

Southridge Wednesday

13-14
No. 20

A Weekly Publication of Southridge School

February 5, 2014

Head of School

Our Employee Survey

Every three years, we survey our employees about many aspects of working at Southridge. We feel it is important to understand what makes our employees satisfied, because their satisfaction is central to an important feed-back loop that lowers employee turn-over, leads to higher community engagement, and increases student achievement, growth and development.

Survey questions run the range from general satisfaction to programming specifics, and we are always interested in the results because they tell a great deal about how our faculty and staff engage with our school on multiple levels. To ensure that all information is held in strict confidence and to guarantee impartiality, we use a third party service provider to conduct our survey, analyze the results and report back to our employees.

Our most recent (third) employee survey was completed in September 2013. I share with you here ten quick facts and highlights of the survey that you may find interesting.

- On a scale of 1 (low) to 5 (high) overall satisfaction of employment is 4.4 (average for other independent schools surveyed is 4.0)
- 35% of our employees have been at Southridge for more than 12 years (average tenure of is 7.5 years)
- 93% of our employees have hopes for a long-term career at Southridge
- Virtually all (97%) of our employees
 - Report being proud to work at Southridge
 - Feel that their students are proud to attend our school
 - Would recommend Southridge as a great place to work
- 95% of our employees feel very well supported in their efforts to deliver on the mission
- The top element of success from our mission statement is developing well-rounded students
- The top three school-life elements of employee satisfaction are
 - Leadership of academic departments
 - Clarity of vision, mission and values
 - Professional interactions among teachers
- Of the 14 school life elements surveyed, 11 showed improvement since 2011
- Ratings of communication within the Southridge community are strong, with 16 of 18 measures (or 89%) achieving the 4.0 threshold
- Teachers reported high support for the integration of educational technology with no respondents indicating disagreement

Aspects of our school identified to help make Southridge even better are related to:

- Reviewing communication process related to student transition from Grade 7 to 8
- Exploring ways to increase food service offerings in our cafeteria
- Exploring ways to give our employees even better feedback

The investment we make in completing our employee survey is important to help us not only recognize the things we are doing well, but also, and perhaps more importantly, to understand how we can continue to make our school even better.

Have a wonderful week!

Mr. Drew Stephens
Head of School

| Important Dates | | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Envision Jazzfest | Wednesday, Feb 5 & Thursday, Feb 6 | 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM | |
| Pro-D Day – No School | Friday, Feb 7 | All Day | Both Schools |
| BC Family Day – No School | Monday, Feb 10 | All Day | Both Schools |
| Half Term Holiday – No School | Tuesday, Feb 11 | All Day | Both Schools |
| Kindergarten – No School | Friday, Feb 14 | All Day | Jr School |
| Junior School Student Led Conferences | Thursday, Feb 20 | 1:00 – 8:00 PM | Jr School Classrooms |
| Full School Assembly | Friday, Feb 21 | 9:40 – 10:30 | Sr School Gym |
| Pink Shirt Day | Wednesday, Feb 26 | All Day | Both Schools |
| Senior School Play | Wednesday, Feb 26 to Sunday, Mar 1 | 7:00 – 9:00 PM | Alan Brown Great Hall |
| Spring Break – No School | Monday, Mar 18 to Friday, Mar 28 | | Both Schools |
| Late Start | Monday, Mar 31 | 10:25 AM | Both Schools |

Junior School News

Head of Junior School

Showcasing All That is Good About Southridge

This past week, we hosted 15 schools from across Canada to the CAIS U-13 basketball tournament which ran from Thursday, January 30th to Saturday, February 1st, 2014. The tournament involved some excellent basketball, and it was a privilege to see these young men demonstrate their athletic skills on our courts. The organization of the tournament was commendable on every level, and the following people have left their indelible imprint: Kirby Gallant, for methodically planning, and efficiently organizing the tournament in a calm and easy manner; James Porpaczy, for his expertise, experience and strong, steady leadership; Jackie Birch, for spending three days at the Cloverdale Recreation Centre, overseeing the play and being a Southridge presence; Steve Anderson, for his vast and in-depth basketball prowess which helped and was appreciated in those competitive situations; Megan Fretter who performed all the errands and efficiently communicated between all the gyms; and Perry Harder, for his support of fair play in our Junior School gym. We could not have organized this tournament without you. However, the tournament was so much more for our school.

First, the aspect that has always defined our school as being unique is the incredible, generous spirit of our parent group. Again, as per usual, they stepped up to the plate and offered their homes and hospitality to these young men who left their families to be here on the west coast. Thank you for those who openly welcomed those who were entrusted to their care. We have had nothing but positive feedback from the CAIS schools about their amazing experience at Southridge. Special acknowledgement must be given to Katie Reid, who took on this task of organizing all our billets - a task not for the faint of heart, but one in which she excelled.

Another aspect which made this tournament so amazing was the live streaming and colour commentary of our games, enabling families and schools across Canada to connect with Southridge and watch their teams. We have live streamed games before but never at this level, or duration. Here are some quick statistics to put this in perspective:

- 41 games in 3 days
- 20 in Junior School gym
- 21 in Senior School gym
- 42 hours of live broadcasting
- 82 commentator spots
- 43 camera operator spots

- 43 video switcher/ webcast encoder spots

I have included some comments from Mr. Alan McInnes, our Manager of Web and AV Services, that highlight the involvement of our Junior School students.

The Junior Tech team was nothing short of amazing. Brian, Luca and Will in particular put in incredible hours and focus to the task of running the cameras and the webcast switcher/encoder. Both Brian and Will showed great leadership as well. Brian was right with me all the way on Wednesday when we set up late into the evening and all through to Saturday. He took special initiative to announce the next games coming up and the time between games. Will showed leadership by arranging the camera platform for the Junior School gym without being asked. He also put in long hours on camera and webcast switcher/encoder. I was really proud to watch Luca really pick up on the intuitive challenge of listening carefully to the commentators so he knew when to switch from the game camera to the commentator camera and then to the CAIS U13 graphic. Malcolm, as usual, was really focused, reliable and keen to help. The whole team remained cheerful and focused, despite the long days. I was very impressed and they are a big part of the success of the webcast. Arman also volunteered a shift, despite Steve Anderson's comment that he should have only focused on being part of the basketball team. I am grateful to be in a position to help share what an amazing community this is and what we can achieve when we come together as we just did at the CAIS tournament. It was nothing short of inspiring to watch the students rise to the occasion, especially the Junior School students. They performed far above my expectations, only proving that human beings are capable of so much when given the challenge and support to excel.

A special thank you to Alan McInnes and Debbie MacDougall for their vision and leadership in the area of technology - setting the bar high, and then over-delivering. Thank you to all, for a brilliant tournament that showcased all that is good and amazing about Southridge.

Have a great week.

Mrs. Middelaer
Head of Junior School

Kids Lit Club Members Travel to Toronto

Early Monday morning, 8 members of the Kids Lit Club were gathered at YVR airport for a journey to Toronto to represent Southridge School in the National Kids Literature Competition at Havergal School. Under the leadership of Ms. Joyce Chong and chaperone Paul Best, these students will compete on literary facts and plot lines. They will also have a chance to visit the CN Tower and the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM), in their down time, as well as read and prep for the competition. We welcome them back on Thursday afternoon.

Pro-D Day - Friday, February 7th, 2014, BC Family Day - Monday, February 10th, 2104, Half Term Holiday, Tuesday, February 11th, 2014

As a faculty, we greatly value time together for professional collaboration and growth. On Friday, February 7th, 2014 we will have a professional development day so there will be no school for the students. February 7th is a collaborative Pro-d day with all the ISA BC (Independent Schools Association of BC) schools, and we look forward to our time together. Thank you for your support of our faculty's growth. The following Monday is BC's Family Day holiday and Tuesday will be our half term holiday. Please enjoy this extended weekend with your family.

Student Led Conferences: Noon Dismissal Thursday, February 20th, 2014

Throughout the school term, students have been actively selecting their own pieces of work to secure in a portfolio. These pieces reflect many different subject disciplines and should demonstrate their own personal growth as a student. On Thursday, February 20th, 2014 we will be holding student led conferences so that the students can share their portfolios with their parents. This opportunity is empowering for students as they can share their own journey as a learner and actively reflect on each piece. Please be aware also that there will be a 12:00 noon dismissal on that day to accommodate the conferences.

Kindergarten Parents: No School on February 14th, 2014

Just a reminder to our Kindergarten parents that there will be no school for their children on Friday, February 14th, 2014 due to entrance testing for prospective Kindergarten students. Thank you for making alternate arrangements for your children on that day.

Senior School News

Winter Olympics - Looking Forward & Reflecting Back

Time seems to fly sometimes...

Certainly from my perspective it seems to be much shorter than four years ago that Vancouver was on the world stage as the host city of the 2010 Winter Olympic Games. But here we are again; about to watch the many Canadian athletes compete in Sochi, Russia that begins on Friday, February 7th, 2014 with the Opening Ceremonies.

In our weekly Monday assembly, I decided, in looking forward to this exciting event to reflect back on my own experience at the Games. I was actually living in Winnipeg at the time, but had been in Vancouver when the city (and our country) was selected to be the hosts. I vowed to be there no matter where I was living and with family in Vancouver, I was able to enjoy just under a week's visit. Much of my extended family was able to attend and it was a special time for us to cheer on the athletes at some select events. We also walked around downtown and the many other areas that were set aside to bring people together and I found this experience to be as meaningful as being at the actual events.

If you were fortunate to be able to experience this, you will recall the amazing feeling of spirit that pervaded amongst so many people reveling in the pride of showing off our wonderful country! It was a common occurrence to hear our National Anthem being sung on the streets and the myriad of Canadian flags, jerseys, hats and of course the mittens that were worn daily. It brought people together in a way I have never experienced at such a national level. In fact, last week as we hosted the CAIS Basketball tournament, I felt the same feeling emanate around our school with the spirit and pride we all felt and showed as hosts!

Looking forward to the upcoming Sochi Olympics, I encouraged the students to remember the amazing dedication that each athlete has shown in order to reach this amazingly high level of competition that is the Olympics. Literally, thousands of hours of training and sacrifice over years of commitment bring them to this once in a lifetime opportunity. Being able to show our support, even from a distance can be a huge boost for these people. I encouraged the students to try and follow some of these athletes on Twitter to be able to learn more about their experiences during the games. I shared that during the London Games in 2012, I found that by following athletes, I was able to appreciate the games more deeply and at a much more personal level. For me, this showcased a real positive side to social media and the power it has to bring people together.

I also mentioned that we will try to have some of the daily coverage occurring on the television in the cafeteria for people to check how our athletes are faring on the world stage. Perhaps if there are special events that present opportunities, we may be able to have them on a larger scale and possibly tie this into the ability to wear some red & white to show our pride for the day!

Finally, I finished my assembly presentation with a video essay that was created by Stephen Brunt of the Globe & Mail on the final day of the 2010 Vancouver Games just prior to the Men's Gold Medal Hockey Game. It is his reflections of the way the games gained momentum for Canada both as a country competing and as a people in general. If you want a way to get excited about the upcoming games here is the link on [YouTube](#). No matter how many times I watch this, it gives me goose bumps!

Have a great week, a restful Family Day break and GO Canada GO!

Mr. Doug Palm
Head of Senior School

Visual Art Exhibition Season Begins on Feb 12th at York House!

The first of three Southridge student exhibits called, "Expressions, An Exploration of Creativity" is taking place at York House School this February, kicking off the new year with an especially stylish boot. Selected student and teacher works will be on display from nine ISABC lower mainland schools.

York House is hosting our 5th annual event this year, with an opening February 12th, 2014 from 5:00 to 7:00 pm at 4178 Alexandra Street, Vancouver. The show will run from February 12th - 26th. Please join us in celebrating the fabulous works of our talented young artists.

Susy Baranszky-Job

Into the Woods

This coming February, Southridge Senior School Drama Department presents *Into the Woods*, the Tony Award winning musical by Stephen Sondheim and James Lapine. It is a musical to entertain and delight audiences of all ages!

‘ONCE UPON A TIME’ in a magical kingdom, deep in the woods, timeless fairy tales were told. These stories were based on many of the Grimm Brothers’ tales and were originally intended to enlighten us through moral lessons. *Into the Woods* creatively intertwines the adventures of many well-known fairy tale characters with the journey of a childless baker and his wife, who endeavor to lift their family curse. Along their path they encounter the familiar figures of Jack and the Beanstalk, Cinderella, Little Red Riding Hood, Rapunzel and her frightening mother, the witch, and a runaway father. Throughout their journeys the characters are reminded to, “Be careful what you wish for”, for in seeking their hearts’ desires they may affect the lives of others. The characters’ innocent wishes provoke the audience to reflect on individual and community responsibility, and the role models that we provide for our children.

“Into the woods, but not too fast or what you wish, you lose at last.
Into the woods, but mind the past.
Into the woods, but mind the future.”
~Sondheim~

Show times in the Alan Brown Great Hall are as follows:

- Wednesday, February, 26th at 7:00pm
- Thursday, February, 27th at 7:00pm
- Friday, February, 28th at 7:00pm
- Saturday, March 1st at 2:00pm
- Sunday, March 2nd at 2:00pm

Tickets are \$10.00 and can be purchased by using [this link](#).

For more information please call 604-535-5056 or email jkelly@southridge.bc.ca

Jennifer Kelly
Senior Drama Teacher

BandFest 2014 - Grade 8 Concert Band - Victoria, March 5 and 6, 2014

We have just received confirmation that our performance at the University of Victoria’s concert band festival, BandFest, is on Wednesday, March 5th, 2014. As usual, we plan to spend one night in Victoria so that the Grade 8’s can fully participate in the festival. A detailed itinerary and parent consent letter will be forthcoming; please reserve Wednesday and Thursday, February 5th & 6th; we should return before 4:00 pm on the Thursday.

Ms. Parker

Peru: Biodiversity Studies in the Amazon Rainforest: June 26 - July 11, 2015

Registration has begun! To secure your spot, bring a \$1000 deposit cheque to Ms. Szymczak soon - only 16 spots available. Registration deadline is Feb 28th, 2014. Participants will have the unique experience of joining a network of university academics, assisting in conducting biodiversity surveys in a remote part of the Amazon Rainforest.

Their involvement will help carry on the amazing field work started by Wallace and Darwin, while being part of a socially and environmentally responsible programme! [Click Here](#) to learn more about how the biodiversity studies aid in conservation by setting a value on the forests beyond their carbon value.

Peru 2015 is an awesome opportunity to be active in making a difference, gain knowledge of tropical wildlife and how conservation can be linked to sustainable development in the tropics, and beyond! [Click Here](#) to learn more about what we would be doing on this expedition.

For an informational brochure with flight itinerary, price and other details, please see Ms. Szymczak.

Ms. Szymczak

Anxiety 101: Helping Parents Make Sense of Anxiety

Below is an excerpt for a presentation by Vanessa Lapointe that will occur on Wednesday, February 19th, 2014 at 7:00 pm for parents of students in Grades 7 to 12 on anxiety.

“About 42,000 children in BC are currently diagnosable with an anxiety disorder. Why? The answers are found in taking the knowledge provided by contemporary neuroscience and combining this with an understanding of how social-emotional development progresses for our children. We will explore in detail where anxiety comes from, what it looks like, and when you might become concerned about anxiety for your child. Finally, we will consider caring approaches to supporting children of all ages struggling with anxiety. Our goal will be to arrive at an understanding of the ultimate answer for finding a way through. An answer that is perhaps the most simple, readily available and affordable answer imaginable...”

Dr. Vanessa Lapointe is a registered psychologist who has been supporting families and children for 15 years. She presently works in private practice and has previous experience in a variety of settings, including the BC Ministry of Children and Family Development and the school system. Dr. Lapointe is a regularly invited professor and educator. She is also actively involved in the provincial community with various initiatives and projects promoting emotional health and development. Dr. Lapointe is known for being a dynamic speaker who brings a sense of nurturing understanding and humanity to all of her workshops. She enjoys presenting to a wide range of professionals and parents throughout Canada. As a mother to two growing children, Vanessa strives not only professionally, but also personally, to view the world through the child's eyes.

Natasha Bains

The Changing Face of Education: Dr. David Helfand

We are pleased to be able to host Dr. David Helfand, president of Quest University and professor of astrophysics at Columbia University, at Southridge, on Wednesday, March 5th, 2014 at 7:00 pm. Dr. Helfand will be discussing how education is responding to the rapid changes in modern society to help best prepare our students for the future. If you are interested in learning why these changes are necessary, and how it will affect your child and their educational and career opportunities, please join us for this lecture and discussion. Dr. Helfand has been recognized with many teaching awards while at Columbia, and is renowned as a dynamic and engaging speaker.

There is no need to pre-book your spot, but please mark your calendars now so as not to miss this great opportunity. For more information, contact Daryl Weaver, dweaver@southridge.bc.ca or 604 542 1796.

Daryl Weaver

Math Challengers Competition

This weekend, Mr. S and I took one Grade 8 team and one Grade 9 team to SFU for the Annual Math Challengers competition. It was the Lower Mainland Regional's, and there were over 400 Grade 8 & 9 students there. I know it might be hard for some of you to imagine, but it was really a fun event.

Even though we were placed in a tough pool with last year's top 2 teams in the province, the Grade 8 team won the 3rd place in our pool, and will advance to the Provincials in early March at UBC.

Another thing that is exciting is that for the first time in our school's history, 2 of the students (Ekan & Alex) made it to the top 10 in our pool. Alex Lin was even selected to join Team BC to compete against some US teams in some intramural competitions.

- Grade 8 Team: Alex Lin, Ekan Hou, Harry Xie, Jonathan Zhao and Sanya Grover

- Grade 9 Team: Shirley Zhu, Queenie Wu, Min Jy Kim, Edward Qi, Erin Jung

I want to thank every participant for representing Southridge so well. Well done guys!

Ms Lai & Mr Sterelyukhin

Big White Ski Trip

The Friday before last, a coach full of students was lucky enough to go to Big White for the weekend. And what a weekend it was! With a massive inversion, you could see for miles from the peak; we got nothing but sunshine. It was so warm, you could have mistaken it for spring skiing! Throughout the weekend there were a few planned activities including snow tubing, a grand fireworks spectacle, and of course two fantastic days of skiing. As an added bonus, the Sunday of that weekend was Aussie day. All the students were able to enjoy the festivities that accompany this great day. The sunshine combined with the jubilant tone set by the Aussies, made for a great time. Although there has been a lack of snow this year, there was terrain open for everyone. Whether a novice or a seasoned skier, this trip was a hit with all students!

With the success of Big White, the Outdoor Ed team was eager to launch another outing. There is a group of snowshoers heading out on a daytrip today. We are absolutely ecstatic with the turnout, as the trip filled up before 8 am the first day we accepted forms. Students participating will make their way from the base of Cypress to the peak of Hollyburn mountain. They will stop at the peak for lunch as well to do some avalanche rescue games. We hope to introduce the concept of avalanche rescue to students in a meaningful way while outlining potentially lifesaving skills. The forecasted weather shows that it should be a sunny blue bird day. This will make the experience that much better for the participating students. Make sure to sign up early next year!

Jacob Strecker

University Counselling News for February

UBC Update

It is now February 4th and the “big” deadline for UBC applications passed last night at 11:59 pm. UBC continues to attract a large number of applicants from Southridge and Grads have been working hard to complete the personal profile required for their applications. Along with academic grades and co-curricular involvements, one of the most important components of the application is the personal essays. Students have received support with these essays through Portfolio classes, individual appointments with Ms. Livingston or Mr. Weaver, an essay workshop and meetings with English teachers.

The next step for UBC admissions is for students to submit their Term 2 marks through an on-line self-report portal which they will be directed to through their UBC student account. Updates on 2014 admissions can also be found on the admissions blog <http://blog.students.ubc.ca/admissions/>

Mid-Year Transcript and Canadian Applications

Grads now have copies of their mid-year marks which were distributed yesterday. This transcript allows students to review their current standing in each course and to use the marks information to update their universities (not UBC as this university requires Term 2 marks only). Ontario universities such as Queen’s, Waterloo, Guelph, Carleton will receive the updated transcript, especially if 1st term marks were sent that did not result in an early offer. Other universities that have on-line self-reporting (UVic opened Feb 1st, McGill opens for 2nd round on March 1st, SFU is open, Western is open, etc) provide instructions on the process for submitting marks on-line. There is no standard time-line for admissions decisions as every university has its own process to achieve the outcome for filling seats in programs - some use a rolling or on-going review of applications, some use rounds or stages for admission.

Please note that the majority of admission offers are made between mid-March and mid-May. UBC is predicting admission offers beginning mid-March to the end of April.

US Applications Update

Midyear reports are now being prepared and sent to all US colleges, based on the midyear transcripts distributed this week. Students have been told to notify Mr. Weaver if their specific US university has told them not to do this (with the exception of the University of California system, which will make their initial admission decisions based on student’s self-reported Grade 9-11 marks back in November, which need to match our final transcripts which will be sent in July).

US universities are likely to ask for family financial information at this point in process. Please be sure to respond to these requests when prompted in a timely fashion.

All US universities are required to report application results by the end of March, and that is when we usually have a flurry of news from the States. Students are then encouraged to consider all options, and if possible, visit top choices before they make their final decision by May 1st, 2014.

Portfolio Update

We have now moved into the next section of this course that deals with:

- a) Managing applications and ensuing offers
- b) Preparing to transition to life after high school (text book: “University Matters”)
- c) Completion of the Graduation Transitions requirements

The majority of grads have had three or more individual appointments to review their university applications and transitions plans. This current cycle we have two guests for Portfolio class - Mr. Barnim will be “Professor Doug” and will discuss his recent experience as a university lecturer working with first year students and Ms. Bains will be presenting tips, support and resources for handling stress and anxiety particularly around getting ready to graduate high school.

Questions or Concerns Regarding Application Status

Each year universities do their best to manage large volumes of electronic data and incoming paperwork that allows them to process applications and to make the right offers, at the right time, to achieve their admissions goals. One of the discussions we have in Portfolio class relates to being aware of how students can navigate this process and advocate for themselves in the event of any potential system glitches. We have discussed past examples and how to watch for, and be aware of this phenomenon. As an example, last weekend, a university ran a test of their student information centre that manages applications and forgot to switch off the notifications to students which resulted in some confusing messages. One of our students alerted us to it and we were able to communicate with the university and clarify the situation. Grads are encouraged to continue making appointments to meet with Ms. Livingston and/or Mr. Weaver if they have any concerns or questions regarding the status of their university applications.

Ms. Livingston & Mr. Weaver
University Counsellors

Grad Photobook Committee

There will be a meeting on February 13th from 4:30-6:00 to start the next stage in the photobooks for the graduating class. The meeting will take place in room 240. If you are interested in helping with this project and have not contacted Ms. Mosher (hmosher@southridge.bc.ca) or Mrs. Eriksen please email us to let us know your interest and if you will be able to attend the meeting.

Thank you

Ms. Mosher

News for Both Schools

Girl Rising - The Film, The Movement, The Future

‘Over 65 million girls around the world are denied an education and a right to a better future.’

A number of Southridge students have formed a Girl Rising Committee in the school and have been working hard for the past few weeks to raise awareness on girls’ issues from around the world. Girl Rising is a documentary film which is being shown at Southridge School on February 22nd, 2014. The film journeys around the globe to witness the spirit and the power of education to change the world. It spotlights the stories of nine extraordinary girls from nine developing countries who share their journey of the unforgettable circumstances they went through, each struggling to achieve against nearly impossible odds. It captures their voices, their dreams, and their remarkable lives.

[Join Us](#) for the viewing of the fascinating lives of these young girls:
When: Saturday February 22nd, 2014 at 2:00 pm
Where: Southridge Junior School

Admission is by donation with all proceeds to “Because I’m A Girl”

Sanya Grover
Girl Rising Committee

Southridge Speaker Series – Dr. Alex Russell

Southridge is pleased to host author, **Dr. Alex Russell** on **April 16th at 7:00 p.m.** in the Junior School Great Hall. Dr. Russell is a clinical psychologist and author of the book, *Drop the Worry Ball: How to Parent in the Age of Entitlement*. Dr. Russell will speak to parents about the common challenges children and youth face, including dealing with troublesome behaviours, supporting children at school and controlling or monitoring children’s access to computers, cell phones and other forms of digital technology. He believes that parents need to view failing as a way to build resilience – whether it’s a test, a course, or a tryout for a team as a normal part of growing up.

Dr. Russell provides assessments and psychotherapy to children and adults, in addition to consulting with schools, teachers and psychologists. He is intimately familiar with the culture of schools and the relationship that parents, teachers and counsellors share with regard to the children we are raising. He is a popular speaker to parents’ groups and educators, and has been an online mediator of a TV Ontario website focused on parenting and child development. He is a research affiliate with the Hincks-Dellcrest Institute where his activities include the development of an early intervention family therapy program serving families with children at risk, articles on children’s emotional development, and serving on the editorial board of *Ideas: Emotional Well-Being in Child Care*, a nationally circulated journal for early childhood educators. A father of two teenagers, he is an active parent in his community and an avid hockey player and coach.

This event is open to the public and the tickets are \$10.

Olympic Team Canada Crosby Jersey

On Wednesday the 12th, the grads will be announcing their Olympic Team Canada Crosby Jersey Raffle. We have two team Canada jersey’s to win (one home and one away). The winners will be drawn in the morning assembly on February 17th. Winners of the Jerseys will be allowed to wear the jersey for the remainder of the Olympics!! Tickets will be on sale in the Senior School on Wednesday 12th-Friday 14th. \$3.00 per ticket or \$5.00 for two tickets. All proceeds go towards the grads fundraising for their dinner/dance!!

Ms. Mosher

We Did It Because You Are Amazing - Thank You For Your Support!

On behalf of The Friends of Southridge cycling team, I would like to say a huge thank you to each and every one of you for supporting our concession during the CAIS boy’s tournament. The CAIS boys’ tournament in itself was a great success and wonderfully well organized, and it was very interesting around here watching the boys and our girls especially interact with our guest players.

This tournament was a special opportunity for us to do some fundraising and to create awareness about the deadly disease of cancer. The coaches were saddened to hear about Serena, and most of them bought a bracelet to wear in her honour. This was heartwarming as now I know that she is going to be thought about all across Canada.

I wear my bracelet every day to remind me of Serena and to think about what she is going through. I will wear it until she has finishes her treatments later this year. She is my inspiration, and I admire her strength.

I am hopeful that every student in the senior school will purchase a bracelet to show her how much they care. The bracelets will continue to be available at lunch. So once again, thank you so much for supporting the concession and we raised just over \$4,000. Wow!

“Breeding Optimism” – Serena, this one is for you!

Anne Boyle
MYP French teacher and team member

Volunteer Opportunities – Country Fair

Spring is just around the corner which means the Country Fair planning has officially begun! We have a few key volunteer positions to fill and we need your help to make the 2014 Country Fair a huge success.

We are looking for lead volunteers in these areas:

- **Toys** - Lego, Barbies, Playmobil and everything in between. In this role, you and a partner will be in charge of organizing and managing the Recycled Toys area. We are looking for 2 lead volunteers to take on this role together. The Toys area set up in the Senior School Great Hall the week before the Fair to receive donations throughout Collection Week. You will be assisted by a team of assigned volunteers to sort the toys during Collection Week and run the Toy Sale on Fair Day.
- **Logistics** - The before, during and after and everything in between, this crew is the engine that keeps it all going! How do we turn our school into the famous Country Fair? Do you like to help behind the scenes? Ever wondered how that gorilla gets up on the roof? Who is responsible for all those electrical cords? The site logistics team, that's who. In this role you will be responsible for organizing a team of volunteers to set up and take down tables, tents, electrical and lots more.
- **Dollar Store** - Transforming the Senior School gym into one of the lower mainland's biggest garage sales is a huge undertaking. The gym is a beehive of activity the whole of Collection Week and the Dollar Store is an important part of that puzzle. In the Dollar Store, recycled treasures are sold in bulk. Items include stationary, party supplies, seasonal items, and small stuffy toys. In this role you will be responsible for organizing and managing the Dollar Store corner of the gym throughout collection week and on Fair Day. You will be assisted by a team of volunteers throughout the week and on Fair Day.

Country Fair Shadow Department Heads for Various Areas

We have people in place for the 2014 fair, but we are hoping to recruit some volunteers that can shadow/observe an area this year with a view to step in as lead volunteers next year (2015). Please contact us if you are interested in a certain area or want to know what areas are available. No past experience necessary, so we welcome new parents, as well as volunteers that would like to try out a new area of the fair! It would be great to lead a department with a friend, be a risk taker and try something new!

Contact the volunteer committee if you are interested. We are happy to answer any questions you may have.

volunteer@southridge.bc.ca

Year Long Lead Roles for 2014-15 School Year

We are actively planning for next year's volunteer calendar! We have taken stock and there is currently a leadership opportunity in Junior School Hospitality.

- **Hospitality Coordinator** - In this role you would be responsible for organizing coffee and treats when required for events and meetings in the Junior School. Duties include maintaining an inventory of refreshment supplies and setup and take down at the end of the event or meeting. Types of events include Open House, Grade Coffee mornings and New Parent Nights.

You will be assisted by a group of hospitality volunteers at these events. Frequency of activity: as required. If this type of role interests you and you would like to chat with us about it, please contact the Volunteer Committee at volunteer@southridge.bc.ca.

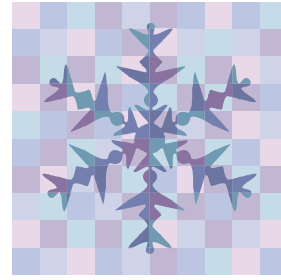
Also, please watch for this year's Country Fair volunteer website sign up, which will be live starting March 10th, 2014.

Rachael Lawson, Chair
on behalf of the Volunteer Committee

Southridge Café Menu for the Week of February 10th – 14th
Please read the attached menu.

UNIVERSITY COUNSELLING

NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2014



UBC Update:

It is now February 4 and the “big” deadline for UBC applications passed last night at 11:59pm. UBC continues to attract a large number of applicants from Southridge and Grads have been working hard to complete the personal profile required for their applications. Along with academic grades and co-curricular involvements, one of the most important components of the application is the personal essays. Students have received support with these essays through Portfolio classes, individual appointments with Ms. Livingston or Mr. Weaver, an essay workshop and meetings with English teachers.

The next step for UBC admissions is for students to submit their **Term 2 marks** through an on-line self-report portal which they will be directed to through their UBC student account. Updates on 2014 admissions can also be found on the admissions blog <http://blog.students.ubc.ca/admissions/>

Mid-Year Transcript and Canadian Applications

Grads now have copies of their mid-year marks which were distributed yesterday. This transcript allows students to review their current standing in each course and to use the marks information to update their universities (not UBC as this university requires Term 2 marks only). Ontario universities such as Queen’s, Waterloo, Guelph, Carleton will receive the updated transcript, especially if 1st term marks were sent that did not result in an early offer. Other universities that have on-line self-reporting (UVic opened Feb 1st, McGill opens for 2nd round on March 1st, SFU is open, Western is open, etc) provide instructions on the process for submitting marks on-line. There is no standard time-line for admissions decisions as every university has its own process to achieve the outcome for filling seats in programs – some use a rolling or on-going review of applications, some use rounds or stages for admission.

Please note that the majority of admission offers are made between mid-March and mid-May. UBC is predicting admission offers beginning mid-March to the end of April.

US Applications Update

Midyear reports are now being prepared and sent to all US colleges, based on the midyear transcripts distributed this week. Students have been told to notify Mr Weaver if their specific US university has told them not to do this (with the exception of the University of California system, which will make their initial admission decisions based on student’s self-reported Gr 9-11 marks back in November, which need to match our final transcripts which will be sent in July).

US universities are likely to ask for family financial information at this point in process. Please be sure to respond to these requests when prompted in a timely fashion.

All US universities are required to report application results by the end of March, and that is when we usually have a flurry of news from the States. Students are then encouraged to consider all options, and if possible, visit top choices before they make their final decision by May 1st, 2014.

Portfolio Update

We have now moved into the next section of this course that deals with:

- a) Managing applications and ensuing offers

- b) Preparing to transition to life after high school (text book: “University Matters”)
- c) Completion of the Graduation Transitions requirements

The majority of grads have had three or more individual appointments to review their university applications and transitions plans. This current cycle we have two guests for Portfolio class – Mr. Barnim will be “Professor Doug” and will discuss his recent experience as a university lecturer working with first year students and Ms. Bains will be presenting tips, support and resources for handling stress and anxiety particularly around getting ready to graduate high school.

Final note - QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS REGARDING APPLICATION STATUS

Each year, universities do their best to manage large volumes of electronic data and incoming paperwork that allows them to process applications and to make the right offers, at the right time, to achieve their admissions goals. One of the discussions we have in Portfolio class relates to being aware of how students can navigate this process and advocate for themselves in the event of any potential system glitches. We have discussed past examples and how to watch for, and be aware of this phenomenon. As an example, last weekend, a university ran a test of their student information centre that manages applications and forgot to switch off the notifications to students which resulted in some confusing messages. One of our students alerted us to it and we were able to communicate with the university and clarify the situation. Grads are encouraged to continue making appointments to meet with Ms. Livingston and/or Mr. Weaver if they have any concerns or questions regarding the status of their university applications.

Ms. Livingston & Mr. Weaver
University Counsellors

February

Week of : February 10th -14th

Monday

Closed

Tuesday

Closed

Wednesday

Chicken Strips with Fries

Thursday

Lasagna with Garlic Bread

Friday

Chicken Cacciatore served with Rice

Featured Panni

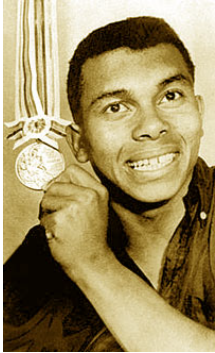
Roasted Chicken Breast, Calabrese Sausage
Chipotle Mayo, Roma Tomato, Leaf Lettuce
melt with Cheddar Cheese

*Menu Subject to Change do to Availability

February is...
Black History Month

Trail Blazers in Sports

2014



HARRY JEROME (1940-1982)

Earned the title of the world's fastest man, with seven world records including the 100-metre, 100-yard dash and indoor 60-metre dash.

Throughout his life Harry used his experience and success to address discrimination and create opportunities for youth. His legacy lives on with the Harry Jerome Awards recognizing excellence in African Canadian achievement.



JACKIE ROBINSON (1919-1972)

First professional Black baseball player in the major leagues.

Jackie opened the door to equality in professional sports and responded to the challenge of being the first black baseball player with class and courage.

WILLIE ELDON O'REE (1935)

First Black player in the National Hockey League.

Willie made his NHL debut with the Bruins on January 18, 1958 and was referred to as the "Jackie Robinson of ice hockey" due to breaking the black colour barrier in the sport. Like other trail blazers he was subjected to racist remarks but remained focused and dedicated to his sport. For the last 15 years, Willie has served as the NHL's Director of Youth Development and ambassador for NHL Diversity, bringing hockey to tens of thousands of young children across North America.

