

Southridge Wednesday

13-14
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Head of School

Jenga

As we enter the final week of the academic year, we slip away from our regular school routine. A change of routine is often a good thing but if we're not careful with how we orchestrate the unfolding of events and how we use our energy over the next ten days the change of routine can cause all sorts of unexpected excitement. Excitement can be fun but there's a fine line between excitement and frenzy, and frenzy is never a good thing.

You can look at our wrap-up events and activities as a game. Jenga comes to mind. Jenga is a wooden block, tower-building game. The idea of a game like Jenga is for participants to build a free standing tower out of small, identically-shaped wooden building blocks. Once the tower is built, each participant takes a turn pulling out one of the wooden blocks. The objective is to pull out a block while leaving the tower standing. The game ends when one of the participants causes the tower to collapse.

Bringing the school year to a safe and successful conclusion is like a metaphorical game of Jenga, except the building blocks are made out of energy and not wood. In the weeks that lead up to the festivities marking the end of the school year, there are numerous meetings and discussions that take place among the teachers and administration to plan for and ensure that our metaphorical tower is well built and sturdy. An incredible amount of energy (our building blocks) is directed toward preparing, planning and carrying out everything that happens during the final week, which culminates in Closing and Commencement on the Friday.

Throughout the course of the final week, energy is slowly drawn out of the school as one activity leads to another. The challenge in *our* game of Jenga is to remove energy a little bit at a time without the whole week coming apart and tumbling down. It's always a good challenge to keep our tower standing, and so far Southridge has managed to maintain a pretty good record as defined by fun and excitement without a lot of frenzy. Parents can help by keeping the home routine as normal as possible over the next ten days so that we still have a good supply of energy at school to draw on.

Have a wonderful week!

Mr. Drew Stephens
Head of School

Important Dates			
Event	Date	Time	Location
Athletics Banquet	Thursday, June 12 th	11:40 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Alan Brown Great Hall & Cafeteria
Grade 7 Band Concert	Thursday, June 12 th	6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.	Junior Great Hall
Senior School Prize Day	Wednesday, June 18 th	2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Senior School Gym
MYP Certificates Ceremony for Effort and Honours	Thursday, June 19 th	8:15 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.	Junior Great Hall
Grade 7 Early Dismissal	Thursday, June 19 th	12:00 p.m.	Junior School
Grade 7 Graduation Ceremony & Dinner/Dance	Thursday, June 19 th	5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	Junior Great Hall
Junior School Closing Ceremonies	Friday, June 20 th	9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.	Senior School Gym

Important Dates			
Event	Date	Time	Location
Senior School Commencement Ceremony	Friday, June 20 th	4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Senior School Gym
Grad Dinner/Dance	Sunday, June 22 nd	6:00 p.m. - 11:59 p.m.	Vancouver Convention Center

Human Resources Update

We are delighted to share with you that Ms. Shanaz Ramji-Motani has been successful in securing a temporary one-year 0.6 adjunct-professor position with the UBC Faculty of Education in the International Baccalaureate - Primary Years Program commencing September 1st, 2014. In this role, Ms. Ramji-Motani will be teaching courses in inquiry and IB pedagogy and will be working with teacher candidates in the IB PYP program option, including evaluating practicums throughout the lower mainland both in public and independent schools. Ms. Ramji-Motani brings to this role a high level of expertise and experience with the PYP Program, including a level three PYP designation and certification as an International Baccalaureate Trainer.

This is a wonderful opportunity for Ms. Ramji-Motani and we are pleased to be able to support her in this new and exciting endeavour. During her secondment, Ms. Ramji-Motani will continue in her role as PYP Coordinator at Southridge and her teaching responsibilities for Grade 1 will be reallocated, on a temporary one year basis, to her teaching partner Ms. Tierney Davis.

Ms. Davis joined Southridge in 2001 and has spent the past eight years teaching Grade 1 and is pleased to be able to provide temporary coverage for the 2014 - 2015 school year.

Ms. Jackie Birch has recently shared with us that she will be leaving Southridge at the end of this school year to return to her home of Ontario where she has secured a new teaching opportunity with Upper Canada College's Norval Outdoor School as an Outdoor Educator. Ms. Birch has been a teacher at Southridge since November 2009 and has spent the past four years as a Grade 4 teacher. Ms. Birch has been a valued member of the PYP team and has supported the school's extra-curricular programs including the PYP exhibition, outdoor education program and the basketball program.

Mrs. Darcie Sagert
Manager, Human Resources

Junior School News

Overview of End of Year Activities

Monday, June 16th: Sports Day begins where students participate in a variety of activities to gain points for their house. Therefore, all students need to proudly wear house colours and gym shorts. Please send a water bottle with your child's name on it.

Tuesday, June 17th: We have our speech celebrations. PYP speeches (Grades 1 - 3) will begin at 8:15a.m. in the Junior Great Hall. In the afternoon we have our MYP speech finalists. The winner will be the recipient of the Mandy Richmond Award. The MYP speech presentations commence at 1:20 p.m. Please join us for a wonderful day as the students have prepared, memorized and practiced their speeches about topics of their choice.

Wednesday, June 18th: We celebrate the end of the year for our PYP students with our picnic at Centennial Beach. Rain or shine, this is always a great time. MYP classes will continue as normal, with the exception of Grade 7, which has its Greek Festival.

Thursday, June 19th: We start the day with the MYP Certificate Ceremony from 8:10 - 9:00 a.m. in the Junior Great Hall. Then we have the always spirited soccer game between the teachers and the Grade 7 students from 11:15 - 12:00 p.m. on the turf field. Our MYP students have their parties that afternoon, and our Grade 7's are dismissed early to prep for their

grad. On Thursday evening we celebrate our Grade 7 graduating class with a dinner and festivities. For PYP, we have the last full day in their classrooms.

Friday morning, June 20th: We gather at 9:00 a.m. in the Senior School gymnasium for our Closing Ceremonies. All students must wear their full winter uniform that day, including ties, white dress shirts, long grey pants, or kilts or tunics, green sweater, vest or cardigan. We are formally recognizing all students, but the Kindergarten and Grade 4 students will be crossing the stage, marking completion of the first PYP year and the completion of the last PYP year.

Please plan to attend this closing event. Students will be dismissed for summer holidays right after the ceremony, which typically ends at 10:15 a.m. If you are unable to attend the closing ceremonies, please make arrangements to have your child picked up at that time.

Again, enjoy these last few days at school. Closing week is fun-filled and exciting but can also be emotional and very busy. Please continue to support your children by sticking to routines and helping them get lots of rest. Have a great week!

Ms. Alison Graham
Interim Head of Junior School

PYP and MYP Report Cards

PYP report cards will be distributed by homeroom teachers after the completion of the closing ceremonies. MYP report cards will be mailed to your residence on Friday, June 27th, 2014.

Forms, Forms, Forms

A package was recently mailed to all families with forms that will be required for the September 2014-15 school year. Please sign these forms and return them to Ms. Schaub at the front office as soon as possible. Thank you for tending to this in a timely manner.

Grade 4 Students Take Action to Support the Homeless: Lemon-Aid Sale Thursday, June 19th, 2014

This year, as part of our Exhibition unit, the Grade 4's explored the central idea that "global citizens protect the rights of others." Our group from 4JB focused on the "right to shelter". We worked collaboratively and not only became 'experts' in our field, but became very passionate and empathic towards the homeless and decided to reach out and take action.

On Thursday, June 19th, we will be hosting a Lemon-Aid Sale. We will be collecting adult-sized men's and women's clothing that will be donated to a local homeless shelter, Hyland House. Students will be given a refreshing glass of lemonade when they donate one or more items of clothing. We also felt that it is important to educate people about what causes homelessness and how people can help so we will also be handing out brochures that we created. By the way, you might think that we spelled 'lemon-aid' incorrectly but we spelled it that way to show that we are 'aiding' people who are in need of help in our own community.

Please drop off any donations between 7:30 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. on Thursday, June 19th in the Junior School Great Hall. Students will be given a hand stamp or lemonade ticket and will be served their lemonade later in the day. Thank you very much for supporting the homeless and our action project.

Nabil Ashrafi, Avery Bell, Anika Bond, Avery Bell, Natassia Lee and Neelam Rai
4JB Right to Shelter Exhibition Group
(Mentor: Mrs. Palm)

Senior School News

Response From The SSEP Surveys in May

As I referenced a few weeks ago in a previous Wednesday submission, I wanted to devote time to respond to the results of the surveys that we asked faculty, parents and students to complete. I would like to thank each of the individuals that took the time to complete the survey. There were many thoughtful responses to the questions posed. As we implement the Senior School Educational Program (SSEP), we will use this data as one of a number of ways to gain insight into how we are being successful, in what areas we might improve and the effectiveness of our communication about the program. As we carefully analyzed the data that came from these surveys, some key trends emerged.

There is consistent understanding that the SSEP extends beyond purely academics to focus on character, leadership and experiential learning, but the survey results tell us that there is confusion about the term “Harkness”. Although there is awareness that student-centred discussion based learning is happening at Harkness tables, more clarity is needed regarding what a student-centred, discussion-based collaborative learning environment actually looks like in different subject disciplines.

If you were able to come to our Harkness evening in May, you would have seen that a socials class, for example, looks different than a science class, even though both are using a student-centred style of learning. And even within a specific discipline, a Grade 8 class will look different to that of a Grade 12 or Advanced Placement (AP) class, given the development of the students and the complexity of the content being covered. Based on survey feedback, departments will continue to clarify and articulate these ‘visions’ for both students and parents next year.

Overwhelmingly, our faculty noted that student engagement has increased and that there has been development in our students’ ability to communicate understanding of curriculum topics more effectively. In turn, faculty feel they can assess student understanding on an on-going basis because students are more involved in the learning process. That being said, we will be continuing to support our teachers in professional development opportunities that focus on a discussion-based classroom. These opportunities will include attending intensive summer institutes and training sessions for both new faculty and those more experienced in student-centred, discussion-based, collaborative learning.

Many of our parents expressed an interest in learning more about the SSEP and its implementation, even though the survey results show that only a few people have connected with teachers and/or administrators to gain this understanding. Next year one of our key goals will be to create more opportunities to share how we are implementing the SSEP and to answer any questions people may have about the program. We will be holding another SSEP evening in mid-October as well as Mini-School Night and other events to explain the important elements of our educational program and how they benefit student learning.

I encourage you to contact teachers, curriculum leaders or any member of our Senior School administrative team to find out more about the SSEP. We are always happy to discuss how we are preparing students to possess the skills, knowledge and attitudes to thrive and make a difference in the world!

I look forward to seeing many of you at our end of year events.

Mr. Doug Palm
Head of Senior School

Book Return in the Senior Library for Books and Textbooks

Library Books

The library is now open for checking out books. Students can sign out books if they have returned all of their library books for the 2013-2014 academic year. Those who have not returned their books will be charged the cost of the outstanding item as they will be assumed lost.

Textbooks

Students may return their textbooks directly to the library at any time this week.

Library staff will be in the Alan Brown Great Hall collecting textbooks before each exam (7:45 a.m. for morning exams and 11:30 a.m. for afternoon exams).

Students have received emails informing them of any items still on their accounts.

Please note that students will be charged for any lost library books or textbooks on student accounts after Monday, June 23rd. Unfortunately we are not able to issue refunds as new books will need to be ordered for next year. Thank you for your cooperation.

Ms. Maggie Yee
Teacher/Librarian

Art Wall Exhibition

Celebrating Youth in Our Community - the Grade 12 visual art class of 2014 will have their final exhibit at the White Rock Museum on their "Art Wall", opening Thursday, June 12th until the beginning of September at 14970 Marine Drive in White Rock. Grab some gelato and pop on in to see what our graduating students can do.

The participating artists art: Mica Kantelia, Laura Hansen, Johanna Jacobsen, Sarah Grimm, Jessie Eriksen, Sami McBryer, Stephanie Sung, Sally Gudewill, Lucy Gudewill, Simarpreet Pattar, Jullia Ayre

Ms. Susy Baranszky-Job
Arts Curriculum Leader

First Annual Competition Produces Stellar Performances

Our own Albert Seo competed in Montreal and performed as a soloist with orchestras at the Michael J. Fox Theatre, the Orpheum and in Seattle. A couple of weeks ago, he was one of three finalists in a competition to perform with the VSO. As the attached article, from the VSO School of Music June newsletter explains, he was up against stiff competition with graduating Lucy Wang and Ben Su. Congratulations, Albert!

Mr. Steve Burrage
Music Curriculum Leader

Grad Car Wash

The grads are having one last fundraiser to support their grad dinner/dance. Come by on Saturday, June 14th to get your car washed in front of the Junior School between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Car washing is done by donation and we would love to see you come out and support our grads! Thanks!

Grad Committee

Laptop Returns in the Senior School

All laptops will be collected in room 224. However, if the door is locked please visit the tech office (room 216).

Grade 8, 9, and 11: Summer collection (return the Southridge backpack, laptop, and charger)

Grade 10 & 12: Drop off laptop for imaging (takes ~1 hour to complete; pick it up afterwards). *These laptops are at the end of their cycle and become their personal computers after the imaging process.*

Laptop Return Deadline:

- Grade 8: Thursday, June 12th
- Grade 9: Thursday, June 12th
- Grade 10: Thursday, June 19th
- Grade 11: Thursday, June 19th
- Grade 12: Friday, June 20th

If students do not need their laptop to study or take an electronic exam, please feel free to drop it off earlier than the deadline.

Mrs. Heather Mosher
Senior Technology Coordinator
Senior Mathematics Teacher
Grad Coordinator

News for Both Schools

This One Is For You, Serena!

On June 14th and 15th, 24 proud teachers, parents and friends will wear their *Friends of Southridge* team jersey to ride almost 240 kilometers over two days.

Our jerseys are bright red, the red which is your favourite colour, and we have your words, "BREEDING OPTIMISM" proudly displayed for all to see. We know your story, and it is one that has touched all of us. We are so proud to carry your tenacious spirit and optimism with us, and when we cross the finish line on day 2, it will be a moment of reflection and pride that we were able to do this for you.

You have been our inspiration, and I personally have worn the red wristband we created every single day since I got it. I will continue to wear it until you are truly well, and as a reminder of how lucky I am and how quickly life can change for all of us.

As a team, we have been supported by many of you financially and by your kind words - thank you! Think about us over the weekend, but more importantly, continue to think about Serena.

Madame Anne Boyle
Team member/MYP French Teacher

A HUGE Thank You for a Great Golf Tournament!

Thank you to everyone who came out and supported the Southridge Golf Tournament last Friday - the sun was shining and it was a great day on and off the course!

We welcomed 98 golfers and additional guests joined us for dinner and the awards presentation at Morgan Creek. Your participation benefits everyone at our school - thank you all for your support!

Thank you Sponsors!

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Thank you Volunteers!

Without the support of our extraordinary parent volunteers, this event would not be possible. Thank you for your hard work and dedication - because of all of you it was a great day on the golf course!!!

Mike Schmidt & Cam Blandy (Golf Chairs)

Stu Hunter

Barry Spence

Jerry Basran

Stephanie Schmidt

Rod and Kelly French

Jacquie Lougheed

Grant and Dawn O'Kane

Shakeel Bhatti

Ritu Mohan

Hector Otamendi

Lori Dams

Pilar Osing

Katie Bishop

James Porpaczy

Alan McInnes

Doug Palm

Renee Lepp

Lisa Boudot

Kristy MacKinnon

Kiran Mangat

Drew Stephens

2014 Golf Tournament Photos are Online!

The Golf Tournament photos of the day and the pub evening and awards are now online and available for download or print purchase. Just click on the link below and use the password: **southridgegolf**

<http://southridge.zenfolio.com/p444688439>

Enjoy!

Alan McInnes
Manager
Web and AV Services

Last Day of Cafeteria Service: Friday, June 13th

The last day of food service in the cafeteria will this Friday, June 13th. Next week, students will still go to the cafeteria during their lunch break but they must bring a lunch from home as no food will be available to purchase.

BOOK RETURN 2014

By Tuesday May 27th

Return all library books to the library



Before Exam Day

Return textbooks in person to the library

Return textbooks in person to the class teacher



On Exam Day

Return textbooks in person in the Great Hall

From 7:45 am for morning exams

From 11:30 am for afternoon exams



After Exam Day

Return textbooks in person to the library to ensure the books are removed from the correct account

Students will be charged for any textbooks and library books that have not been returned by Tuesday June 24th.

After this date, orders for new textbooks will be placed.

First Annual Competition Produces Stellar Performances

In May, 13 VSO School students took the stage of Pyatt Hall to compete for the chance to appear as a soloist with the VSO next year. The panel of five distinguished judges were astounded at the level of musical accomplishment of all the participants in the competition and though the decision was difficult, three finalists were chosen to compete in a final round: **Albert Seo**, cello, a student of Cristian Markos; **Lucy Wang**, violin, a student of Carla Birston; and **Ben Su**, piano, a student of Bernard Deurkson. Violinist Lucy Wang was declared the winner and will be the featured soloist with the VSO at the Orpheum Theatre on June 13 and 15, 2015. All three finalists will receive a solo recital in Pyatt Hall and private coaching sessions with Maestro Bramwell Tovey. Lucy and Ben will both be attending college next year, both on full scholarships, at the Colburn School in Los Angeles and the University of Toronto, respectively. With 2 more years of high school left, Albert will continue to delight us with performances here in Vancouver. Bravos to ALL of the students who competed for this year's prize, and we look forward to seeing them again in the 2nd annual *Future of Excellence* Competition next year!