage you to use the app. If you encounter a challenge with the app, please phone 604-903-3740 to leave a message with your child's name, teacher, division number, and reason for absence.

What if my child is late?

Students arriving after 8:45 come to the office in the main building to sign in. Students will take a blue Welcome Slip to class after signing in.

If your child arrives late and their class line up is already inside, please wait with your child while the other line ups enter then send your child into the main office. This courtesy supports the flow of traffic for our large student population and helps us ensure all students are accounted for in the building.

Thank you for your cooperation!

School Supplies

School supply lists for students in Grades 2-7 are [available on our school website](#).

We collect a few of \$52.50 for supplies for students in Kindergarten and Grade 1 payable with School Cash Online.

We collect a \$6.50 fee for student agendas for students in Grades 1-7.

You will receive an email from School Cash Online when the fee is ready to be paid. Please ensure you "check out" to complete your free transaction.

We've got goals!

As a community we set, work towards, and achieve collective goals developed through the school planning process. Click [here](#) and [here](#) for more information our current plan and progress.

Fresh Air and Outside Play

At Ridgeway, our students go out at recess and lunch every day. Research clearly supports that children need regular breaks outside for fresh air and exercise. **Please remember to dress your child appropriately for the weather.** It will be a very rare occasion to stay inside during breaks, so please make sure to help set your child up for success in their day with necessary rain and outdoor gear. We encourage all students to have an extra set of clothing at school is helpful, especially for Primary students.



Consent Forms

Please assist us with **timely completion of your child's consent forms.** This will allow your child to participate in a variety of activities such as using technology and walking field trips such as the Terry Fox Run.

This year, there are **three forms** to be completed using School Cash Online. Please email ridgeway@sd44.ca if you need assistance with School Cash Online. Remember to check-out to complete your transaction.

In addition to the online forms, students will receive paper package for you to complete and return.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

