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# NOVEMBER 2023

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## Seymour Heights

[School Website](#)

School Twitter @HeightsSeymour

[ERASE Link](#)

Phone Number – 604.903.3760

Attendance Number – 604.903.3760

**Translation Options** - To view this update in a language option of your choice, please review and enable the message translation options available through your email provider. While not exhaustive, we have provided links to popular email providers: [Microsoft Outlook](#) and [Gmail](#).

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### IMPORTANT NEWS

As an elementary school, it is our joy and responsibility to create a school environment that embraces and celebrates diversity. Our school is like a vibrant tapestry, woven with threads of different colors, representing the unique backgrounds, cultures, and experiences of our students, staff, and families. In our halls and classrooms, we foster a culture of respect, kindness, and understanding. We teach our students that each person is special and brings something valuable to our school community.

Through lessons, activities, and open conversations, we help our young learners appreciate the beauty of differences and the importance of treating everyone with kindness. Our school is a place where children can feel safe, included, and supported, regardless of their background or abilities. We encourage curiosity about the world and celebrate the rich tapestry of cultures that make up our school family.

[Erase](#) (Expect Respect & A Safe Education) is all about building safe and caring school communities. This includes empowering students, parents, educators and the community partners who support them to get help with challenges, report concerns to schools, and learn about complex issues facing students. Erase started in 2004 through the provincial government's Safe, Caring and Orderly Schools Strategy, and has since evolved.

Families are encouraged to review the resources and information found on the Erase website with their children, including about online safety, mental health and well-being, substance abuse, bullying, racism, sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI) and more. There is also a reporting tool to get help and support. Parents and students can access the page [HERE](#) or at the top of this and all future newsletters.

By promoting inclusivity, teaching empathy, and fostering a sense of belonging, we not only prepare our students academically but also help them become compassionate and open-minded individuals. Together, as a school community, we strive to create an atmosphere where diversity is not just acknowledged, but truly honoured and accepted.

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We would like to thank the Coast Salish people, specifically the Skwxwú7mesh Nation and Səlilwətał Nation, whose unceded traditional territory North Vancouver School District and Seymour Heights Elementary reside on. We value the opportunity to learn, live and share educational experiences on this traditional territory.

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One of our Traffic Safety Leaders, Sarah Manvell, helps keep our community safe!

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### GUIDING BELIEFS

Meaningful learning happens when all members of our learning community model and support our shared values of respect, responsibility, trust, and collaboration; when the learning community is calm and welcoming; and inclusion is practiced and we respect each other's differences.

### MISSION

We believe Seymour Heights Elementary School provides meaningful learning experiences for all students based on a culture of individual and collective success.

### SCHOOL PLAN

**Goal #1** – Social Emotional Learning is valued and intentionally taught.

**Goal #2** – Diversity is honoured.

**Goal #3** – Meaningful assessment is practiced and ongoing feedback is provided.

Please review for the complete [School Plan](#).

### SCHOOL AGREEMENTS

Please be mindful that all members of the Seymour Heights School Community, students, staff and parents, are expected to *Take Care of Myself, Take Care of Others, and Take care of this Place.*

Click here for a more information on our [School Agreements](#).

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## K-12 STUDENT REPORTING POLICY SUPPORT MATERIALS

The [support materials for parents and caregivers](#) that explain the shifts in how student learning will be communicated are available for your convenience. This includes a *Communicating Student Learning: Information for Parents and Caregivers Package* available in eight languages and a presentation from ministry staff about K-12 student reporting in B.C. We encourage you to take some time to review these resources and let us know if you have any questions.

## SNOW PLAN

As we approach the Winter Season, it is important to review our procedures for emergency school closures. In the event of a major snow event, the movement of traffic can become severely hampered. It is likely that:

1. There will only be a **single lane plowed** along major feeder routes to the school such as Carnation Street;
2. Cul-de sacs will likely **not** be plowed;
3. Parking will be almost **non-existent** along feeder routes; and
4. There will be a **high degree of anxiety** and **frustration** on the part of drivers when regular driver patterns and access routes are compromised by significant accumulations of snow.

Both Municipalities of North Vancouver have provided useful information on their respective websites to assist our community to prepare for and manage conditions related to snow and ice. Please click the link [HERE](#) for important information.

## SCHOOL ATHLETICS

We are proud of our student-athletes who participated and competed in Cross Country and Basketball in term one. We had about 50 students from grades four to seven represent our school in both sports and we are proud of each one of them. Thank you to all the coaches for both sports: Suzanne Johnson, Kelley Lusk, Katie Nicholls, Sylvia McIntyre, Julie Zinck, Pat Knill, and Sanj Johal. The next sporting event is volleyball for grades six and seven students after the Winter Break!

## SCHOOL FUNDRAISER: SCARE AWAY HUNGER

We would like to extend a huge **THANK YOU** to the Seymour Heights community for your incredible generosity. During the **Scare Hunger** event, we collected about 20 boxes of items, non-perishable foods and toiletries, to donate to the **North Shore Women's Centre**. They have expressed immense gratitude and thanks to all of us for our kindness. We also thank Ms. Theodoropoulos, Ms. McCartney and her Grade 2/3s for their leadership.

## TRAFFIC SAFETY – STILL A SAFETY CONCERN FOR STUDENTS

Our school Traffic Safety Team continues to volunteer their time before and after school to help with safety. We are happy that most vehicles follow the rules; however, we continue to see some vehicles speeding, making illegal U-turns, and parking in no-parking spaces or blocking driveways. The school has contacted the NVSD RMCP and the NVSD Traffic By-Law Department. We remind all drivers that it is **everyone's** responsibility to ensure all school community members are safe. Please review the important information for [traffic safety](#) and [safe routes to school](#).

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Mr. Johal's son in Gr 9 came to school and helped out in classes for *Take Your Child to Work Day*.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER 20

Hot Lunch: Pizza Day

NOVEMBER 22

Hot Lunch: Well Fed

NOVEMBER 23

PAC Meeting at 7:00 pm in Library

NOVEMBER 24

Hot Lunch: Cobbs Day

NOVEMBER 27

Field Trip: Div 3 to Lynn Canyon Ecology Center

Hot Lunch: Pizza Day

NOVEMBER 28

Last Day to order Purdy's Chocolate fundraiser

NOVEMBER 29

Hot Lunch: Well Fed

DECEMBER 1

Hot Lunch: Lunchi Brunchi

DECEMBER 4

Curriculum Implementation Day – no school

For all events, please go to the [online school calendar](#).

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