OCTOBER 20, 2023



Este aviso es muy importante. Pida que alguien se lo traduzca. Ito av mahalagang patalastas. Mangyaring ipasalin ito sa inyong wika. بخواهيد اين اطلاعيه را براي شما ترجمه كند. این اطلاعیه مهمی است. لطفا از کسی

Đây là thông báo quan trọng. Xin nhờ người phiên dịch.

Walk for Wenjack

Yesterday as a school we held our Walk for Wenjack as a way to show support for residential school survivors. Chanie would have had to walk 600 km to make it home to Ogoki Post. Like Chanie, the students had no real idea how far that actually is, so many classes did research about how far it is to various places in BC. None of the "far away" places they couldn't imagine walking to were even close to 600 km away. We decided as a school that we'd see whether we could collectively walk 600km in one afternoon. Students in K-Grade 5 walked/ran around the school field for about 30 minutes, and we tracked the number of laps they did. The Grade 6/7s walked to the St. Paul's Residential School Memorial and back, and we tracked the distance they walked electronically. With our tracking we calculated that we collectively walked about



275 km which averages out to be under 2 km each. Many of us had fun during our walk and enjoyed the fresh air. Many of us also felt tired after our walks. It's almost unimaginable how cold, frightened, and exhausted Chanie must have been as he tried to find his way home. In 6 days, Chanie walked 51 km in freezing weather wearing inadequate clothing for the conditions, and with only 7 matches in a small jar. That speaks to the desperation he must have felt and his determination to get home.

The discovery of Chanie's body was instrumental as it led to an inquest that revealed the harms done to Indigenous children in residential schools. However, *that was in 1967*. It took until 1996 for the last residential school to be closed and until 2007 for the Canadian government to officially apologize to Indigenous peoples for the wrongs done for generations in residential schools, as well as the ongoing inter-generational trauma that continues for Indigenous families today. Our hope as a school community is that through our actions we will show and spread our support for lifting and supporting Indigenous peoples. So many of the children are already showing empathy, understanding and care in the ways they engage in activities such as our walk today. For this we are grateful because they will be better able to use their knowledge of past events to inform their thoughts and actions now, and in the future.

NXCE Cross Country Team

Congratulations to the students who participated in cross country this year! Six students participated in practices and training, and three ran in the school district's annual cross country race. For these three students, this was their very first time competing in such a race - they should be very proud of being **balanced risk-takers** and representing themselves and the school so well!



Earthquake Drill & Family Emergency Preparedness

On Monday, we will have our first earthquake drill of the school year. This will provide students the opportunity to practice Drop, Cover, Hold On procedures. It is also advisable that your families are well-prepared in case of an earthquake. Information for how to be prepared for earthquakes and other emergencies, please click <u>HERE</u>. This Spring, we will be having and Emergency Student Release Drill. This will enable us to practice procedures for safely releasing students to you or your approved contacts in the event of an emergency. Thank you for ensuring you have completed and returned all emergency forms to the school and for making sure you are prepared at home.

Monday Morning Mingle

On Monday mornings from 8:50-9:50, our Teacher-Librarian & International Baccalaureate (IB) Coordinator, Ms. Birchenall has intentionally built into the library schedule time for parents to come in and engage in dialogue related to our IB programme and more. I too have kept my Monday morning schedule clear so that I can join in these valuable conversations with you. Our hope is to create space and opportunity on a regular basis for you to come in, ask good questions, and share your perspectives. *Please DO NOT let language or school-related trauma be a barrier!* We want you to feel welcome and heard. It's amazing what translation apps and in-person connections can do to lessen barriers. *Please join us on Monday!*

Rugby Coaches Coming to Norgate!

Constable Matt Plant and his fellow players are all a part of the Capilano Rugby Club and are volunteering their time to teach our students skills of the game. This in-school program will run every Thursday beginning October 26th until November 30th.

Field Hockey Skills

The West Vancouver Field Hockey Club will be providing 1 day of field hockey skills for all of our classes. They will be here on the mornings of Tuesday, November 14th and Thursday, November 16th.

Basketball - Gr 6 & 7

Gabe Gibbs, a former professional basketball player for a top-tier US college basketball organization, is running an after-school basketball program. Here are the details;

Where; Queen Mary Elementary School

Day; Fridays

Time; 3:15 - 5pm

Should you require a registration form or want more information, please look at the G2 website, or contact Ms. Kelly at the office.

School Programs – G2 Athletics

Request for Rain Gear Donations

Have your children grown out of their rain gear? Our Strong Start Program is looking for rain gear donations, and many of the children at our school do not have adequate rain gear. Please drop off muddy buddies and/or proper rain gear for children 0-5 to be used in our Strong Start program, or rain jackets, pants, boots that might fit students in K-7. This will help the children thrive and enjoy being outside in all weather conditions. Donations can be dropped off in the school office. We respectfully request donations are in good condition. *Thank you!*

LOOKING AHEAD TO NEXT WEEK (OCT 16 - OCT 20):

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:15-8:35 Breakfast Program (service ends at 8:35)				
8:50-9:50 Monday Morning Mingle in the Library	9:00 Student Photo Re-Takes 3:00-4:30: Red Fox	2:15 Dismissal	9:00-12:00 In-school Rugby classes	
10:00 Earthquake	Active Play 3:00-5:00: Gr. 6/7		3:00-5:00: Gr. 6/7 Capilano	
Drill	Capilano Community Services Program (in-school)		Community Services Program (in-school)	