

Southridge Wednesday

13-14
No. 01

A Weekly Publication of Southridge School

August 28, 2013

Head of School

Happy New Year!

Wouldn't it be nice if the weather during the run-up to the calendar's New Year was as warm and sunny as it has been during the run-up to the school's New Year? What a great summer we had, and what a great way to start the school year.

As we welcome our new teachers, our new students and our new parents to Southridge, it is really helpful for all of us to remember what brings us together and what helps to bind our community. Our vision, mission and guiding principles are excellent touch stones for us, as are the essential values of our community – truth, tolerance, compassion and respect. But just as important for us to remember is what it feels like to be a part of Southridge.

When our founding headmaster, Alan Brown, described Southridge as a light-hearted place of serious purpose he cut right to the core of how it feels at Southridge. He created an enduring picture that elicits a certain mood favouring a spirit of positivity encapsulating the significance of learning and growth. The melding of the light-hearted/serious polarities creates a tightly conceptualized notion of our school's culture, keeping us focused on the importance of what we do while leaving us room for fun and laughter along the way.

The run-up to a new (school) year is exciting and full of anticipation. We are looking forward to the opportunity to work with all of our students and support them as they continue to grow and develop in our lighted-hearted community of serious purpose.

Welcome back and have a wonderful week!

Mr. Drew Stephens
Head of School

Important Dates			
Labour Day Holiday – No School	Monday Sept 2		
New Student Orientation - Junior School	Wednesday, Sept 4	Junior Great Hall	9:00 a.m. - 9:45a.m.
New Student Orientation - Senior School	Wednesday, Sept 4	Alan Brown Great Hall	9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Laptop to New Students	Wednesday, Sept 4	Senior School Cafeteria	11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Full School Assembly	Monday, Sept 9	Senior School Gym	9:40 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Picture Day	Tuesday, Sept 10	Junior & Senior School	8:10 a.m.
Welcome Back Parent BBQ	Friday, Sept 13	School Grounds	3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Human Resources Updates

We are pleased to inform you that Harjit Khara will be joining Southridge in September as a part-time Visual Arts teacher. Harjit is a new grad from UBC and holds a Bachelor of Education combined with a Bachelor of Arts degree from Goldsmith College, University of London as well as a BTEC National Diploma, Art and Design from the Birmingham

Institute of Art and Design including a BTEC Diploma, Art and Design from Sandwell College located in the United Kingdom. Harjit is the recipient of the UBC Bachelor of Education Outstanding Practicum Award and has been working as a teacher on call for Southpointe as well as volunteering in the Art department of Semiahmoo Secondary School. Harjit's artistic expertise includes studio work, printmaking, textiles, photography, graphics and history of art and critical theory. Harjit's teaching techniques and instructional methods have allowed him to foster a fun and engaging learning environment, effectively promoting creativity and encouraging artistic independence. Please join me in welcoming Harjit to Southridge.

Please join me in welcoming Laura Holland to Southridge. Laura will be joining the Senior School Southridge community as a Learning Resource Teacher in September. Laura is a graduate from Queen's University of Belfast and holds a diploma in Special Education from the University of British Columbia. Prior to moving to Canada in 2004 Laura worked primarily as an English teacher at two different University Prep Schools in Ireland. Laura then joined the Delta School District in 2005 where she first worked as a English teacher and was responsible for the development and implementation of the Advanced placement English Literature and Composition. Laura then redirected her career and moved to the role of a Special Education Teacher and has spent the past five years dedicated to supporting the learning needs and requirements of students and enabling student success from Grades 8 - 12.

Darcie Sagert
Manager, Human Resources

Junior School News

Welcome Back

The faculty of the Junior School is eagerly preparing for the arrival of our students on Thursday, September 5, 2013. We are anticipating a great school year, and trust that our students will arrive refreshed after a great summer of experiences with family and friends. We have very little change in our faculty and are proud that our teachers are committed, fulfilled and excited to start the year. We have one new faculty member to introduce to our families. Mr. Perry Harder is our MYP teacher intern and a seasoned athlete as he played football for UBC. Mr. Harder's energy and athletic background will be well utilized as he will be teaching DPA (Daily Physical Activity) to our grade five to seven students. Additionally, Mr. Harder will be working with all our grade five to seven students in some of their English and math classes. We also welcome a familiar face back to Southridge School in that Jaime-Lyn Hugh (Grade 5 teacher in 2009/10) is returning to be a part-time resource teacher. We are excited about her extensive background in PYP with primary students. Another great change is that Mrs. Samara Ridley Thomas is heading back to the classroom and will be instructing kindergarten this year. As a 'lifer Southridge teacher' she has worked in many classrooms, and we are pleased to have her working with our youngest. We do have a name change this year as well; Ms. Christine Chang is now *Ms. Christine Gardecki*. One thing that will never change in the Junior School is the honour we feel when you entrust your children into our care. Trust that we take their care as our highest priority and we are excited about welcoming them back to this positive, vibrant environment.

Welcome back to Southridge.

Mrs. Middelaer
Head of Junior School

Edu-pac Availability and Class Lists

The Edu-pac supplies are available for pickup during the days of August 28- August 30, 2013. The Edu-pac supplies are not in boxes this year, but rather heavy, clear plastic bags. Once supplies are brought to school, we would like to recycle these plastic bags by sending them back to the company for reuse. It is best to bring the labeled materials to laptop rollout sessions, where we will collect the Edu-Pac bags. Class lists will be posted on the website on August 30, 2013. In order to preserve paper, the lists will not be posted in the Junior School Great Hall.

Locker Dimensions for Students in Grades 4 to 7

If you are planning to purchase a backpack or other school bag for your child, please keep in mind that our locker dimensions are 32 cm (depth) by 21 cm (width). Bags must be able to fit completely into lockers for safety reasons. It is difficult to find a backpack with wheels that fit into the lockers so please take a measuring tape with you when shopping.

New Student Orientations and Grade 5, 6, 7 Laptop Sessions

New students (and their pre-arranged buddies) in Grades 1 – 7 are invited to attend our annual New Student Orientation on Wednesday, September 4, 2013. The orientation will take place between 9:00 and 9:45 am. As well, all students in Grades 5, 6 and 7 will need to attend school for a period of time on the 4th for their laptop orientation (Grade 5) and refresher (Grade 6 and 7) sessions. Students in Ms. Bennett's class will need to be at school from 8:30 - 10:00 am, and students in Ms. Graham's class will need to be present from 10:15 – 11:45 am. In grade 6, students in Ms. Mauricio's class have their refresher from 12:30 – 1:15 pm., and students in Mr. Anderson's class have their refresher from 1:30 – 2:15 pm. Students in Ms. McNeil's grade 7 class will have their refresher session from 2:15- 3:00. Students in Mrs. Beaulieu's grade 7 class will have their session from 3:15 – 4:00 pm. In order for Grades 5, 6 and 7 students to receive their laptops, all necessary paperwork (the laptop damage/loss agreement and the acceptable use policy) must be signed and submitted to homeroom teachers on September 4th. If you require any additional paperwork, these forms will be available at the Junior School office.

All students attending an orientation session on September 5th must wear their summer uniform: white Southridge golf shirt, black shorts, white ankle socks, and black dress shoes. See you on the 4th.

Parent Coffee Hours

Although Southridge is a very busy place, we strongly believe in making connections with our parents and teachers. We have planned a coffee hour once per year for all grade levels and this is a great time to have conversations and meet the teachers of your child. The coffee hour is from 7:30 – 8:30 a.m. in the great hall, and we would love to see as many parents as possible. Please check our school website for these dates, and mark them on your calendar so that you can attend that day.

Kindergarten Orientation and Gradual Entry Process

All kindergarten children will attend school on Friday, September 6, from 8:00 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. (no lunch will be needed, just a snack). During the first full week of school, there will be a gradual entry process in place for all kindergarten students. No lunch will be needed until Thursday, September 12, 2013. Kindergarten will extend until 3:00 on Tuesday, October 1, 2013.

- Monday, September 9 8:00 a.m. – noon (Full school assembly in morning 9:40 – 10:30 am)
- Tuesday, September 10 8:00 a.m. – noon
- Wednesday, September 11 8:00 a.m. – noon
- Thursday, September 12 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
- Friday, September 13 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Full School Assembly

Please set aside time to attend our first full school assembly on Monday, September 9 at 9:40 – 10:30 a.m. in our Senior School gym. There will be special presentations and introductions to start off the school year in a very positive way. All students need to wear their green sweater or vest on this day. Kindergarten parents will definitely want to attend this event.

Picture Day

Artona Photographers will be here on Tuesday, September 10 and we ask that all students wear their winter uniform that day.

Meet the Teacher Evening - Thursday, September 19, 2013 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Please plan to attend our meet the teacher evening on Thursday Sept. 20 at 7:00 p.m. This provides an excellent opportunity for you to connect with our classroom teachers and understand the routines and expectations in each class. Earlier in the evening, we are also offering an '**Introduction to PYP**' (Primary Years Programme) and an '**Introduction to MYP**' (Middle Years Programme) for any of our new families from 6:00 – 6:45 that evening so that we can explain the philosophy and teaching practices of an International Baccalaureate World School (IB). Ms. Shanaz Ramji-Motani, our PYP Coordinator, and Ms. Alison Graham, our MYP Coordinator, will be pleased and honoured to explain our programme.

Communicating Scheduled Late Arrivals and Unscheduled Sicknesses

Remember that absences and late arrivals must be called into the school. If it is more convenient for you, simply call the school before it opens in the morning (or even the night before) and leave a message regarding your child's situation. You may also email Barb Schaub at attendance@southridge.bc.ca and leave an email communication. Even if you communicate your child's teacher, we cannot guarantee that this message will be forwarded to the office. Please ensure this communication to the office comes directly from you. This will help us keep on top of our attendance records. Thanks for your help. Additionally, please ensure that each school day you do not drop off your child any earlier than 7:40 a.m. as appropriate supervision will not be available until that time.

School Uniforms

There have been virtually no changes to the school uniform over the summer. Please ensure that your child attends the first day of school dressed properly. Boys' hair must be tidy in appearance, and its length must be off the collar with the earlobe showing. Uniform regulations include *no dying of hair*. If your son or daughter's hair had an adjustment to its colour over the summer, kindly ensure that it is back to its natural tone by September 5, 2013. **Students who attend school in violation of our uniform regulations (including dyed hair) will not be permitted to attend class until such time that their uniform infractions have been ameliorated.** Of course, the overriding principle of the Southridge uniform is that the students wear them with pride. Shoes should be polished, and the uniform should be neat and clean. Recall that the students are representatives of Southridge and are recognized because of the uniform. I know our students are proud of our school- let that be reflected in the pride of wearing the uniform well. Thanks for your cooperation.

FSA Testing: Grades 4 and 7 Students

FSA testing (Foundation Skills Assessment/ BC) dates have been set for February 1 – 28, 2013. It is our intent that all Grade 4 and 7 students participate in these assessments during the **first two weeks of February**, so that we can properly assess and continue on with our programming. Please be mindful of these dates as you plan appointments for February.

Covered Playground Update

In the interest of keeping everyone up to date, the School submitted a permit application to the City of Surrey over the summer for a covered area on the Junior School playground. As you know, the funds required to complete the project were raised at the Gala in November and we are fully committed to ensuring that this project is completed as quickly as possible. As of today, we have not yet received approval to proceed with construction.

A very special thank you to parent volunteer, Sukhi Sanghe, who has been working diligently on this project for months. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Southridge Facilities Team

Senior School News

Head of Senior School

Welcome to and welcome back! To all of our new families at Southridge I look forward to helping you make a smooth transition to our community. For returning families, I hope the coming year provides many opportunities for growth and success for you and your children. The dates below are intended to give you an idea of some key events in the Senior School over the first few weeks of the year. Please refer to the Parent Resource Centre in the Parent Portal of the school website for all pertinent documents and information regarding school opening and especially for the calendar.

Back to School

School reopens for classes on Thursday, September 5th, at 8:00 a.m.

Faculty Brochure – Meet our Wonderful Staff

We are pleased to announce that this year our Faculty Brochure will be available online. It's a great way to get to know the new teachers and staff that will be joining us this fall. Please take a moment to peruse the brochure before school starts.

New Student Orientation

In order to make the transition for new students to the Senior School, including our Grade 8 students that graduated from our Junior School as smooth as possible, we have arranged an informal meeting the day before classes begin, Wednesday, September 4th, at 9:00 a.m. Returning students acting as Buddies are to arrive at 8:15 a.m.

We have established “a buddy” for each new student likely from the same house. For our Grade 8’s, this buddy will be a Grade 12 student. The Buddy will give a tour of the school to the group and each student will also get a chance to meet their advisor to briefly go over their schedules and answer any questions they may have. In addition to an orientation to the academic component of Southridge, the students also have a chance to meet their House Captains, who have organized some fun and games, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. that morning. We will also be offering some refreshments. The dress for this event is Summer School Uniform.

Coffee will be served in the cafeteria for parents who wish to wait for their children. We encourage parents to take this opportunity to meet other new and current Southridge parents.

Laptop Rollout Plans

The laptop orientation and rollout procedures occur for Grade 8s, Grade 12’s and new Grades 9 – 11 students on Wednesday September 4th at 11:00 a.m. All other students will receive their laptops on Thursday morning, September 5th.

Welcome Back BBQ

This year’s Welcome Back event will be held Friday, September 13th from 3:00 – 5:00 pm immediately after school. All students and parents are invited and encouraged to stay for a chance to meet teachers and socialize with other Southridge families.

Senior School Fall Sports

Sports in the fall will include Soccer (Boys), Swimming (Coed), Field Hockey (Girls) and Volleyball (Girls). Those students who do not compete on the school’s teams will have the opportunity to participate in other fitness activities such as recreational running, aerobics and weight training. **Please note that all Grade 8 students are required to try out for a competitive team each term before choosing another athletic option.**

Houses

All students in Grades 8 through 12 will remain on their current house teams, which they will represent during various events and competitions throughout the year. Students new to Southridge will be assigned to one of our four teams, which are Lightning, Hurricane, Thunder and Blizzard. New students will learn of their house affiliations on the New Student Orientation Day.

Uniform Reminders

Summer dress is in effect in the Senior School until the end of September. The only exception to this routine will be on Student Photo Day, Tuesday, September 10th. Students must attend school on this day in full winter uniform, including blazers. Blazers must also always be worn to assembly. Details of appearance and uniform will be covered in the students’ handbooks, which will be distributed on the first day of school. Please check the school website for further details on the uniform shop including availability.

Please ensure that your child has an appropriate hair cut and colour and/or kilt length prior to the beginning of school.

Arrival and Departure Times

A reminder that students from Grades 8 to 12 must arrive at school between 7:45 and 8:00 a.m. Traffic in the morning is congested so please take this into consideration when planning your morning commute. It is critical that students are here in time for advisory group in the morning to have attendance taken and to confer with their advisor.

Many school activities, such as sports and clubs, take place after school between 3:00 and 5:00 p.m.

Student Timetables

Student timetables will be available for pick up from their advisors the morning of the New Student Orientation or on the first day of school.

I hope that everyone has a wonderful summer holiday. If you have any questions about school start up, please don’t hesitate to contact the school. We are excited to continue to implement the plan for our Senior School Educational Program (SSEP) this coming year. We will be communicating through the Wednesday along with other opportunities for parents and students to learn about these new developments. I look forward to seeing all of you soon!

Have a wonderful first week of school!

Doug Palm
Head of Senior School

Strathcona Parent Meeting - Wednesday, September 11th, 6:30 p.m.

All Grade 8 and 9 parents are asked to attend an information meeting regarding the upcoming trip to Strathcona Park Lodge. At this time we will distribute important dates and times, emergency contact information, and an extra copy of the packing list. There will be a presentation of what to expect for activities, food, weather, and how to be best prepared to make this experience as enjoyable and memorable as possible. There will also be plenty of time for Q & A. We look forward to seeing you all there.

Anna Szymczak & Norman Dods

Ecuador 2014

There are still spots available for any secondary school students interested in traveling to our sister community of Chismaute, Ecuador. If you are interested in spending your spring break this year in this amazing village in the Andes, building a school with a group of other Southridge students, please contact Mr. Weaver at dweaver@southridge.bc.ca or 604-542-1796 as soon as possible.

This transformative service experience also includes exploring the beautiful old city of Quito, doing experiments on the equator, and a final leadership retreat in the tropical cloud forests. For more information, have a look at <http://www.metowe.com/volunteer-travel/school-trips/ecuador/>. The total cost of the trip is \$3500.00.

Mr. Daryl Weaver
Director Experiential Education

Grad Used Uniform Sale

The grads will be selling used uniform items three times this year. The first sale will be held on Thursday September 5th and Friday September 6th from 3:00-4:00 in the Junior School Great Hall. If you have any clothes to donate to the sale, please drop them off at the Senior School reception prior to this date.

Thank you for your support!

Ms. Mosher & the 2014 Grad Committee

Laptops & Technology

Students will be receiving their laptops on the first day of classes and I just wanted to remind parents and students of a few important items. When you get your laptop, it will be clean of viruses and it will only have the basic programs installed; parents please make sure your child takes the time during the first couple of days of school to re-install any school-appropriate software from the desktop link while on campus. As per the Acceptable Use Policy, games are not to be installed on the laptops. Please also think about what you are downloading on your machines – this is a good conversation for parents to have with your children, make sure you help them make smart decisions as to what sites they use to download music, apps and programs. Another great conversation to have with your children is their digital footprint; ask them what social media are they using and help them set their privacy setting. I also would suggest to “friend” or “follow” your children on Facebook and Twitter. I hope that all students will check their Schoology account on the first day of classes and if they have a smartphone/device they can download the Schoology App. If you have any problems logging in to Schoology, please contact Mr. Anderson in the Junior school and Ms. Mosher in the Senior school. As technology is so integrated into our daily life, sometimes it is easy for us to forget that students need help and support to learn appropriate use of social media and technology, please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about assisting you or your child.

Heather Mosher
Senior Technology Coordinator

Girls Field Hockey – Fall Season is ready to go!

After a fantastic end to the year in June 2013, hosting the Scottish touring side from Trinity Academy, our field hockey season is ready to kick off!

Our practice schedule is as follows:

Senior Girls (Grade 11 – 12):	Monday Sep 9 and Wed Sep 10	330-500pm	Turf Field
Junior Girls (Grade 8-10):	Tuesday Sep 10 and Thurs Sep 12	330-500pm	Turf Field

All are welcome. No prior field hockey experience is required. Bring runners or turf shoes, comfy clothing, and any weather appropriate outer layers (as needed). Sticks provided for those who do not have a stick.

Coaches: Mr. Paul Doig (faculty and manager for Southridge Field Hockey Club)

Mr. Ranjit Rai (community coach, former Canadian Olympian – 1988 Seoul Olympics – Team Canada Field Hockey)

See you on the turf!

Mr. Doig

News for Both Schools

Welcome Back BBQ on Friday, September 13th

Our annual Welcome Back BBQ will take place on Friday, September 13th, from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. All Junior and Senior School families are invited and encouraged to attend. We are excited to have our first welcome back event on a Friday afternoon! Parents and students will get a chance to mingle with the faculty on a more casual basis. It is a wonderful way to make new, and rekindle old friendships with everyone after a great summer.

Food is free, thanks to our sponsors! BBQ burgers, hot dogs, and snacks will be served, and the famous root beer float is back! Students can enjoy a movie in the gym with popcorn and parents can also check out the Volunteer Fair in the Great Hall.

Thank you to those who have signed up to help with this event. We are still looking for more volunteers so if you are interested, please kindly email Will Chow at dr.willchow@gmail.com.

We are looking forward to having everyone back at school and recharge our Southridge community spirit!

Will Chow and Wendy Tang
Co-chairs of the Welcome Back BBQ

Photo Day

Reminder to parents and students that photo day is taking place on Tuesday, September 10th from 8:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. for both Junior and Senior School students. Students need to come to school dressed in # 1 uniform (including Blazers).

Information and detailed instructions for ordering photo packages were sent home with the August mail-out. Please visit www.Artonagroup.com for information about photo packages and to order online.

Orders placed after midnight on September 10, 2013 will be subject to a \$10.00 late fee. Extra copies of the instruction sheet/paper order form can be picked up at the Senior School reception desk.

Volunteer Corner

We are very excited to share with you that almost all of our volunteer positions are available for online sign-up this year. Using the same system that we used for Country Fair, you can sign up for available positions any time throughout the year starting right now!

You can sign up for operations positions (hot lunch help, playground supervision, library assistance, etc.) as well as indicate an interest in helping out with annual school events. Country Fair, Gala and Golf positions will also be available closer to the date of the actual event.

We've had a lot of inquiries about signing up to be a class parent, so if you are interested in being a class parent, be sure to sign-up online after the class lists have been posted on Friday.

Also, don't forget that some positions require you to complete and submit a Criminal Record Check to the school prior to volunteering. These include:

- Drivers for field trips, sporting events, games and other activities such as music events or service activities,
- Designated chaperones
- Coaches or assistant coaches,
- Library assistants,
- Lunch hour supervisors,
- Junior School front office assistants,
- Uniform shop volunteers, and
- Any other position that may include having access to children without the presence of a teacher or school administrator

If you are planning to volunteer for any of these, you MUST submit a CRC to the school as soon as possible.

In addition, for all of the above volunteer positions, we have created a training video for recognizing and responding to signs of child abuse and neglect. Please watch this video prior to volunteering as well:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n0lBstLeedE&feature=youtu.be>

We also still need volunteers for the Welcome Back picnic on Friday, September 13th. Contact dr.willchow@gmail.com if you're interested.

Important Contact Information

Having trouble signing up online?

Contact Lisa Boudot at lboudot@southridge.bc.ca or at 604-542-2303

General questions about volunteering at Southridge?

Contact Rachael Lawson, Volunteer Committee Chair, at volunteer@southridge.bc.ca

Thank you for volunteering at Southridge!

Volunteer Committee

Save the Date: The ONE Gala 2013 – Saturday, November 16th, 2013

Southridge School was founded on ONE idea. To create a school community that would develop individuals who not only contribute to each other's success – but to the betterment of our world. As active members of the Southridge family, contribution to community and 'service with purpose' is at the very heart of who we are and what we stand for. More than that, this social consciousness is what we pass on to the future generation – our kids. Join us for The ONE Gala where we will celebrate our true spirit of contribution and service at Southridge School.

About the event: This year's event will be based on last year's very successful format and will be a formal affair. Stay tuned for more details!

Donation items needed: While our parent volunteers are actively procuring items from external businesses for our live and silent auctions, we are looking to our parent community for donation items. If you have a business, connections to a business, a vacation property, or access to any other item you think would make a great auction prize, we would love to hear from you!

Please contact Lisa Boudot at lboudot@southridge.bc.ca or by phone at 604-542-2303 for more information or to make a donation today. Your donations for our live and silent auction greatly contribute to the success of our gala fundraiser!

Thank you for your support.

The Advancement Team and
The ONE Gala, Co-chairs Karen Dosanjh & Krinder Rai