

Southridge Wednesday

13-14

A Weekly Publication of Southridge School

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No. 37

Head of School

The End is Upon Us

As we enter the final few days of the school year, I would like to encourage all of our parents to support Southridge by attending our year-end Closing and Commencement Ceremonies. Your support at these special assemblies helps us celebrate the conclusion of the school year. Our Senior School commencement exercises are scheduled for Friday at 4:00 p.m. and our Junior School closing celebration is scheduled a little earlier in the day, at 9:00 a.m. Both events will take place in the Senior School gymnasium. We would love to see our parents and grandparents there. Please come out to help bring our 19th year of operation to a joyful conclusion.

The wind down to the school year typically surfaces the old adage “another year older, another year wiser.” Although I am uncertain where the saying originated, it has great application in an education setting. Back in the late 1500’s, French philosopher Michel de Montaigne wrote an essay *On Educating Children*. In it he presents many thoughtful perspectives which are still highly relevant today, not the least of which is balancing “book learning” and character development.

Beyond the direct and obvious correlation between de Montaigne’s essay and Southridge’s emphasis on a well-balanced approach to learning (academics and character) is the underlying theme of developing judgment. According to the highly regarded 20th century educational philosopher John Dewey, a person with good judgment “is the one who can grasp the scene or situation before him, ignoring what is irrelevant, or what for the time being is unimportant, who can seize upon the factors which demand attention, and grade them according to their respective claims.”

Having good judgment and exercising it in a discriminating and prudent manner is an excellent descriptor of wisdom. “Another year older, another year wiser” resonates so well within an education context because a critical part of education is to become . . . well . . . better and wiser.

The development of judgment as it relates to academic ability and moral character is a big focus at Southridge. To be sure, making a difference in the world assumes both sides of our students’ beings are equally nurtured. The wind down to the school year is a wonderful opportunity to take stock of how we have *all* become a bit wiser over the course of the year.

Website Developments Over the Summer

Over the course of the last several months we have been planning and beginning the migration of our current website to a new platform. While it has been a lot of work to make this move, we feel the benefits for our current and prospective parents will far outweigh the time and effort involved.

The new site will be responsive, which means that it will resize itself according to the device you are using. So, the site will be easily read on your iPhone without having to enlarge your viewing screen. At the same time, we will be moving from Schoology to LMS (Learning Management System), which is the learning management system module of our new platform.

LMS is very similar to Schoology with one big difference - it uses a completely integrated calendar. Having an integrated calendar means that the school calendar, the academic calendar and the team and club calendars will be centrally located so that you can view your child’s individual school commitments all in one place. You will receive more information about LMS in August before school begins. Have a wonderful summer!

Mr. Drew Stephens
Head of School

Important Dates			
Event	Date	Time	Location
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
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
Fall Term Commences	Thursday, September 4 th		

Human Resources Update

Junior School

Ms. Kathleen (Casey) Wilson will be joining Southridge on a one year temporary part-time basis as an Art teacher for the 2014-15 school year. Ms. Wilson is well versed with the independent school environment as she is an alumna of York House and has spent the past year participating in the teacher intern program as an art specialist teaching both the primary and middle years programs. Ms. Wilson holds a Bachelor of Education degree from UBC and a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Queens University with a major in painting. As a practicing artist, Ms. Wilson is trained in the Reggio Emilia philosophy, has a broad range of art and teaching experience and is looking forward to contributing to Southridge.

Ms. Sian Weatherly will be covering the temporary Grade 3 teaching position for the 2014-15 school year. Ms. Weatherley is in the process of completing her Bachelor of Education in the International Baccalaureate Cohort at UBC, specializing in the Primary Years Program (PYP). Ms. Weatherley also holds a Bachelor of Science in Physical Geography. Ms. Weatherly is currently participating in her practicum at an IB PYP world school and has had the opportunity to collaborate, prepare and teach during several units of inquiry. Ms. Weatherly is an enthusiastic and passionate aspiring teacher who is delighted to have the opportunity to join our Southridge community.

Senior School

Glen Pope will be taking on the role of a Drama/English Teacher at Southridge as of September 1st, 2014. Mr. Pope began his career in Alberta as a Drama and Social Studies teacher and holds a Master of Arts Degree from Western Washington University. Mr. Pope came to us from Mulgrave School where he has spent the past eight years working in the drama department and has filled the roles of Theater Teacher, Head of Performing Arts and Performing Arts Coordinator. Prior to Mulgrave, Mr. Pope taught at the Langley Fine Arts School where he was responsible for all the technical needs of the theatre and lighting design for all productions. He has directed and produced many productions such as Trojan Women and Much Ado About Nothing. Mr. Pope's drama experience will blend nicely with his additional role as an English teacher.

Mr. Colin Morris will be joining Southridge as a Physics teacher this September. He holds a honors Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Education from the University of Ontario, Institute of Technology and has spent the past year working as a math teacher at Lakefield College. Prior to this, he worked as a Physics and Math teacher at the Cambridge International Academy. Mr. Morris is inspired by inquiry based learning and differential instruction and takes every opportunity to incorporate new uses of technology into his classroom and prides himself on being able to create a learning environment supporting success for all students. Mr. Morris will be relocating to B.C. this summer and is looking forward to connecting with the Southridge community.

Mr. Darren Jones, an alumnus - class of 2001, will be returning to Southridge as a Social Studies Teacher. Mr. Jones holds a Bachelor of Arts - Political Science Degree from the University of Calgary, a Bachelor of Education from the University of Windsor and a Master of Arts, Educational Leadership from Columbia University. He has spent the past five years working at York House focusing on elementary education. Mr. Jones has a passion for technology and considers himself to

be an early adapter of all things technological. He has infused technology into his classroom and has created student-directed class websites that include blogs and a podcasts. Mr. Jones makes co-curricular activities a priority and is currently participating in the National Coaching Certification Program.

Ms. Erin-Marie Higgins will be joining the Science Department on a permanent part-time basis as a Science teacher. Ms. Higgins has a Bachelor of Human Kinetics with a concentration in Biology, a Bachelor of Education from Trinity Western University with specialities in Science/Biology and Physical Education. In addition, she holds a Masters in Kinesiology from UBC. Ms. Higgins taught abroad for two years at an international school teaching Physical Education and Biology and has been a teacher-on-call at various independent schools throughout the lower mainland, including Southridge, prior to moving to Mulgrave where she taught Physical Education and Science for the balance of the 2014 school year. Ms. Higgins considers herself an exercise science educator and is thrilled to have the opportunity to help students further understand the physical and chemical world around them, as well as the human body.

Mrs. Darcie Sagert
Manager, Human Resources

Junior School News

Make the Most of your Summer!

I wanted to take a moment to wish all students, parents, and teachers a wonderful summer holiday. I find the summer such a valuable time for learning in alternative settings through summer camps, travel, or outdoor experiences. It is also a really great opportunity to spend time together as a family, relaxing and recharging for the upcoming school year. We have a tradition in my family where we spend most of the summer in cottage country in Ontario. It gives my own children a chance to build on their relationships with their grandparents and I feel very lucky to have that influence in their lives. I am sure that all of you are also looking forward to some summer traditions, whether they are long-standing or newly-initiated. My hope is that what you learn through these traditions or alternative learning experiences rejuvenates and inspires you to come back in September with a renewed commitment to life-long learning. Have a wonderful summer!

Ms. Alison Graham
Interim Head of Junior School

Best Wishes and Congratulations!

Congratulations to Dr. Kevin Bespflug and his partner Ryan who will be getting married on June 28th! Dr. Bespflug appreciates the support that he and Ryan have received from the Southridge community at this exciting time in their lives.

Overview of Last Days Activities

Thursday, June 19th

We start the day with the MYP Certificate Ceremony from 8:10-9:00 a.m. in the Junior School 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 prepare for 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, June 20th

We ask that students arrive no earlier than 8:30 a.m. They will meet in their homerooms to gather as a class 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 the completion of their first PYP year, and the completion of their 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 10:30 a.m. If you are unable to attend the closing ceremonies, please make arrangements to have your child picked up at that time.

PYP and MYP Report Cards

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

Forms, Forms, Forms

Recently a package was sent from our offices with all the forms 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.

Locks Of Love - Making a Difference!

Wouldn't it feel great to make a positive difference in someone's life...well here is how you can! It's simple and everyone can do it!!

For my service project I wanted to do something to give back to the community. After hearing about our very own Serena Bonneville I knew I had to do something to help. In assembly I mentioned I have been growing my hair for the past year and I am going to donate it to help cancer patients who have lost their own hair. I chose to do this project because it helps children become more confident and not afraid to go out in public.

I have decided to wait until September to cut my hair as during this month we also have the Terry Fox Run and Cops for Cancer so I thought it would be a great connection. I would like to invite any of you to join me in donating your hair too. You have the whole summer to grow your hair!! Some important things to consider are that your hair has to be at least 10 inches long in order to participate. Hair must be in a ponytail or braid before it is cut. Layered hair is acceptable if the longest layer is 10 inches. Layered hair may be divided into multiple ponytails. Curly hair may be pulled straight to measure the minimum 10 inches. For those of you who have your hair coloured or curled, that is OK to donate. The program that I am supporting is called Locks Of Love. [Click Here](#) to check out the website.

Please feel free to email me at rhayre@mail.com if you have any questions and/or would like to participate. Thank you and let's make a difference together!!

Rhea Hayre, Grade 5

Remembrance Day Writing Competition Winners

Each year our MYP Junior School students take part in the Royal Canadian Legion Remembrance Day Writing Competition. It is my pleasure to share with you the final results of this competition and to congratulate the following winners:

Grade 5:

Suhaana Bhatha placed 1st in the Junior Essay category at the White Rock branch level

Charlotte Luking placed 1st in the Junior Poem category at the local White Rock branch level and 1st place at the Peace Arch zone level.

Grade 6:

Serina St James placed 1st in the Junior Essay category at the White Rock branch level and 2nd place overall at the provincial level

Grade 7:

Gabi Yuan placed 1st in the Intermediate Essay category at the White Rock branch level

Malcolm Beaton placed 1st place in the Intermediate Poem category at the White Rock branch level, 1st place at the Peace Arch zone level, and 2nd place overall for the province

Ms. Susan McNeil
MYP Division Leader

Senior School News

Making a Difference - A Personal/Community Journey

Making a difference is something that is at the core of what Southridge is all about. As our mission statement says as a concluding statement: "In summary, someone who makes a difference in the world." Throughout the year, there are so

many hopeful moments at the school when I see this in action; students initiating a service opportunity that they see is necessary; watching an athlete on the pitch, whether winning or losing, showing incredible character to show empathy and respect to their competitor; a small smile or support to a fellow student or teacher to brighten their day. Each of these examples, and many others, represents how our students are learning that their actions can have a positive effect on others and the community.

As an educator, I always want to try and model the behavior and attitude that I hope our students can emulate. This year, for a second year in a row, I committed to participate in the Ride to Conquer Cancer. This is a two day, 240 km bike ride from Cloverdale Fairgrounds to Seattle that is designed to put a spotlight on supporting the fight against cancer by supporting research, new treatments and support mechanisms in treatment. Each rider needs to raise a minimum of \$2,500.00 in order to participate. I trained hard and tried to prepare for this challenging opportunity. On a personal basis, I have a number of loved ones whom have been affected by cancer and it for these people I am taking action.

This year, my involvement in the ride took on an even more meaningful aspect for a few reasons. I decided to become a member of the “Friends of Southridge” team, which is made up of faculty, parents and friends of Southridge School. The second reason came in October when our Head Girl, Serena Bonneville, was diagnosed with leukemia. Now, a commitment I had made from a personal standpoint, had just taken on greater meaning because I was able to connect it professionally. In fact, the ride has helped to show me just how special this community of Southridge can be.

Last Friday, at a Junior School Assembly (many parents participating have children in the Junior School), we wanted to share about the upcoming ride and also honour Serena by presenting her with a team jersey. We explained that as a team we all had personal reasons to ride, but her diagnosis led the team to dedicate our ride to her. All of the money raised by our team would be donated to blood-type cancers and we also took on the title of her blog that she had used to share her journey through cancer and its treatment, “Breeding Optimism”. The assembly had a wonderful feel of community and I felt very proud to be a part of the team and the school. We had many fundraising events over the last five months, and along with each of us raising money individually, in total the team raised \$78,000.00!

The weekend brought with it the grueling distance and not ideal conditions of rain and cold; however, there were also many inspiring stories of people riding to make a difference, not only on our team but with the thousands of other riders committed to raising money, awareness and complete this challenging event. It felt very satisfying to complete the ride and to do it for those that are currently fighting their own battles with cancer, the loved ones I have lost to cancer and hopefully to help lessen the number of future people who will be affected.

As I mentioned to begin my article, there have been many students and faculty that have grabbed hold of an opportunity to make a difference in many ways this year and I celebrate each of these large and small! As this is the last Wednesday before the end of the school year, I want to say thank you to the faculty, students, and parents for all of their commitment in making this year a great success on so many levels. I certainly hope you will join us to celebrate with our end of year ceremonies. I look forward to seeing you all there and wish you a safe and happy summer!

See you in September.

Mr. Doug Palm
Head of Senior School

Laptop Returns in the Senior School

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

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

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

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

Ms. Heather Mosher
Education Technology Coordinator

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

Kiwanis Music and Drama Awards Ceremony

This past Friday I had the pleasure of attending the 2014 Kiwanis Music & Drama Awards Ceremony at Kwantlen University with drama student, Georgina Adams. Georgina was the recipient of the Best Dramatic Monologue Medallion in the under 16 category.

Georgina and I had a wonderful evening watching talented students perform and receive awards. It was also exciting for us to see many Southridge students being recognized as recipients of prestigious music awards. Nicole Moretto was awarded the Broadway Medallion, Kyu Young Park received the David Gordon Holmwood Memorial Award for piano, Albert Seo received the Provincial Delegate Award for cello, and Dr. Bespflug, Mr. Burrage, and Mr. Mitchell's Grade 7 Band received the award for most Promising Elementary School Concert Band.

We also had the pleasure of listening to Southridge alumnus, Peter Seung's exquisite playing of Debussy's Rhapsody for clarinet. I am continuously in awe of the talents of Southridge students which extend far beyond the school and into the greater community.

Congratulations to all of the drama and music students who participated in the competition.

Ms. Jennifer Kelly
Drama Teacher

News for Both Schools

Summer Hours

The school will be open throughout the summer from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Facilities & Administration

Library News

We would like to send a heartfelt thank you to all the Junior and Senior Library Volunteers who have dedicated so much time to helping out with the libraries this year. We appreciate everything that you do, from manning the circulation desk to helping students. Thank you and have a great summer!

Inventory is complete and we are now signing out books for the summer, which are due back Friday, September 5th. Reading daily to maintain skills and for pleasure is highly recommended.

Please consider borrowing from your local public library and participating in the Public Libraries Summer Reading Program. <http://kidssrc.bclibrary.ca/>

Billing for lost materials will be done in the summer. Have a great summer of reading!

Ms. Joyce Chong and Ms. Maggie Yee
Teacher-Librarian

Your Optimism Carried Me To The Finish Line - Thank You!

This past weekend, I and 23 members of the Friends of Southridge Cycling Team participated in *The Ride to Conquer Cancer*. Like I said in my last reflection, I knew it would not be easy. What an understatement! It was probably a ride in the park for some of my team members, but for some of the other members, I included, it was a gruelling two days. It rained, it was cold, it was windy; every weather imaginable except sunshine. Perhaps I exaggerate; there wasn't any snow.

Some team members were completing the ride for the fourth time, others for the first time, it was my third but this was the first year I carried a cancer patient's tenacious spirit and optimism with me. That was what carried me up the hills. The hills were many and steep, and it was pouring down, but all I could think about was that as soon as I have reached the top of the hill, my struggle would be over. I was cold, I was wet, I couldn't feel my fingers, and even my eyes were cold if you can imagine that. Some of the team members had similar experiences.

The ride was 240 kilometres, and on the second day especially, I had many hours to reflect, as I was often riding in the company of strangers but never alone. Pain and struggle can certainly unite people. I realised that many of the true heroes of the ride were the people who really struggled up the hills or who even walked up the hills because in those moments, it allowed us even for a few seconds, to experience a tiny little piece of what a cancer patient is going through during their treatments.

My thoughts were often with Serena, and I tried to visualise the pain, the sickness, the chemo, and the emotions she has gone through. I still cannot imagine it, but I know that I am so proud of what we were able to do as a team.

When I crossed the finish line I experienced many emotions; a great sense of accomplishment, sadness for the young man, Xavier Pelletier who never completed the ride last year, and great hope for Serena – Breeding Optimism - this ride was for you.

We, the Friends of Southridge Cycling Team wish you well and are so proud that we were able to do this for you.

Anne Boyle
Friends of Southridge Cycling Team 2014

Thank You From the Knihniski Family

I want to thank everyone for their support, love and encouragement towards my family. Over the past 7 years the school and the entire Southridge Community have been so wonderful to me and my family through everything. Even from the first days of our ordeal, the support from all of you has been overwhelming and extremely appreciated. My son has endured so many appointments and over a dozen surgeries and countless extended stays at BC Children's Hospital in the past 7 years. This summer is no exception, with two surgery dates planned, the first being on July 3rd. At this time they will create a new stoma site for his GJ-Tube in order for him to feed. From this opening in his stomach, he will have an adapter that will allow him to feed directly into his small intestine. As he cannot take in any food or liquids orally through his mouth, this is the only way to keep him alive.

Once again, I want to thank all of you for helping us through these difficult times. The school and the community have been incredible and truly have shown compassion and the power of what a real community is all about. Your support especially through the fundraiser has given a new lease on life for my family and I am eternally grateful to all of those who supported my family. You will never truly know what that has meant to us. Over the past 15 years that I have worked at Southridge, I always knew that this was a special place to be; but the last few years have solidified not only why this is such a special place to be, but also how very fortunate I have been to work with such great students, parents and colleagues. Thank you for everything. Most Sincerely,

Mr. James Knihniski
History and Social Studies Curriculum Leader

Save the Date! Welcome Back BBQ on Friday, September 12!

This year we will be holding our annual Welcome Back to Southridge BBQ on Friday, September 12th from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. and the entire Southridge Community is invited! Teachers, staff and all Junior and Senior School families, are

welcome and encouraged to attend. We'll have food, music and an opportunity to meet, mingle, and rekindle friendships with your teacher(s), classmates and fellow parents.

There will also be a 'volunteer fair' in the Great Halls, a family photo booth, and an indoor movie for the kiddies in the gym!

Azeem Moledina, a new Kindie parent, is chairing the event this year and will be looking for volunteers soon. Be sure to sign up if you're asked! Stay tuned for more information - but put the date and time in your calendar today!

Christiane Hodson
Director of Advancement

Thank You to All! Advancement Year in Review

At this time, I would like to thank the Southridge Community for their generous support over the year. Our three major events, two fundraising campaigns, and the many other events and initiatives within Advancement were all great successes!

As many of you know, *The ONE Gala* was a great success, raising approximately \$185,000.00. The theme was a tribute to our service pillar and the importance of supporting our greater community. In the spirit of service and giving back, \$10,000.00 of the funds we raised that night was split equally between our sister communities in Kenya and Ecuador. The Senior School students who were fortunate enough to go on a service trip over Spring Break, elected to support clean water projects in both countries as well as support alternative income projects in Kenya. The remainder of the money we raised at the gala is put towards purchasing capital items, which this year included class sets of tablets, iPads and Kindles and two Harkness tables for the Senior School.

The Country Fair was also a great success! The crowds came out in spite of the rain and were greeted by hundreds of smiling Southridge volunteers. Expenses are still being tallied, but we'll net over \$48,000.00. What many of our families don't realize is that half of the money we raise from the Country Fair is earmarked for endowment funds that will one day support bursaries for students who would otherwise be unable to attend Southridge. The other 50% of the money we raise is used for capital items at the school.

The golf tournament, our third major event of the year, was held only a few short weeks ago. Numbers are still too preliminary to report, but we did have 98 golfers and thirty or so additional guests join us for this always fun community building event. Next year, we'll be looking at whether or not this is an event that our community can sustain, given that it is a very busy time of year for everyone.

Our Legacy Giving Campaign was also a great success. Once again, the vast majority of our new families made multi-year pledges totaling more than \$615,000.00. My personal thanks to all our canvassers and our very gracious new families who welcomed their visits! Thank you!

Through the EveryONE Annual Campaign, we raised over \$157,000.00, which is an increase of more than \$30,000.00 from 2012-13! This allowed us to purchase all the items on our wish list, including the volleyball shooting machine in the Junior School and the Black Magic camera for our Senior School Media Arts program, as well as invest an additional \$77,000.00 in our endowment funds. Thank you to all our families who so generously gave to this campaign!

No reporting related to our fundraising events and campaigns would be complete without acknowledgement and appreciation directed to our Southridge community volunteers. It is you who make our school the special community it is. A special thank you to the volunteer committee, who work tirelessly behind the scenes to make sure that hundreds of volunteers are in place for the year!

Thank you all and have a wonderful summer! See you in the Fall!

Mrs. Christiane Hodson
Director of Advancement