



Welcome Back, Ravens!

Ridgeway's September Welcome Back Week Ahead

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8	9	10	11	12
Welcome Back Assembly for Students in Grades 1-7 K Gradual Entry Continues				

Welcome to the 2025-2026 school year!



We begin our year together thinking about the land and the Coast Salish peoples, specifically the Skwxwu7mesh Nation and the Tsleil-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 Welcome Back Week Ahead you will find information about our first full week 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. Check out our [school website](#) for more information.

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!

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. Information about the app is attached.

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 are asked to 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

For the 2025/26 school year, we are implementing a **new approach to school supplies**. Instead of each family purchasing individually, we are offering to collect a fee from families, and our teachers will then purchase the necessary supplies for students. The fee this year for Primary students in Kindergarten to Grade 3 is \$52.50 this year and for Intermediate students in Grades 4-7 the fee is \$62.50. If you wish to purchase school supplies independently, please email our office (ridgeway@sd44.ca) for a list of necessary materials. Click [here](#) for additional details on our school website.

We collect a \$6.30 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 the transaction.

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.



Welcome New Students and Families!

There is nothing more exciting than exploring new places and meeting new people! It can also cause some feelings of worry or nervousness, especially as children start school somewhere new. With this in mind, please join us in a big Ridgeway welcome to our new families.

New students are asked to meet in the Q Court (fenced sports court at the front of the main building) on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday of the first week. New students will meet some of our wonderful Ridgeway staff and will spend time getting to know the school.

Nutrition is important! Please send a snack (Tuesday) and a snack and lunch (all other days) for your child. We encourage you to pack nutritious food and limit the amount of sugar you send with your child. Please pack a water bottle daily. Click [here](#) for information about healthy eating at school and [here](#) for some tips for packing lunches.

We encourage families to take a minute to familiarize themselves with the [North Vancouver School District website](#) as well as our [Ridgeway website](#).

If you are new to British Columbia, you may find these resources helpful:

[Impact North Shore - Building Equitable Communities](#)

[MOSAIC | Settlement and Employment Services for Newcomers \(mosaicbc.org\)](#)

[Immigrant Programs and Services - NewToBC](#)

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 15. Please meet your child's group by the blue playground along 8th Ave.

Welcome to our littlest Ravens!

Ridgeway Elementary Kindergarten Gradual Entry Schedule 2025

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



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.



Personal Practices and Health Awareness

Schools can be supportive environments for communicable disease prevention by having staff model personal practices, sharing reliable information (e.g. BCCDC), promoting personal practices in the school, and ensuring individual choices for personal practices (e.g. wearing a mask) are supported and treated with respect.

Personal Practices:

- check for symptoms of illness and stay home if sick (Health Awareness)
- wearing a mask or face covering is a personal choice
- practice hand hygiene often
- practice respiratory etiquette
- respect personal space
- avoid sharing items that come into contact with the mouth (e.g. food, drinks, utensils, etc)

Everyone entering the school (students, staff and visitors) should be aware of their responsibility to practice health awareness, including that they should not come to school if they are sick.

[Source]: Provincial Communicable Disease Guidelines for K-12 School Settings

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.

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.

Allergy Aware School



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.

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



Ridgeway's Code of Conduct

Ridgeway ROCKS! ROCKS (respect, ownership, cooperation, kindness, safety) helps us all contribute to a positive and vibrant school community. We use ROCKS as a way to acknowledge positive student behaviour and teach lifelong skills. Please click [here](#) to see our detailed code of conduct.

Personal Digital Devices (PDD)

Devices off, learning on! Students are asked to not use personal digital devices (PDD) at school. **Devices need to be stored at home or in backpacks turned off.** Watches or headphones may not be connected to personal devices. Click [here](#) for more information. If you have questions, please reach out to our office.

— WELCOME —
BACK TO SCHOOL