

# Southridge Wednesday

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## Head of School Welcome Back

I hope everyone enjoyed some time away from school to rest-up and rejuvenate. We are all very happy to have our students back with us and we are excited about the next ten weeks of our winter term. It always amazes me how much activity we are able to shoehorn into a ten-week period of time. Sometimes it is difficult to keep up with the pace - especially during the month of February. As I do every year at this time, I ask that you do your best to encourage good sleeping and eating habits at home. Proper nutrition, adequate sleep, and plenty of exercise are three critical ingredients for optimal learning.

## Reminder - Campus Master Plan Open House

As published in the Southridge Wednesday just before the break in December, this is a follow-up reminder that Southridge will be hosting a series of campus master plan open houses during the week of January 19th, and I am hoping that you will have the time to attend one of them.

Since May 2014, our Campus Master Plan Committee has focussed on working with our architects, the faculty and our staff to understand our campus's capacities, our educational program's curriculum scope and particular activities that have grown to exceed original allowances or expectations. In addition, our committee has considered future program options and offerings, provided for emerging learning models and student engagement initiatives, and investigated enhanced school life opportunities. The output of this exploration and analysis is now ready to be shared with our entire community.

To that end, our school has scheduled four open houses for next week to assist the committee in assimilating our internal community's perspectives into the school's planning efforts. All current parents of Southridge as well as our alumni and our alumni parents are invited to join our committee and architects at one of the sessions listed below. Each session is anticipated to last between 2 and 3 hours, but your attendance for the duration of the blocked period of time is not necessary. Simply drop in at any time and stay for as long as you would like. Even though there will not be a formal talk given at our open houses, there will be plenty of opportunity for participants to see, discuss and give feedback about the progress we have made so far.

Open houses are an important part of our campus master plan development process, and we hope you will be able to visit the school at one of the scheduled times. We have planned three of our open house sessions to align with drop-off and pick-up; however, for those people unable to make it to the school at any of those times, we have also reserved an early evening opportunity to accommodate busy schedules.

- Tuesday, January 20th                      2:30 to 5:00 p.m.                      Alan Brown Great Hall
- Wednesday, January 21st                      5:00 to 8:30 p.m.                      Alan Brown Great Hall
- Thursday, January 22nd                      7:45 to 9:00 a.m.                      Junior School Great Hall
- Thursday, January 22nd                      2:30 to 4:30 p.m.                      Junior School Great Hall

We hope you will be able to join us at one of our open house events. Have a wonderful week!

Mr. Drew Stephens  
Head of School

Important Dates			
Event	Date	Time	Location
Grade 7 Parent Information Session	Thursday, Jan 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 2015	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Alan Brown Great Hall
Pro-D Day	Friday, Feb 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2015,	All Day	Both Schools
BC Family Day	Monday, Feb 9 <sup>th</sup> , 2105	All Day	Both Schools

Important Dates			
Event	Date	Time	Location
Half-term Holiday	Tuesday, Feb 10 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	All Day	Both Schools
Junior School Student-led Conferences	Thursday, Feb 19 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	Noon Dismissal	Junior School
Kindergarten Parents - No school	Friday, Feb 13 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	All Day	Kindergarten only

## Human Resources Update

Happy New Year everyone. Ms. Chelsea Bailey will be joining Southridge on Monday, January 12th as the school's part-time Archivist and will be on-site on Mondays. Ms. Bailey is a recent graduate from UBC and holds a Masters of Archival Studies and Master of Library Information Studies as well as Bachelor of Arts Degree. While pursuing her Masters Degrees, Ms. Bailey participated in a number of volunteer placements at archives and libraries throughout the Lower mainland and is currently working for the City of Surrey, Archives as a Reference Assistant. Ms. Bailey has a passion for preserving local history and is looking forward to contributing to the continued growth and development of the archives department.

Mrs. Darcie Sagert  
Manager, Human Resources

## Junior School News The Joy of Reading

*A book is like a garden carried in the pocket.  
~ Chinese Proverb ~*

One of the many benefits of the extended Christmas break is getting an opportunity to read. Over the course of the term, I do read for pleasure, but having longer extended periods to read is a real treat. We are a faculty who love to read as evidenced by the fact that our Southridge teachers have two book clubs: one is a professional educational book club where we read current journals and books on teaching and learning; the other is a literary, where we read current best sellers or whatever we decide would be of interest to our group. As a result of being in these book clubs, I have read a wide diversity of books - some genres that I may have never chosen on my own. Candidly, I will confess that some books were dark, bland, edgy, confusing, frustrating, or predictable while others quickly seized me and were absolute page-turners. However, after reading each book, I grew as a person. I was exposed to settings, characters, ideologies, beliefs and experiences that I may never have encountered in my life.

Part of the fun in reading is also the social experience of sharing these events that we would rarely encounter in our life. Sometimes as I read something shocking or unusual, I would wonder about Madame Boyle's response to this, or Dr. Bessflug's, or Ms. Winterburn's. When I read something sad, I would always wonder about how reading this affects others that have experienced something similar. When I read a bizarre twist, I know that Madame Kapetanovic is probably finding this turn of events as delicious as I am finding it to be. Overall, the discussions of all the books turn into gatherings that are filled with hilarity, raw emotion, insight and growth. I often underestimate the social aspect of reading, and the growth to me personally as I need to defend and share my perspective on characters and events as well as literary style. It forces me to be open-minded, accepting the viewpoints and opinions of others, given their life experiences and beliefs. And it reminds me that this is exactly what we do in our literary programs at Southridge - our reading program can be social, it does involve varied genre, the material can be challenging and perhaps something that the reader may not readily choose on their own, it demands open-mindedness and debate, but overall it deepens and strengthens the reader. We are a school of readers who love to learn - this is shown by our students in Kindergarten all the way to Grade 12, but more so by our faculty who live the love of reading in their spare time.

Have a great week.

Mrs. Laurel Middelaer  
Assistant Head/Head of Junior School

## Grade 7 Parent Information Session - Thursday, January 22nd, 2015

Next Thursday, January 22nd, there is a Grade 7 parent night in the Alan Brown Great Hall from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. This is a great opportunity to meet some of the senior school team, receive information about life in the senior school, and to hear how we prepare the students for this important transition. See you there!

## **FSA Test Dates**

This is a reminder to parents for the upcoming important dates for our FSA (Foundations Skills Assessment) testing. Grade 4 students will write during the month of February; Mrs. Raber and Mr. Harder will send home a complete schedule to parents. Due to the CAIS basketball tournament, Grade 7 students have their testing scheduled shortly before and during the following few weeks of February. Our Grade 7 teachers will send home the schedule shortly. If you have any comments or concerns, please contact me directly at the Junior School office.

## **Pro-D Day, BC Family Day and Half Term Holiday**

As a faculty, we greatly value time together for professional collaboration and growth. On Friday, February 6th, 2015 we will have a professional development day so there will be no school for the students. February 6th is a collaborative Pro-D day with all the ISABC (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, so please enjoy this extended weekend with your family.

## **Student Led Conferences: Thursday, February 19th, 2015 (noon dismissal)**

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 19th, 2015 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 also be aware that there will be a 12:00 noon dismissal on that day to accommodate the conferences.

## **Kindergarten Parents - No school on February 13th, 2015**

Just a reminder to our kindergarten parents that there will be no school for their children on Friday, February 13th, 2015 due to entrance testing for prospective kindergarten students. Thank you for making alternate arrangements for your children on that day.

## **Girls Basketball**

The Grade 6 girls' basketball team is off to a great start this season. They have played five games already with a record of 3 wins, 1 tie and 1 loss (by 1 point!). They play with speed and tenacity, and I am so impressed with how well they work together on the court. Wish them luck in their upcoming games at Collingwood.

Ms. Alison Graham  
Grade 6 Girls' Basketball Coach

## **Casual Day Jump Rope for Heart on January 30th**

This week we are launching the Heart and Stroke Foundation's annual Jump Rope for Heart campaign. As so many of our community members have been touched by family members or friends with heart and stroke conditions, this event is widely appealing. The money earned supports research projects, medical intervention for existing patients, and preventative educational initiatives. Another benefit to this fundraiser is that Southridge School receives a percentage of all funds raised, which we later donate to our local Surrey school connection, W.E. Kinvig. Its staff uses this fund to buy additional sports equipment for its students.

To begin with, we will have Carolyn Dones from the Surrey Heart and Stroke Foundation speak to the students at our assembly tomorrow, January 15th. Please come if you are able to. Then your child should receive a pledge envelope via the homeroom teachers; please feel free to use one envelope per family. Donations are due by Friday, January 30th, which is our first casual day of 2015. Donations are in lieu of the \$2.00 contribution expected each casual day.

Please send your child to school on January 30th in pink and/or red to enjoy a day of jump rope activities during their regularly scheduled PE and DPA times. Many thanks to Ms. Fretter and Ms. Ferra for their organization and implementation of such a fun and purposeful event.

Thank you very kindly for your attention and donations toward two worthy causes.

Mrs. Jo-Ann Murchie

## **Senior School News**

### **Re-Set ...**

*"Isn't it nice to think that tomorrow is a new day with no mistakes in it yet?"*

— L.M. Montgomery

## **Welcome Back!**

I certainly hope that the holidays brought time for connecting with your family and friends as well as time to re-charge from the very full, engaging and, at times, draining term 1! As I mentioned in my Wednesday article just prior to the holidays, it is important to take time to do something a little different when given the opportunity away from the routine of school. I also used the analogy that you cannot use a battery and effectively re-charge it at the same time. Even though I know that the first few days back always present a bit of a challenge to align oneself to the routines and demands of a school day (and getting up a bit earlier!), I hope that the break provided energy to be prepared.

The break also provides another mindset opportunity that the quote at the top refers to - that of a “fresh start”. I put this in quotations because classes do not begin anew for this term as they are cumulative in nature; however, I do think the time away provides an ability to reflect on goals that were set at the beginning of the year.

For a first year student, I am certain that your first day back in January felt a great deal differently than in September. Likely, you felt much more “ready” in that you knew the layout of the school, where your classes are located as well as your locker and advisory room. You also have familiar faces to find and connect with upon your arrival. This is a great sign that you are feeling a part of the community! You always were, from your first day, but you, yourself probably feel much more this way now.

A break away from school can help to allow us to reset our minds and habits in order to improve. Perhaps this is a commitment to ensure that we check LMS in order to be prepared for assignments and evaluations; to arrive on time and begin the day without a scrambled approach; find a service opportunity at which to volunteer; or simply to get enough sleep each night to be rested and ready for the day ahead. The report card that each student received in the penultimate week can also help to advise ways that they can start strongly. One point that I clearly remember from my first year of teaching is my Headmaster reminding me that this term always seems to fly by, and to ensure we make the most of it each day.

For me, I like to write down my goals and the details of how I wish to accomplish them. This allows me to re-read them mid-year to see if I need to re-align myself or adjust a goal given the past months efforts and work. I also know that sharing these goals provides incentive and support from others to complete them. If any goals directly connect to a subject area or teacher, then it would be wonderful to share a goal with them to gain their support and encouragement. As I have mentioned in previous posts, remaining positive and keeping a growth mindset is vital to any success as well. As the above quote says, tomorrow is a new opportunity to try.

I hope the first week back helps to provide a spark towards reaching your goals. Have a great week!

Mr. Doug Palm  
Head of Senior School

## **National Crystal Growing Competition**

Congratulations Lenno Liu for winning the National Crystal Growing Competition! All Grade 11 chemistry students used their creativity and critical thinking skills while designing experimental procedures to grow a large single crystal of copper (II) sulphate. Please visit the senior school lobby to see the strikingly beautiful crystals the students grew. Lenno’s crystal won first place in BC in the quality division. It was sent to Quebec to compete in the nationals. Well done Lenno!

Ms. McCaw, Ms. Berkeley, Mr. DiPietro  
Science Department

## **Grad Photo Sessions**

On Friday, January 30th and Saturday, January 31st Artona Studios has reserved time for Southridge to have grad photos taken. Please visit the Artona [website](#) to book your grad photo session and to review some helpful tips for preparing for your portrait session.

If you are not able to make either of these reserved dates or have questions not covered on the website, please call Artona studios directly at 604-872-7272. Artona Studios is located at 353 West 7th Avenue, Vancouver, BC, V5Y 1M2.

Ms. Lisa Byrom  
Assistant to Head of Senior School

## 12 Angry Jurors Tickets On Sale Now

Imagine your life is in the hands of 12 fellow citizens whose final decision will decide your fate... Will they take the time to weigh all the facts or will they quickly decide your fate and carry on with their lives? Twelve men and women make up the jury, in this capital punishment murder trial, and they have the final say: What will they decide?

Southridge Senior School Drama Department presents *12 Angry Jurors* (based on the well-known movie *12 Angry Men* with Henry Fonda). We are performing the play By Sherman L. Sergel, adapted from the movie by Reginald Rose.

This year the set-up will be unique as the stage will be in the middle of the Alan Brown Great Hall with audience on both sides. So, just as the jury sits around the table on stage, so too does the audience sit around the jury.

Performances will be from February 19th to the 21st, 2015. Show times in the Alan Brown Great Hall are as follows:

- Thursday, February 19th at 7:00 p.m.
- Friday, February 20th at 7:00 p.m.
- Saturday, February 21st at 2:00 and 7:00 p.m.

Tickets: General seating is \$10.00.

This year we have added special front row seats with more comfortable chairs; these are \$20.00 and can be purchased by emailing Lisa Boudot directly at [lboudot@southridge.bc.ca](mailto:lboudot@southridge.bc.ca). There are only 24 of these per show (12 on each side of the stage.)

For more information regarding the production please contact Glen Pope at 604-542-2326 or [gpope@southridge.bc.ca](mailto:gpope@southridge.bc.ca).

Mr. Glen Pope  
Drama Teacher

## What Makes a Production Successful?

Just like any sports team, band, or virtually anything requiring a collaborative group of people, a drama ensemble must utilize each and every member in order to ensure that the production runs as a well-oiled machine. If a singular part is missing, the machine will not perform correctly, or at all. Establishing positions and goals will guarantee that our performances will be a success. We have all taken the initiative of selecting crucial jobs for pre-production to post-production. These roles include technical components such as stage management, lighting and sound, to cosmetic aspects consisting of set, costumes, and props. Lastly, the play is far from a private show, so of course, an important piece of this production puzzle is publicity. Incorporating each member into having their own job, promotes a sense of leadership throughout the ensemble. In turn, this leadership progresses furthermore into punctuality for rehearsals and call times. As well, from my experiences of being a part of the last three major productions, I have noted that cast members and crew take more initiative and responsibility into their academics and extracurricular activities after having to execute their job in the production. A production is like a machine, every part running in unison to produce a flawless performance. No piece being more important than the other.

Spencer Reichert

## Southridge Wellness Wednesday

I am happy to announce and welcome you back again to the Southridge Wellness page! I, the Senior School counselor, Natasha Bains, will be using this space to share some of my thoughts and resources to help us all in our pursuit of balanced living.

On December 15th and 16th Southridge students in Grades 9, 10 and 11 had the opportunity to participate in the SafeTeen workshops. The boys and girls both participated in separate gender separated dynamic and fun interactive workshops. The workshops have different focuses for each gender. The emphasis for the girls concentrated on the fact that teens can experience tremendous pressure and anxiety both online and face-to-face. SafeTeen offered them strategies to navigate these issues as well as critical safety and harm reduction techniques.

The focus for the boys' workshops included topics that delve into many social and emotional survival issues boys are facing in their day to day lives. SafeTeen offered the boys the strategies to navigate these issues, foster healthy critical

thinking and it also used useful empowerment skills and techniques. Assertiveness skills are beneficial to review with your child.

Ms. Natasha Bains  
Senior School Counselor

### Senior Music Department Festival Dates for Term 2

Many of our ensembles will be travelling to festivals or playing other ‘gigs’ over the next few months. So you can plan ahead, here is a list of the groups and the dates and times of their performances. For the local jazz festivals (Kiwanis and Envision), even though students will be attending the festival for the entire day, parents are more than welcome to come to watch our actual performance. Harry Xie (alto sax), Jack Wells (trombone), and Kyu Young Park (piano) are to be commended for being chosen to represent Southridge in the Junior and Senior “Rep” bands at the Envision Jazz Festival.

Event	Location	Group	Date	Time	Contact
Big Storm Classic Senior Girls’ B-ball Tournament	Southridge Senior Gym	Jazz Studies 9	Jan 30 <sup>th</sup> and 31 <sup>st</sup>	Various times	Mr. Burrage
Kiwanis Jazz Festival	Capilano College, North Vancouver	Jazz Studies 9 & 10	Feb 13 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 - 10:55 a.m. 10:00 - 3:35 p.m. Gone all day	Mr. Burrage
Envision Jazz Festival	Bell Centre, Surrey	Grade 9, Cuba & Senior Jazz Bands	Feb 20 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 - 9:15 a.m. Cuba: 12:10 p.m. Senior: 2:35 p.m. Gone all day	Mr. Mitchell
BandFest	University of Victoria	Grade 8 Concert Band	Feb 25 <sup>th</sup> & 26 <sup>th</sup>	2-day trip to Victoria	Ms. Parker
Cuba Send Off Concert & Information Meeting	Alan Brown Great Hall	Cuba Tour Groups	Mar 11 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 p.m.	Mr. Burrage
Cuba Tour	Cuba!	Cuba Tour Groups	Mar 20 <sup>th</sup> to 28 <sup>th</sup>	8 glorious days of music and sunshine!	Mr. Burrage

If you have any concerns about not being able to attend any of the above dates, please contact the appropriate teacher. Ms. Parker at [jparker@southridge.bc.ca](mailto:jparker@southridge.bc.ca), Mr. Mitchell at [cmitchell@southridge.bc.ca](mailto:cmitchell@southridge.bc.ca) and Mr. Burrage at [sburrage@southridge.bc.ca](mailto:sburrage@southridge.bc.ca).

Senior Music Team

### News for Both Schools

#### Cookbook Sales Update

Thank you for supporting the Southridge 20th Anniversary Cookbook. So far we have earned a profit of \$2,700.00 towards our new 3D printer! The remaining books will be for sale at the Bake Table at the Country Fair in May.

In the meantime, if you would like to order a book, you can do so by clicking [here](#). If you have any questions, please send them to us at [cookbook@southridge.bc.ca](mailto:cookbook@southridge.bc.ca). Happy cooking everyone.

Ms. Jackie Christofferson and Ms. Gemma Martini  
Cookbook Coordinators and Avid Epicures