

# Southridge Wednesday

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14-15

A Weekly Publication of Southridge School

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## Head of School

### The Big Picture

In October I was at a conference with other Heads of School from across the country. At the opening reception there was a community art project underway, and all of the conference participants were encouraged to participate. The location of our gathering was Muskoka, Ontario, and, quite fittingly, the project was a replication of Tom Thomson's *The Canoe*.

The artist charged with orchestrating our group's effort had photographed a copy of the original painting and had then cut-up the photograph into small sections. Each project participant was given one of the small sections to replicate on a large canvas that was laid flat on a table. When the spirit moved each of us, all of the Heads were welcomed to the special area of the reception hall to add their contribution to the big picture.

The canvas was large enough to accommodate three people at a time arranged along the bottom edge or top of the canvas. When the artist presented me with my slice of the challenge, I was nervous and excited at the same time. I didn't want to let my peers down (the nervous part), but I was also looking forward to seeing how my brain and hand would work together to accomplish this new challenge (the excited part).

I was given a ten second explanation of how to mix the right colours to create the blue-grey tone my section required and I was off - literally. I was immediately and completely absorbed in the project. It was like the rest of the room was shut off and I was in my own bubble. I was entirely engrossed and found the experience to be surprisingly invigorating. It was like taking a deep breath and feeling my lungs fill with fresh oxygen. It may sound strange but my whole body felt lighter as I finished-up my artistic endeavour.

I woke up the next day feeling quite good about myself, but was flabbergasted when I saw the finished project in the lobby of the hotel on my way to breakfast. Despite the best efforts of everyone to recreate the big picture accurately, my contribution stood out like a sore thumb for I had painted it upside down. Whoops! Sorry about that colleagues.

Now, there is a lot to criticize in what I had done. To be sure, I took a good deal of ribbing for my blunder; not the least of which was the obvious commentary about how a Head of School, who is supposed to see the big picture, demonstrated nothing more than myopic and rudimentary tunnel vision. Embarrassingly, not only was this lack of visioning showcased in front of all my peers, but it was captured in the painting for all of us to remember for years to come. Great!

As with all experiences, however, there is much to be learned from successes and mistakes. As I reflected on what had happened, I went from searching for excuses, to thinking about what I would do differently next time, to identifying the take-aways that I could apply to other areas of my life. Six weeks after my parochial exploits, the shell of excuses and what I would do differently have fallen away, and I am left with a wonderful gem of thought that I can carry with me for a long time to come - my big picture.

My big picture is that I learned how engaging in a creative process is liberating (and visceral). My big picture is that I learned how the product of a creative effort is not nearly as meaningful as the experience itself. My big picture is that I learned how important a creative outlet is in the pursuit of a full life. Even though mistakes are sometimes hard to deal with, they sure do present excellent learning opportunities. Have a wonderful week!

Mr. Drew Stephens  
Head of School

<b>Important Dates</b>			
<b>Event</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Location</b>
Prospective Parent Night	Thursday, December 4 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 - 8:30 p.m.	Junior Great Hall
Senior School Concert: An Evening in December	Tuesday, December 9 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday, December 10 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 p.m.	Alan Brown Great Hall
Junior School Christmas Concert	Tuesday, December 16 <sup>th</sup>	1:30 - 3:00 p.m.	Junior Great Hall
	Wednesday, December 17 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 - 8:00 p.m.	Junior Great Hall
Casual Day	Friday, December 19 <sup>th</sup>	All Day	Both Schools
Early Dismissal	Friday, December 19 <sup>th</sup>	12:00 p.m.	Both Schools
Classes Resume - Late Start	Monday, January 12 <sup>th</sup>	10:25 a.m.	Both Schools

## **Board of Governors**

### **Annual General Meeting Results**

The South Surrey Independent School Society Annual General Meeting was held at 7:00 p.m. in the Alan Brown Great Hall in the Senior School at Southridge School, 2656 160<sup>th</sup> Street, Surrey, B.C. on Wednesday, November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

Three persons, Ms. Preet Brar, Ms. Rachael Lawson and Ms. Dorothy Podmore were elected for three-year terms to the Southridge School Board of Governors.

Dr. Wayne Peace  
Chair of Governance Committee

## **Junior School News**

### **The Generosity of our Community**

This time of year our hallways are filled to overflowing with the hampers for those less fortunate. This is a tangible opportunity for our students to make a difference in the lives of others, and it is exciting to see these students haul in bags of dish soap, paper towels and other necessary items. Our hope is that our students are actively involved in this process. I know as parents, it is much easier for us to pick up these items when grocery shopping, but it excludes the opportunity for our students to make the connection of how much things cost and the extra effort it takes to help others.

Another interesting fact about these hampers is that this is a school-wide initiative. In our Senior School, each advisory group (homeroom) is assigned a family and they actively make boxes of essential items and presents as well. This shows that our values in both schools are shared and lived, knowing that contribution is at the heart of what we inherit and pass on. From Kindergarten to Grade 12, all our students make a difference in the lives of others at this time of year. Our goal is that helping others becomes instinctual - it is just what we do at our school, and what our students do as they move forward to become the leaders we know that they will be.

Have a great week.

Mrs. Laurel Middelaer  
Assistant Head/Head of Junior School

### **Parking Update**

As the area around Southridge continues to develop, we have noticed an increased volume of traffic on 160<sup>th</sup> Street in both north and south directions. Even as we try to move traffic through our parking lot during dismissal, there is still a strain with cars exiting back onto 160<sup>th</sup> Street.

With this in mind, we are encouraging our parents to look at dismissal time in terms of a 'window' - between 3:00 p.m. and 3:20 p.m. Presently, most are trying to collect their children precisely at 3:00 p.m. and then head out to other activities, making the peak time of traffic exiting onto 160<sup>th</sup> 3:05- 3:10 p.m. If those families that have some flexibility in their schedule could stagger their pick up time, we would be happy to have the children in the Great Hall until they are collected.

On Fridays, when we have swim practice scheduled at 3:45 p.m., it would be helpful for the swimming parents to be able to collect their swimmers and siblings as close to 3:00 p.m. as possible, with the remainder of parents giving them this small

window. As a school, we are closely monitoring the flow of traffic but by expanding the window of pick up, this may ease congestion onto 160<sup>th</sup> Street ever so slightly.

Thank you for working together to make our parking lot experience more positive for everyone. Mr. Palm, Ms. Graham and I continue to be present for student safety - not as traffic patrol, but to ensure students can safely get to their parents' vehicles. Thank you for adhering to best driving practices when navigating a time of day filled with our most precious people: our students.

### **Upcoming Christmas Concerts**

Being mindful of the upcoming season and busy schedules, we would like to announce the dates of our Christmas concerts: Matinee performance on Tuesday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at 1:30 p.m. and an evening performance on Wednesday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. We hope that our families will be able to attend one of these presentations.

### **Dismissal for Christmas Holidays and Return for Monday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015 - Late Start**

On Friday, December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2014, all students are dismissed at 12:00 p.m. At this time all students will receive their report card. Our Christmas break is three weeks this year. Please ensure your calendar is clearly marked for a return date of Monday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015 (Day 2). Please also note that we have a late start that day and students need to arrive between 10:10 and 10:20 a.m. for a start time of 10:25 a.m. Please do not bring students any earlier as the faculty will be in meetings and unavailable to supervise.

### **Happening Hampers**

Thank you everyone for your generous cash donations last Casual Day in support of the many mentally-challenged single Options clients. A total of \$1,500.00 will go toward personalized gifts for each of the clients through their case workers. We look forward to presenting the Program Manager with a cheque on Thursday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at our assembly.

The family hampers are growing daily as are the overwhelmingly generous personal gifts for the family members of all ages and genders. Your willingness to help others is admirable, as is the children's enthusiasm and genuine care and concern for people in their community. The staff of Options is delighted and most appreciative of the support our school community provides to many people. They look forward to meeting with some of our students and to delivering the hampers. Their clients' reactions are amazing.

Please remember to send in your individualized requests so that we can include a very thorough grocery hamper. Any additional gifts should be labeled with the names of the recipients; please check with your child's teacher about the wrapping of gifts, as some may want them wrapped and others may want the students to wrap the gifts. As well, any gift cards should go to the homeroom teacher for safekeeping until the time of delivery. Collection will continue until Friday, December 12<sup>th</sup>.

The hampers will then be picked up at the school by the case workers during the shortened week of December 15<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup>. Your efforts will truly make many families' holidays very special. Thank you.

Ms. Jo-Ann Murchie  
Grade 2 and 4 Teacher

## **Senior School News**

### **Parking Lot Reminder - Senior School**

In my daily "parking duty" I wanted to bring a few points to light to help us continue to make our pick-up time be as efficient as possible while ensuring that the safety of the students remain paramount.

- While it may be necessary to pick up your child right at 3:00 p.m. in order to get to other commitments, we encourage you to consider waiting an extra 10 - 15 minutes to stagger the number of cars arriving right at 3:00 p.m.
- Please follow the pick-up guidelines below. The efficiency to our plan lessens greatly when drivers decide to change the procedure by stopping in a "through" lane or leaving their car unattended in any of the laneways.
- While we have continued to mitigate issues that might contribute to a less efficient pick-up process, there will no doubt be times when something occurs that will cause problems. We ask you to be patient and remain civil in your response. Please feel free to speak with me during my duty or afterwards via phone or email.

As stated above, safety will always be a constant priority and focus at Southridge and we want to ensure this focus continues in our parking areas. Below, please find the detailed steps to follow in order to pick up a student at the Senior School:

1. If you are picking up or dropping off a Senior School student, enter the school from the gate where the traffic light is located.
2. Travel along the roadway around the turf field and towards the Senior School building. Here there are two lanes. One is a “through” lane and the other lane closest to the fields is “wait” lane. If you plan on waiting, please remain in this lane and move along as cars are able to find spots in the “wait” areas in front of the Senior School.
3. The inside lane is a “through” lane and should only be used if you plan to drive by the school and keep going or if your child is ready to “jump” into the car right away. You may loop around the commons area if you wish to remain in this lane, but please do not stop and wait in this lane.
4. Once you have turned the corner towards the Senior School, the roadway splits into three lanes. The centre lane remains the “through” lane. The two outside lanes allow you to wait for your child. If there are no openings, please wait patiently in the “wait” lane by the field.
5. Note: at 3:00 p.m. we have over 600 students being picked up at both schools.
6. Drive cautiously and with a heightened sense that students are walking onto the road to get into cars. Please help ensure we keep these important people safe.
7. Finally, when it is raining, pick up becomes less efficient and there seems to be less patience amongst our drivers. This is a worrying combination as students run to cars to avoid getting wet. With visibility impaired, please be extra cautious and take your time.

Mr. Doug Palm  
Head of Senior School

### **Reporting Student Marks to Post Secondary Institutions**

Grade 12 can be an anxious time for both students and their parents. Ms. Livingston, Mr. Weaver and I have been talking to our Grade 12 students to advise them of the best procedure for ensuring that their marks are reported in an accurate and timely manner. The criteria and deadlines for applying to different institutions and programs have become much more varied and complex, as institutions vie for the very best students, and we need to help our students advocate for themselves in an appropriate manner. To this end I have clarified what is, and is not, appropriate in discussing marks with their teachers. Students should not approach teachers directly for additional marks, or ask for extra assignments to generate better marks. They can, and should, ask for help in developing their skills and understanding, attend additional tutorials, work with a peer tutor - all of which may lead to the desired improvement in performance.

I have advised students that if they need to advocate for an increased mark - they are just shy of an average for a competitive program or a major scholarship for example - then the correct pathway would be to go directly to Mr. Weaver or Ms. Livingston. Similarly we would ask that parents follow the same procedure and approach the University Counsellors with any specific requests. Together Mr. Weaver, Ms. Livingston and I would discuss the legitimacy of the request and approach the teachers concerned. Please be assured that, though we must maintain our integrity as an academic institution, we will always work for the optimum benefit of our students.

Ms. Jan Holt  
Academic Program Director

### **Safeteen Presentation**

Safeteen is coming to Southridge to present workshops to our Grades 9, 10 and 11 students on Monday, December 15<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, December 16<sup>th</sup>. The workshops will be as follows:

Grade 9:  
Monday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 - 11:40 a.m.  
Senior School library (girls)  
Junior School library(boys)

Grade 10:

Tuesday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 8:15 - 11:40 a.m.  
Senior School library (girls)  
Junior School library (boys)

Grade 11:  
Tuesday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 - 3:00 p.m.  
Senior School library (girls)  
Junior School library (boys)

Staff are welcome to sit in the workshops for the students but if you are teaching a class at that time, it is not necessary to come and sit in. Please keep in mind that only female staff can be in the Senior School library and only male staff can be in the Junior School library. Thank you.

Ms. Natasha Bains  
Senior School Counsellor

### **Senior School Christmas Concert: An Evening in December**

Tuesday, December 9<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

The annual Senior School concert, *An Evening in December*, is rapidly approaching. Familiar holiday tunes can be heard resounding through the school and the ensembles are really beginning to make music out of the notes on the page. The concerts will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday and Wednesday, December 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> in the Alan Brown Great Hall. Join us for an evening of live music, featuring our concert and jazz bands, choir and selected soloists. In addition, the visual arts, media arts and drama departments are making presentations during the show. There is no charge for the concert.

All of the students involved in the music program are expected to attend the concerts on both evenings. Please reschedule lessons and practices as needed. If you suspect an unavoidable conflict, please email me at [jparker@southridge.bc.ca](mailto:jparker@southridge.bc.ca) as soon as possible so that we can try to work out a solution. Each musician plays an important role in the concerts, and we can only give our best performance if every student is in attendance. See you in December!

#### **Please note:**

**Technical Rehearsal** for all jazz studies classes, choir and solo performers is **Friday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2014 from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.**

The Music Department

### **Grade 8 Students and The Christmas Concert**

If your child is involved in the Grade 8 Concert Band only, he will be finished his part in the concert by 7:45 p.m. Please arrange for pickup in front of the Junior School at that time. As we hope all of the parents will join us on one (or both) of the evenings, on the evening you are in attendance, you may pick your child up in the Junior School Great Hall after the concert. See you at the show!

The Music Department

### **Southridge Art: Celebrate-A-Life Campaign**

As the Holiday Season draws near, we are reminded of the values that characterize this special time: compassion, hope, peace, and celebration. Every December, the [White Rock/South Surrey Hospice Society](#) recognizes the impact they have on the bereaved through their "Celebrate-A-Life" campaign. Visitors to Semiahmoo Mall are encouraged to stop by the Celebrate-A-Life Tree, write the name of a lost loved one on a paper dove, hang it on the tree and make an optional donation to the Hospice Society. With a contribution of just \$20.00 or more, you will receive a beautiful, hand painted dove ornament of your choice, decorated by local artists... and Southridge students!

Art students in Grades 11 and 12 have been working diligently over the past two months on these little wooden baubles. Using professional-grade acrylic paint and high-quality finishes to complement their artistic skill, they depicted miniature patterns and scenes inspired by themes of remembrance, festivity, and hope. Whether flat or 3-D, painting the doves was a highly involved process: in addition to coming up with a design, students faced the challenge of successfully rendering it on such a small "canvas". Speaking as the Art Steward, seeing the breathtaking results of their dedication to this project makes me so proud of Southridge's Visual Arts department! While the doves have already been sent to the fundraising team, ready

to bring joy into a new home, photos of the finished products will be on display at the Senior School's annual "Evening in December" concert.

If you would like to pay tribute to a loved one and receive a beautiful wooden ornament painted by a Southridge Student, please visit the Celebrate-A-Life stand at Semiahmoo Mall. Doves painted by South Surrey and White Rock artists will be sold throughout the month, while Southridge doves will be on display Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup> - they can be yours with a minimum cash donation of \$20.00.

Aleksandra Golos  
Senior Art Steward

### **Thank You for an Amazing Night!**

The grad committee is thrilled that our Fashion Show and Snowball Dance were so well received from the Southridge community. Thank you to everyone who came out to watch the fashion show and support the grad committee. Thank you to all of the students for being so responsible and respectful during the fashion show and dance.

I would like to say a special thank you to Jacquie Lougheed, Marcela Gavril and Carla Maskall for assisting with the planning and set up for the evening. Thank you to the grad committee members, Tevin Gil, Balreet Dhatt, Jason Coil, Jeanne Balloffet, Nav Atwal, Maria Maskall, Kyren Bueckert, Kiran Basi, Davis Lougheed and Katie Punia. Thank you to Avery Laird (lights), Tevin Gil (Music), Jake Strecker & Sarah Kavanagh (MC's), Hailey Lehnert & Brian Rickard (Photography), Nick Adams, Rohin Buttar, Christa Gavril & Nicole Moretto (Doors & Raffle) as well as Ms. McCaw, Mr. Sterelyukhin, Ms. Szymczak, Mr. Morris, Mr. Dods, Ms. Nolan-Wood, Mr. Weaver, Mr. Palm. Thanks you!

Ms. Heather Mosher  
Grad Committee Coordinator

### **Southridge Students Win Multiple Awards, Including Best Senior Sound Design, at ZoomFest!**

Mulgrave School's ZOOM Film Festival is in its 15<sup>th</sup> year and has one of the highest participation rates of any student film competition in the province of British Columbia. Filmmakers have 48 hours to plan, shoot and produce a finished film. During the tension-packed 48 hours students will conceptualize, write, shoot, edit, post and drop-off their six-minute film to be judged by BC industry professionals. Zoomfest films are a true look into today's youth culture, last year there were over 100 films from more than 40 BC schools.

The Senior team of Southridge students Nik Pinette, Michael Pinteá, and Coltin Porter received a prestigious major award for Best Senior Sound Design at the ZoomFest Awards gala at Mulgrave School on Saturday, November 29<sup>th</sup>. The same team also received a 2<sup>nd</sup> place award for Best Senior Editing. Two other Southridge teams also received awards.

With a limited number of teams nominated for awards out of over 75 entries from around the province, all five teams of Southridge nominees are to be commended. Please see the list of Southridge award-winners and nominees below.

#### **First Place, Sound Design (Senior)**

##### **Second Place, Editing (Senior)**

*Crashed The Party*

Coltin Porter

Michael Pinteá

Nik Pinette

#### **Second Place, Technical Achievement (Junior)**

*Departures*

Millenia Kitikul

Kevin Xia

Jonathan Zhao

Jason Xu

#### **Third Place, Concept (Junior)**

*How We Met*

Savannah Rawlins

**Other Southridge Nominees:***Reliving You (Senior)*

Catherine Mah

Aidan Fehr

*The Recollector (Senior)*

Ishaan Kohli

Rio Breakell

Elijah Hewer

Congratulations to all of this year's ZoomFest participants! To see a highlight reel of Southridge Student work from this year's festival [click here](#).

Mr. Chris Westendorf  
Media Arts Teacher

**Christmas Hamper Projects and Gift Cards**

The grads are happy to be assisting the Christmas Hamper Projects by selling gift cards! Don't forget to order your cards for friends and family and consider ordering some for your child's hampers! Orders are due on Monday, December 1<sup>st</sup> and can be picked up by Friday, December 12<sup>th</sup> so that they can make it into your Hampers on time!

Thank you for all of your support!

Grad Committee

**News for Both Schools****Holiday Helper**

Holiday get-togethers center around food  
You are tired of all that you make for your brood.

You are serving a new vegetarian friend  
You need a new appie for a party this year's end

Never fear, we can help, we know what to do!  
No stress, it is easy, we will help you pull through!

We have a solution you will love to try out  
With over 300 recipes to remove all your doubt

Our Community Cookbook serves up the right answer  
With dips, drinks, desserts - even cookies for Prancer!  
There is salmon and chicken and beef choices too  
And some tasty selections to serve your vegan friend too!

Tonnes of salads and side dishes, cake recipes galore  
Muffins we know you can't get at the store  
You can try ethnic dishes you didn't dare before now  
Because these recipes have been tested and they tell you just how!

We encourage you to purchase a book (maybe two)  
You will surely find something you can serve to your crew.  
Even if you say you don't like to cook  
Click on the [link](#) and order a book!

Thank you for your support.

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

## **Uniform Shop**

From now until we break for the holidays, our Christmas shopping hours are business as usual, except for Wednesday, December 17<sup>th</sup> when we are only open from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Our new Southridge promotional products include phone chargers, Blue tooth speakers, hair accessories and insignia bracelets. Scarves, toques and coffee mugs are always a lovely gift to give or receive.

Uniform Shop

## **You May Need to Update Your Web Browser to Stay Connected**

We just received this notice from Finalsité, the company that provides our website software:

“You may have read about a recent web-based security threat commonly referred to as POODLE. This vulnerability can allow attackers to exploit outdated web browsers that do not use the latest SSL protocols. Although we don’t feel that this currently poses a direct risk to the Finalsité platform, we take the security of our services and your data very seriously. So out of an abundance of caution, we have decided to disable the deprecated SSLv3 protocol that some of these older browsers still utilize. This action is scheduled to take place on **Monday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014 at 11:00 a.m. EST.**”

You may be concerned about what this means for users of older browsers. Once Finalsité disables the SSLv3 protocol, certain browsers such as Internet Explorer 6 running on Windows XP will no longer support HTTPS requests used for secure transactions like logins or payments. The very small percent of users impacted by this (around 0.01% by our metrics) are encouraged to upgrade to the latest available version of their browser. In the specific case of IE6 on Windows XP (both of which are no longer even supported by Microsoft), upgrading to IE8 should resolve the issue. In fact, making sure your browser is updated to the latest version is a recommended best practice for everyone.”

Please check your website browser to ensure that it is the latest version. You will need the latest version of your web browser to ensure that you can continue to log onto the Parents’ Portal.

Mr. Alan McInnes  
Manager, Web and AV Services

## **Thank You for All of the Purdy’s Orders!**

Thank you to all of the families that purchased Purdy’s chocolates this year. The grad committee is thrilled at how well received our fundraiser was. The orders have been placed and you will be able to pick up your orders on Monday, December 15<sup>th</sup> from the Senior School cafeteria at 3:00 p.m. Thank you for supporting the grad committee!!

Grad Committee

## **Chef Tip of the Day**

When chopping herbs, toss a little salt onto the cutting board; it will keep the herbs from flying around.

For an easy weeknight meal, save and freeze leftover sauces from previous meals in ice cube trays. The cubes can be reheated in a sauté pan when you need a quick sauce.

Mr. Mike Leif  
Chef Manager

## **Cafeteria Menu for the Week of December 8<sup>th</sup> - December 12<sup>th</sup>**

Monday - Cheese Perogies with Sautéed Onions and Bacon

Tuesday - Beef & Vegetarian Chili served with Garlic Bread

Wednesday - Penne Pasta with Meat Sauce or Tomato Sauce served with Garlic Bread

Thursday - BBQ Chicken Legs with Coleslaw and Wedge Fries

Friday - Shepard’s Pie served with Caesar Salad

## **Southridge Gets a New Postal Code**

Canada Post has informed us that we have a new postal code, as of Monday, October 20<sup>th</sup>! We are now **V3Z 0C8**.

Community Relations