

# Southridge Wednesday

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13-14

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## **Head of School**

### **Klingenstein Reflections**

At the end of January I was fortunate enough to attend a two week fellowship program for Heads of Schools at Columbia University in New York City. There were twenty people in my cohort from six different countries - Germany, Netherlands, Sudan, China, United States and Canada. It was a unique learning opportunity; one that I am very thankful for having had the chance to experience.

The Klingenstein program was set up like graduate school. In fact, my cohort of independent school heads spent a good deal of time working with graduate students at the teachers college as we engaged in discussion about interesting independent school case studies and pertinent school leadership issues, such as governance and the significant changes taking place in education across the world.

There were three modules that made up the course of study. The first was a philosophy seminar that explored the thoughts and writings of key philosophers in the field of education spanning five centuries. There were many insightful moments during this series of classes and the depth of thinking that expressed a multitude of fundamental educational perspectives was exhilarating.

The second module was a research course pertaining to integrative literature reviews. Each person in my cohort came prepared with a research topic in hand. After refining our questions, we devoted numerous hours digging into a vast array of issues and ideas with application to our own schools and the field of education in general. My research topic related to a critical analysis of the inquiry approach to teaching and learning because I wanted to examine further empirical evidence related to how student-centred school environments influence achievement and character development in our Junior and Senior Schools.

The third module of the course of study involved action research focused on 21<sup>st</sup> century learning in schools. There were four areas of collaborative concentration and my group explored the role of design thinking in the development of creativity. Design thinking is an approach to problem solving, project work and innovation. It is a way of creating solutions using the tools and mindsets of design practitioners. When you need to achieve a breakthrough or make a creative leap, design thinking can often lead to new insights. School visits and interviews with teachers and administrators across New York City allowed my team to contribute interesting perspectives to this whole-class, practical project.

Although it was difficult to be away from the school for two full weeks while classes were in session, I must say that I thoroughly enjoyed my time at the Klingenstein Centre. I have to admit that visiting the Metropolitan Museum with an art history professor as a tour guide was a definite highlight of the trip - as was taking in a Broadway musical and a wonderful performance of *Jewels* by the New York City Ballet. Thank you once again to the Board of Governors for their support of my time away from the school, and thank you to Ms. Middelaer and the Senior Management Team for taking care business during my absence.

Have a wonderful week!

Mr. Drew Stephens  
Head of School

Important Dates			
Event	Date	Time	Location
Pink Shirt Day	Wednesday, Feb 26	All Day	Both Schools
Senior School Play	Wednesday, Feb 26 to Sunday, Mar 1	7:00 - 9:00pm	Alan Brown Great Hall
Junior School Exhibition Presentation for Grade 4 Parents	Wednesday, Mar 5	6:30 - 7:30pm	Junior School Great Hall
Junior School House Captain Theme Day	Friday, Mar 7	All Day	Junior School
Mini Me to We Day	Friday, Mar 7	5:00 - 7:00pm	Alan Brown Great Hall
Junior School Grandparents Day Tea	Tuesday, Mar 11	12:30 - 1:30pm	Junior School Great Hall
PYP Matinee Performance	Tuesday, Mar 11	1:30 - 3:00pm	Junior School Great Hall
PYP Evening Concert	Wednesday, Mar 12	6:30 - 8:00pm	Junior School Great Hall
Casual Day	Friday, Mar 14	All Day	Both Schools
School Report Cards Home	Friday, Mar 14		Both Schools
Kindergarten Transportation Bike	Friday, Mar 14	11:00am - 12:00pm	Commons
Spring Break - No School	Monday, Mar 18 to Friday, Mar 28		Both Schools
Late Start	Monday, Mar 31	10:25am	Both Schools

## Junior School News

### Stand Up To Bullying - Provincial Pink Shirt Day on February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2014

On Wednesday, February 26<sup>th</sup>, the entire province of BC is marking Pink Shirt Day whereby students wear pink to visibly demonstrate their opposition to bullying. At Southridge we have a very clear policy regarding bullying. The word 'bully' is an emotionally charged word and it is important to differentiate 'bad or mean behaviour' from bullying.

Bullying is when hurtful, harmful behaviors are done on purpose, over and over, to make someone feel small and powerless. We never allow bullying at Southridge School.

Bullying is different than other kinds of bad behaviour. Here is the full definition:

#### WHAT DOES BULLYING LOOK LIKE?

Bullying takes many forms. We can categorize the types of bullying based on the kind of damage they cause. Bullying may cause **SOCIAL DAMAGE** by making someone feel friendless and unpopular. It may cause **EMOTIONAL DAMAGE** by making someone feel embarrassed and worthless. It can also cause **PHYSICAL DAMAGE** when a person's body gets hurt or their personal belongings get damaged.

**INTENT to HARM + MEAN BEHAVIOUR + POWER IMBALANCE = BULLYING**

### How Do We Respond to Bullying?

Of course there are other kinds of bad behaviour that can hurt a person too, such as arguing and fighting. Bullying is different because of the relationship between the people involved. If one person (or group) has more power than another person (or group) and they use that power to hurt someone on purpose, that could be bullying.

It is very important for an adult at the school (e.g. teacher, guidance coordinator, Head of School) to investigate the situation carefully. Only a school adult can decide for sure if bullying has happened and only a school adult can decide on the consequences.

If anyone sees or hears about a possible bullying situation at Southridge Junior School, they should talk to a teacher, Guidance Coordinator, or the Head of School right away. Bullying is very serious and it is the job of the adults at the school to look into anything that sounds like bullying, stop the problem, and make sure that everyone involved gets back on the right path again. We are against bullying behaviour but we believe that people who act like bullies can change their behaviour and learn to respect others and themselves. However, if someone continues to act like a bully, even though school adults have tried to help them stop, they may be suspended or even asked to leave the school. Southridge School should be very safe and comfortable for all our students and this is why we have such clear policies, to ensure the safety and protection of all our students.

Mrs. Laurel Middelaer  
Deputy Head and Head of Junior School

### **Report Cards and FSA Booklets**

Thank you to all our parents for attending our student-led conferences this past week. Through these conferences, students demonstrate tremendous ownership for their learning and it is validating to watch them celebrate their successes and set goals for areas of improvement. The MYP conferences done with their laptops illustrated just how competent our students are with technology. Great to see.

Report cards will be sent home with all students on the last day of classes before March break on Friday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014. Report cards will not be given out before that date as we have editing and final checks that must be conducted in that last week and it has never been our practice to distribute these early. Additionally, all parents of Grade 4 and 7 students will receive the FSA booklets as well as the FSA marks. These will be mailed directly to your home so please watch for them over the March break.

### **Senior School News**

#### **“You Gotta Be Here!”**

There is a television program that I enjoy watching on the Food Network called “You Gotta Eat Here!” It is Canadian and involves the host visiting different restaurants and diners all over the country. He is very engaging and helps the chefs to cook a few signature dishes from their menu. After each such preparation, the host samples the dish and then after looking as though he has eaten the best food of his life, turns to the camera and says, “Oh...you gotta eat here!”

With all of the great activities and enthusiasm and energy that occur in the Senior School at Southridge, whenever I am speaking with someone about the wonderful school that I feel privileged to be a part, I feel like the host of the program described above. I want to say to them, “Oh...you gotta be here!” And I really mean that; I encourage everyone to come out to a game, a speaker, an arts presentation, or just to come by and see the vibrant community that we have. The students do such a wonderful job of immersing themselves in the many opportunities that are provided.

Over the past few months, there have been some wonderful successes with our basketball program and on many days I have watched and listened to the extensive rehearsals that are ongoing with our major production of *Into the Woods* that will debut tonight (Wednesday) and run until Sunday. I wanted to share a few more details about these two items to entice you!

Over this past weekend, our Senior Boys basketball team was involved in the Fraser Valley (FV) Playoffs. Not only is this a culmination tournament of the year, but with a successful result, means that they can gain a berth in the Provincial Championships held this year in Langley. I am delighted to tell you that they were more than just a bit successful...in fact, they won the Fraser Valley Championship and are seeded #6 in the Provincials. This is only the 3<sup>rd</sup> time that the team has won this championship in the school’s history.

Our Senior Girls basketball team had a very successful year as well. They placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Fraser Valley league, which presented them with a difficult road to a Provincial berth having to try a five-game playoff game run. Unfortunately, the team came up a little short, but for a senior team they are young in age and I know we will be hearing about greater success in future years.

Our Junior Boys basketball team narrowly missed the Fraser Valley playoffs by a single game, but had a fantastic season of success, showing amazing development as a team and individually. The highlight would definitely be the bronze medal they captured at the ISA Championships!

The Grade 8 basketball teams in both the girls and boys divisions had a mirror season in much of their success. Both teams fought hard during the ISA Championships and made it into the finals. Each of the teams ended up with the Silver medal and this gives much promise to successive seasons as the students move forward. In addition, both teams qualified for the Fraser Valley playoffs and enjoyed the “playoff experience”!

### **Into the Woods**

I was privileged enough to watch the dress rehearsal of the production as I am unfortunately not able to attend the performances. How was it? In a word...unbelievable! And with serious conviction: “YOU GOTTA BE HERE!” This is not something to be missed. The faculty and students involved both as performers, technical support, stage managing and set design have put in such an amazing level of commitment and dedication and it shows! The show itself is fun and clever and at the same time complex in its transitions and presentation. Ms. Kelly has done a masterful job to bring everyone together to work so well as a team. I wish them all the best of luck and in true theatre talk: Break a leg!

Have a great week and be sure to come out to support all of these wonderful opportunities and experiences that the students and faculty are creating!

Mr. Doug Palm  
Head of Senior School

### **SafeTeen: Powerful Alternatives to Violence**

Grades 9-11 will be participating in the Safeteen presentations on the following dates:

- Grade 9: Wednesday, March 5<sup>th</sup> (afternoon)
- Grade 10: Thursday, March 6<sup>th</sup> (morning)
- Grade 11: Thursday, March 6<sup>th</sup> (afternoon)

SafeTeen is a prevention program that gives youth skills to deal with verbal violence, emotional violence, sexual violence and threats of physical violence. SafeTeen is about teaching teens to stand up for themselves and what they believe in without violence. SafeTeen offers powerful alternatives to violence.

The SafeTeen program is based on a unique assertiveness model that youth readily embrace. Utilizing a dynamic and experiential teaching style, SafeTeen addresses adolescents on their own level, working with issues that are relevant to their everyday lives. With SafeTeen skills, teens can connect with the power and wisdom within and speak from an authentic place of strength. They can hold their power and speak their truth.

Ms. Natasha Bains  
Senior School Counsellor

### **Bandfest 2014 - Grade 8 Concert Band**

The Grade 8 Concert Band will cross the water next Wednesday to participate in the University of Victoria Bandfest. The group has been working hard and I am really excited about their collective sound and focus as we prepare for our performance.

The students are to arrive at Southridge on Wednesday, March 5<sup>th</sup> at 8:00am in FULL WINTER UNIFORM, including a blazer, as we will start our day with a workshop and performance for the Junior School students. The concert will be at 10:20am in the Junior School Great Hall. You are welcome to join us in the audience. We will then head to Victoria!

We will return to the school on Thursday, March 6<sup>th</sup> at 3:30pm. Students will need to collect their instruments and luggage prior to departing the school.

A full itinerary will be posted on Schoology for your information. If you have any questions, please contact Jenna Parker at [jparker@southridge.bc.ca](mailto:jparker@southridge.bc.ca) or 604-503-4642.

We also have room for one more female chaperone if any moms are available for those two days.

Senior School Music Department

### **Envision Jazz Festival**

On Friday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, the Grade 9, 10, and Senior Jazz bands travelled to the Bell Centre to perform at the Envision Jazz Festival with Mr. Burrage and Mr. Mitchell. Each band performed three pieces and were then given a clinic by one of the three adjudicators. In addition to their own performance, some of the students were there at lunchtime when they were treated to a concert given by the UBC Jazz Ensemble. The students represented the school very well and performed admirably.

The many bands from other schools across the lower mainland and the Canada vs USA men's hockey semi-final added to the overall energy and excitement! The Grade 9s were complimented on their solos, the 10s on their quality of sound and energy, and the seniors on their solid approach to funk! Two students, Brody Wong and Coltin Porter were invited to play in the "all-star" rep band on Saturday night. Congratulations to all those involved!

Mr. Steve Burrage and  
Mr. Chris Mitchell  
Senior School Band

### **Senior Concert Band Italy Tour Send-Off Concert**

On Tuesday, March 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm in the Alan Brown Great Hall, the Senior Concert Band that is heading to Italy during spring break will perform some of their selections. Additionally, several students who have been working on instrumental and vocal ensemble pieces will perform too. For parents of students on the tour, there will be an informational meeting to follow, but please consider joining us for the musical portion of the evening, which will likely be around an hour.

Mr. Steve Burrage  
Music Curriculum Leader

### **American Math Competition Results**

Every year, more than 350,000 students write the American Math Contest. The AMC is one of the oldest and toughest mathematics competitions around, so when students do well on it, it is a big deal. At the beginning of February, 50 Southridge students wrote this contest. In the AMC 10 (for Grade 10 students), Melanie Song scored in the top 5% of all competitors while Lenno Liu was in the top 1%. In the AMC 12 (for Grade 11 and 12 students), Sam Chan was in the top 5% while Alex Datcu Romano was in the top 1% of all contest writers. These are outstanding results! Congratulations to our top students and thank you to all students who challenged themselves in writing this prestigious competition.

Mr. Cam Seib  
Mathematics Curriculum Leader

### **Project Backpacks**

As many of you know, Project Backpacks is a community service initiative focused on helping homeless youth in Vancouver. Simrat and I having been handing out lists and backpacks to each advisory over the past few days. However, we have run out of backpacks, so we may have missed your advisory. Please continue to bring in items; the backpacks should be here by next week.

Each advisory is responsible for filling two backpacks (girl and boy) with the items on the list. You have two weeks to bring in items and fill the backpacks. Good luck and thank you for your support!

Project Backpack: <http://www.projectbackpack.ca/>

Please email me if you have any further questions.

Iksha Kumar

### **Cinderella Project Presents The Great Grad Grub Grab!**

Tired of making lunches? Need something a little more exciting for his/her lunch? Well think no more. On Friday, February 28<sup>th</sup> the Grade 12s are fundraising for the Cinderella Project, which is a legacy event for our graduating Grade 12s.

They will be preparing lunches and auctioning them off starting at \$5.00. Last year we auctioned anything from peanut butter and jelly sandwiches to a full course steak dinner with Crème Brule for dessert. Each lunch will include a drink, fruit, dessert and a main course. Please support our legacy by sending your child with money for lunch on Friday, February 28<sup>th</sup>. To learn more about our legacy, please visit [www.thecinderellaproject.com](http://www.thecinderellaproject.com)

The Cinderella Project Team

### **Peru: Biodiversity Studies in the Amazon Rainforest June 26<sup>th</sup> - July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

The registration deadline is only 2 days away! To secure your spot, bring a \$1000.00 deposit cheque to Ms. Szymczak - only 10 spots available. Total cost is approx. \$4800.00.

There will be another (condensed) information meeting during lunch period on Thursday, February 27<sup>th</sup> at 11:45 - 12:15pm in Senior School room 116 for those students or parents that may have questions or missed the previous information night.

Ms. Anna Szymczak  
Biology Teacher

## **News for Both Schools**

### ***Into the Woods* - Senior Play**

Coming this month, 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, 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm
- Thursday, February, 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm
- Friday, February, 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm
- Saturday, March 1<sup>st</sup> at 2:00pm
- Sunday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 2:00pm

Tickets are \$10.00 and can be purchased via [this link](#). For more information please call 604-535-5056 or email [jkelly@southridge.bc.ca](mailto:jkelly@southridge.bc.ca).

Ms. Jennifer Kelly  
Drama Teacher

## **Girl Rising Film**

This past Saturday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, the documentary film, *Girl Rising*, was shown in the Junior School. The Junior School and Senior School students worked hard together to organize and run this event. The objective of the event was to raise awareness about the issues that girls around the world face every day, as well as to witness the power that education has to change the world.

The film spotlighted the stories of nine individual girls from developing countries, who were up against nearly impossible odds during unforgettable circumstances. With over 150 people who attended, *Girl Rising* was a huge success! Everybody enjoyed the powerful message of the film.

About \$1,200.00 was raised during this event. All the money raised will go to the Because I Am A Girl Organization, which benefits girls through scholarships, school construction, health care, and much more. We would like to sincerely thank everyone that attended. Without you, this event wouldn't be complete! Your tremendous support will benefit many girls around the world. Big thanks to our parent volunteers and teachers who helped us in every way possible - especially to Ms. Birch for leading this wonderful event. We hope you will continue to spread the message and help girls around the world get the education they deserve.

Sanya Grover  
Girl Rising Committee

## **Girl Rising: A Study in Global Awareness, Education and in Collaboration**

On Saturday afternoon I came along to Southridge Junior School to support the initiative of a number of our Junior and Senior School students in raising awareness about the plight of girls and women in countries around the world where access to education is limited, or prohibited, by the determining factor of gender. Girls face often insurmountable barriers to education and the film spotlighted the individual stories of nine girls who have struggled against the brutal abnegation of their potential in circumstances of very early arranged marriages, child slavery, sexual exploitation and unbridled prejudice.

I was so impressed with our students who were so passionate and poised in their introductory speeches, carefully explaining why they had been motivated to promote the awareness of this central and significant issue: the right for girls to be educated. Listening to the Southridge students, I also felt pride and pleasure in their own achievements and levels of understanding. Here were young people who were speaking with great sensitivity and knowledge about girls in many disparate parts of the world for whom they felt great empathy, and for whom they spoke in the fervent hope that these young women could also experience the joy of learning and of personal growth as they have done. Our students understand that education can facilitate not only changes in these young lives, but also in the lives of those yet to be born. In both the Junior and Senior Schools at Southridge the awareness of issues beyond our own backyard, the 'global' perspective, is an important cornerstone of our educational programs, as is the development of empathy and commitment to service that underpins many of our curriculum and student-centred initiatives.

The collaboration and cooperation between the Junior and Senior School students was also so good to see. Junior and Senior School students held joint meetings to research information, to synthesize and to present it. They also organized the setup of an "information booth", assigned and accomplished the various tasks that needed to be done: making posters, writing articles, promoting the event at assemblies and through social media, and bringing in items for sale at the concession stand. I thoroughly enjoyed the chocolate chip banana bread and samosa that I purchased. Thank you supportive mums (and dads)!

Thanks also to Ms. Debbie MacDougall, Mr. Daryl Weaver and the ever patient and unflappable Mr. Alan McInnes for their invaluable support to our students. Ms. Jackie Birch, who undertook to organize and steer this happy band, commented, "The Senior School students were accountable and demonstrated excellent leadership skills, and the Junior School students were incredibly enthusiastic to be a part of this event. All in all, it was rewarding for me to work with such a dedicated and passionate group of students." Thanks to her, too, for her thoughtful leadership in this endeavor.

Finally, thanks to the following students who gave of their time, maintained their commitment, and brought awareness of this important issue to the forefront in our busy lives. They are our hope for a better world to come:

Junior School Students  
Avery Bell

Taylor Bay  
Nora Zhu  
Suhaana Bhatha  
Nyla Grewal  
Peyton French  
Peri Bennett  
Robin Lister  
Lauren Tkatch  
Ary Taneja  
Samahra Pawa  
Kohen Osing  
Artin Soheili  
Aerin Brown  
Alyssa Hai  
Max Biffen  
Anika Bond  
Madeleine Cowie  
Yazmin Johal  
Grace Barrett  
Neelam Rai

Senior School Students

Amrit Athwal  
Jeanne Balloffet  
Suhaana Bhatha  
Emma Bordes  
Simrat Dial  
Wen Di Du (Wendy)  
Brea Gieschen  
Nylah Grewal  
Sanya Grover  
Manisha Hemani  
Xiao Yu Kang (Zoe)  
Iksha Kumar  
Lilia Laihem  
Trisha Neelakant  
Samara Reyes  
Saanwalshah Saincher (Samir)  
Taylor Sidhu  
Jessy Sidhu  
Sarah Sutanto  
Sukhleen Thind  
Shuang Queenie Wu (Queenie)

Mrs. Jan Holt  
Senior School Academic Program Director

**Casual Day Supporting the Country Fair**

This month's casual day collection is in support of the upcoming Country Fair, which will be held on Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> this year. We ask that each student bring \$2.00 this Friday, February 28<sup>th</sup> for the fair committee to purchase prizes that are given out at the Country Fair indoor games.

Thank you for participating in this huge community event that has immense benefits for our students and teachers.

Country Fair 2014 Chairs



### **Collecting Items For the Country Fair**

Please remember to start placing items aside for the fair. We will be collecting all items the last week of April. Lots of families start their spring cleaning soon, so please remember to put your items aside for recycled treasures, toys, loonie bags, dollar store and clothing. Thank you!

Country Fair 2014 Chairs

### **News From the Volunteer Committee**

Do you love spending time outdoors? Do you enjoy watching children laugh and play? Well, we have the job for you. We are looking for playground Volunteers! Please go to [http://www.southridge.bc.ca/volunteer\\_opportunities/index.aspx](http://www.southridge.bc.ca/volunteer_opportunities/index.aspx) and click on “**Volunteer Now**” to sign up today.

If you are looking for a way to help the school but need to do it on your own time, we have another opportunity that is available for the 2014 - 2015 school year. We are looking for two individuals who will be responsible for the coordination of the playground volunteer schedule. This is a role you can do from the comfort of your own home. Contact Rachael Lawson at [volunteer@southridge.bc.ca](mailto:volunteer@southridge.bc.ca) for more information.

Spring may seem far away with the winter wonderland we are experiencing but it is only around the corner. Online Country Fair volunteer sign up goes live on Monday, March 10<sup>th</sup>. Don't wait, the favourite shifts go quickly! [http://www.southridge.bc.ca/volunteer\\_opportunities/index.aspx](http://www.southridge.bc.ca/volunteer_opportunities/index.aspx)

Also, we are still looking for Chairs/Leads for the following:

- Country Fair TOYS Chair
- Country Fair DOLLAR STORE Chair
- Country Fair VARIOUS Shadows for 2015
- Junior School Hospitality Chair

Please contact Rachael at [volunteer@southridge.bc.ca](mailto:volunteer@southridge.bc.ca) to inquire about any of our leadership positions.

Kim Bay  
On behalf of the Volunteer Committee