



NXCE NEWS

<p>North Vancouver School District the natural place to learn[®]</p> <p>THIS IS AN IMPORTANT NOTICE. PLEASE HAVE IT TRANSLATED</p> <p>这是重要通知，请找人翻译。 這是重要通知，請找人翻譯。</p>	<p>Ceci est un avis important. Veuillez vous le faire traduire.</p> <p>Dies ist wichtige Nachricht Bitte lassen Sie sich die folgenden Seiten übersetzen</p> <p>これは重要なお知らせです。どなたかに翻訳してもらいましょう。</p> <p>중요한 공지사항입니다. 이 내용을 번역해 주십시오.</p>	<p>Este aviso es muy importante. Pida que alguien se lo traduzca.</p> <p>Ito ay mahalagang patalastas. Mangyaring ipasalin ito sa inyong wika.</p> <p>بخواهید این اطلاعیه را برای شما ترجمه کند. این اطلاعیه مهمی است. لطفاً از کسی</p> <p>Đây là thông báo quan trọng. Xin nhờ người phiên dịch.</p>
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Welcome to New Families and Staff Members!

Our Norgate Xwemélch'stn school community has grown, and is continuing to grow! As you have likely noticed during drop-off / pick-up time, at school events, and through your children, we've had a LOT of new families join our school community, and with more students comes more staff members. Our school population is wonderfully diverse - twelve different home languages, people who have immigrated, and people who are local, including many Indigenous students and their families. What is so uplifting is to see how your children welcome new students and staff members to their classes in the school. **Thank you to everyone for continuing to be the warm and welcoming community you are by making new members feel and become "part of the NXCE learning team"!**

Mission Statement:

The Norgate Xwemélch'stn learning community works together to support students' academic, emotional, physical, social, and spiritual well-being. We strive to develop inquiring, knowledgeable, and caring people who demonstrate intercultural respect and understanding.

Parent/Guardian Invitation to Connect

On Mondays, Ms. Birchenall, our wonderful Teacher-Librarian and IB Coordinator, has made time in her schedule from 8:50-9:50 for parents to meet in the school library. The intention of this time is for parents/guardians to come together in an *informal* way to talk and connect with Ms. Birchenall and me (as often as I can join given other demands on my time). We want to foster positive connections between parents, as well as forge respectful relationships with you at the school in hopes of developing mutual respect, understanding and appreciation. Please join us whenever you can on a Monday morning, to chat and learn with and from one another!

Learning Highlights

Sharing the Planet: Ocean Wise Experience



We are grateful to Grade 3 teacher, Ms. Michelle Carney for arranging to have Ocean Wise, a global conservation organization bring their **“Ocean Wise Sea Dome” and accompanying learning experiences** to the school last week. What students were shown and taught through this experience connect directly to the IB Sharing the Planet theme; IB learner profiles of being Caring, Principled, Knowledgeable, and Reflective Thinkers; and encourage students to apply their understandings of how to care for oceanic animal and plant species by choosing to take action to protect and improve how people impact our environment (what we call student agency).

Who We Are: Grade 6 “We are More” Poems

Grade 6 students wrote and performed their “We are More” poems as part of their “Who We Are” Unit of Inquiry.

Their poems were inspired by two poems we studied in class: “I am Not the Indian You had in Mind” by Thomas King and “We are More” by Shane Koyczan. The poems were part of our exploration of the concept of identity, specifically the idea that we are more than a stereotype. Our identities are complex.

When you look at me you think that because I'm a girl I'm weak and can't do anything and that and because I'm a girl I like pink and love unicorns and **can't handle anything that is scary**. Or because I'm a kid I don't understand anything that adults understand. That because I am a girl, I love girly things. Yes, sometimes I wear dresses but not all girls do. (we get stereotyped about this a lot) I am more, I am not weak, I do Jiu Jitsu and I know how to defend myself. I hate pink! I love scary movies and I understand a lot. Don't stereotype people you don't know.

“I AM MORE” POEM

I can be whatever I want to be	I am confident	I am an unstoppable force of nature	wake up
living with resilience	I find more grateful emotions	I am successful	I am motivated

You may think me as a native kid who lives in a teepee and eats Bannock every day and hunts for food. I don't live in a teepee I live in a normal size house and I don't hunt for food I don't eat Bannock every day I still eat Bannock but that doesn't mean I eat it every day.

I am more than just a native kid who lives in a teepee. I like to have sleepovers at my house and eat other food than Bannock. I like to play soccer and basketball and go out to the mall with my friends. I am more.

I am just a normal human being. I am a unique person. For one I am an athlete, a leader, a risktaker and a brother. Secondly, I am creative and smart when it comes to some stuff like math. I may not understand some stuff you can understand but if I have a little help, I may get it.

Learner Profile in Action: "Kids are teachers?"

I learned from kindergarten teacher Mr. Jeffrey that as part of their learning through play, the kindergartens have included "playing school". Through their play, he shared that they negotiate who will take on different roles as students, the teacher, and even *the principal!*

Earlier this week, one of the kids who was acting as the principal entered the scene with hands on hips, a frowning face, and assertive walk - Uh oh...one of the "students" must have done something wrong! Mr. Jeffrey took this as an opportunity to teach the class that all of the adults at the school, including the principal, are there to help them learn, *and* to have fun with them while doing so. Did I ever get to do so with them and our new Grade 1 students this afternoon!

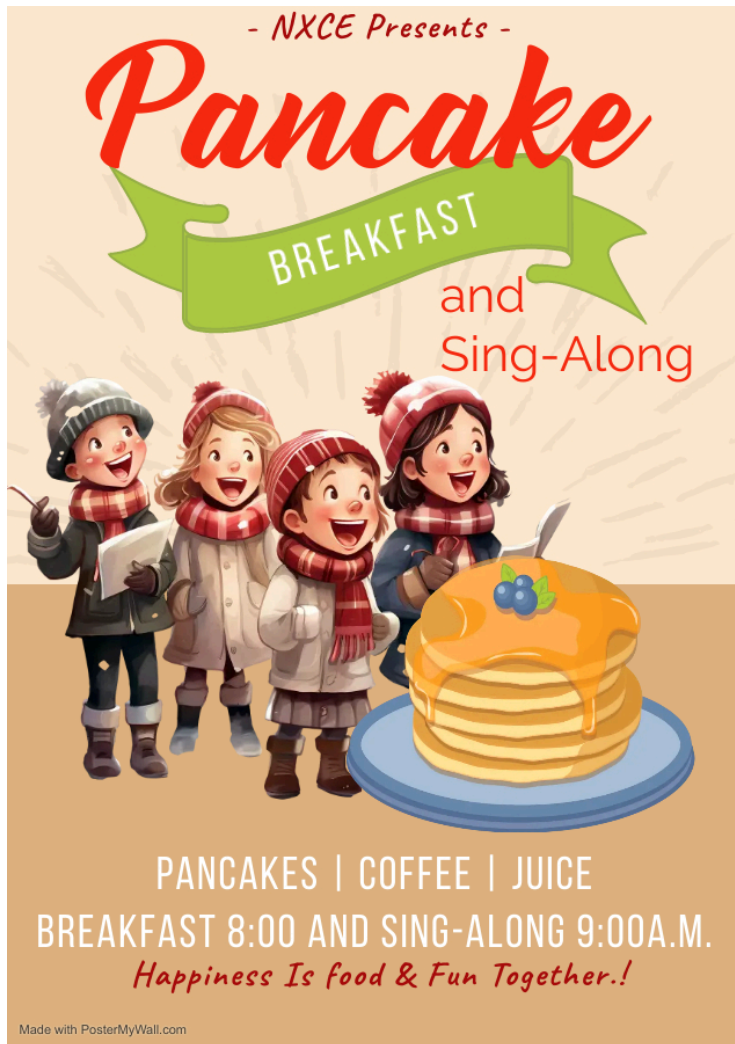
Upon entering the classroom, I was right away invited to "play school" as a student. Teacher, Ms. I, first helped us review the month, days of the week, seasons and weather through Calendar then she started to read a story. Next, it was time to work on our writing at which point my "classmate" CM and I practiced sounding out words. He made me giggle by spelling "Reeeeeeeeeee" then we giggled harder saying it different ways, with or without an exclamation point. We giggled even harder than that when we made up the word "Gubblebeeeeeee" which he figured meant bubble gum in French. Other students got in on the act by writing different words and messages on our whiteboards. When I thanked my "teacher and classmates" for teaching me, one of the other kids incredulously said, "Kids are teachers?", to which I replied, "Of COURSE!"

I then moved around to other centres and observed the beauty of exactly that, kids teaching other kids and building their skills in the process. There were junior scientists building towers, planes and super-crushers; young artists sharing their creations as well as a laugh; actors using puppets to share stories; future landscapers/archaeologists/paleontologists/construction workers digging away in the sandbox, sharing their discoveries, and more. Unbeknownst to the children they were demonstrating how to be **knowledgeable** and **caring communicators** and **inquirers** while learning and playing together. That short 40ish-minute centre time brought me so much joy as I got to participate in and bear witness to what makes being an educator such a privilege: helping kids learn then watching kids learn *and* teach one another as they play, interact, think, navigate conflict, figure out ways to overcome challenges, and so on...

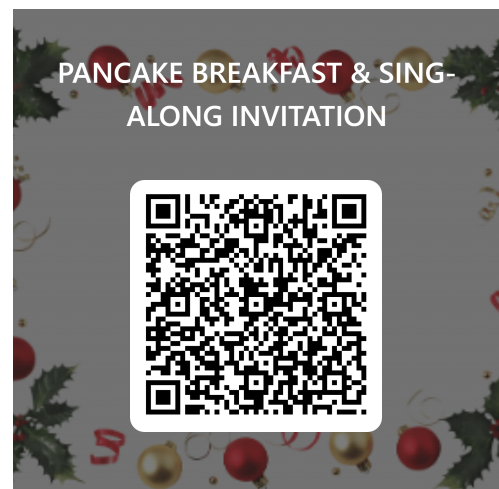


Upcoming Events

NXCE Pancake Breakfast & Holiday Sing-Along



We hope you are able to join us for our annual pancake breakfast and holiday sing-along! Please complete [THIS FORM](#) to indicate whether your child/children and/or you will be in attendance. You can also access the form using the QR code below.



Capilano Community Services - Winter Craft Fair

CCS is hosting a Winter Craft Fair at the Lions Gate Recreation Centre and is inviting the Norgate community. There will be lots of vendors and refreshments. It's going to be a wonderful afternoon.

Date: *TOMORROW*, Saturday, December 16th

Time: 12:00pm – 3:00pm.

Location: Lions Gate Community Recreation Centre (River Room - 1st floor)
1733 Lions Gate Lane, North Vancouver

Refreshments: Tea and coffee provided for all attendees

NXCE Grade 7 Winter Market

On Wednesday, December 20th, our Grade 7s will be hosting their Winter Market. The products the students choose to make, as well as which charity to which they choose to donate funds raised is an integral part of their “How We Express Ourselves” unit of inquiry through which they develop their understanding that “The values we communicate can impact our community” (central idea). What the students demonstrate through this market is *agency* which is using knowledge and skills to take action to have a positive effect on the greater community. Prices for items that will be sold at the market range from \$1 to \$7.

Cultural Traditions & Celebrations

The Norgate Xwemélch’stn school community is growing and changing! To reflect who we are as a school community, and with a desire to make everyone feel valued and appreciated at the school, if there are special cultural traditions and/or celebrations you or your child would like to share at school, please let us know!

Cheakamus Centre Eagle Viewing Day

Families might be interested in going up to Brakendale to the school district’s Cheakamus Centre on January 5th for an amazing eagle-viewing experience! For families who have children in Grades 3, 4 or 6 this is also a wonderful opportunity to visit the grounds and facilities where the children attend the Skw’une-was program and Outdoor School Programs. Going up will help you see what an amazing place your children get to go! Space is limited, so please [REGISTER](#) soon if you’d like to go.



Photo credit: Brian Aikins

Information Items/Opportunities:

Parent Survey re: Child Care Demands

On behalf of the Ministry of Education and Child Care:

This is a friendly reminder to complete the 2023 School-Aged Child Care Demand Parent Survey by December 20 to help inform the Province’s planning for future expansion of school age child care. Thank you to the parents who have already completed this survey. Your participation is greatly appreciated.

While we know school-aged child care is a vital service families rely on to ensure their children have a quality, affordable, and inclusive place to be during a parent’s full work day, we do not yet have regional or provincial data to understand the demand.

By completing this survey, you can help the Province to better understand your community's needs for school-aged child care. The survey will take 10-15 minutes and the results will help inform future [ChildCareBC](#) initiatives.

To complete the survey, please follow this link:

<https://www.awinfosys.com/surveyfull3/minofed/main/SchoolAgeParents.asp?SchoolNumber=1130>

Please do not share the link with anyone else.

If you have any questions, please contact ChildCareBC.Engagement@gov.bc.ca. If you encounter any technical difficulties, please contact the web survey provider (AWIS) at support@awinfosys.com.

If you have already completed the survey, thank you and please disregard this note.

First Aid / Babysitting Courses

Community Education Facilitator, Ms. Kelly Sangha would like to see if there is interest in bringing in a First Aid **OR** Babysitting course for our students on a Pro-D day sometime in the new year.

Babysitting Course

- Cost = \$23
- Look after babies, toddlers, preschoolers and school-age children. Care for himself/herself and siblings when home alone.
- Create a safe environment, and deal with phone calls and unexpected visitors.
- React confidently in case of an emergency, such as choking, bleeding, poisoning or burns.
- Cope with common problems, such as tantrums and crying.
- Play games and organize activities to keep kids of all ages entertained.
- Manage a babysitting business. This includes creating a resume and a business card and asking the right questions before accepting a babysitting job.

Stay Safe First Aid Course

- Cost = \$23
- Following the rules
- Making responsible choices
- Bike & fire safety
- Calling 911
- Unconsciousness
- Choking, asthma, anaphylaxis, minor cuts, severe bleeding & nosebleeds
- CPR

Should you be interested in registering your child for one of these courses, please email Ms. Kelly ksangha@sd44.ca. If there are enough students registered to offer either of the programs, she will schedule a course in the new year.

Thank you for donations!

On behalf of the families the school community has supported through the Christmas Bureau, thank you for your generous donations. They will go a long way in making others' holiday season brighter!



Please be sure to check the Lost & Found before leaving for the holidays next week!

LOOKING AHEAD TO NEXT WEEK (DEC 18 - DEC 22)

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:15-8:35 Breakfast Program (service ends at 8:35)	8:15-8:35 Breakfast Program (service ends at 8:35) 3:00-4:30: Red Fox Active Play 3:00: Gr. 6/7 Capilano Community Services Program (Out Trip GROUP A)	8:15-8:35 Breakfast Program (service ends at 8:35) Grade 7 Winter Market 2:15 Dismissal	8:15-8:35 Breakfast Program (service ends at 8:35) 3:00: Gr. 6/7 Capilano Community Services Program (Out Trip GROUP B)	8:00 Pancake Breakfast & 9:00 (or so) Holiday Sing-Along