

# **Weekly Voice**

# Vidigami – For Our Treasured Memories

I'm old enough that we used to say, "if your house caught on fire, after getting your family and pets out, you would grab your photo albums". With digital photography, you might grab your computer and hard-drive now, but for Southridge, we have an even better way to ensure our photos are safe and just as importantly, accessible to all of us.

As parents, you will want to know about Vidigami, the internet based service that we use to gather and share photographs of school events and activities. If you have already been logging onto Vidigami, you will appreciate how you will immediately see collections of your children's photos as they get tagged in pictures from the many events. You will also enjoy how the photos are organized by grade, junior or senior school events, all school events, sports, clubs and other groupings. This makes finding photos very easy.

In this age of the internet and security concerns, you will appreciate that Vidigami is password protected and only available to our parent, student and faculty community. This ensures that only authorized people can view the photos.

Before Vidigami, I would receive a number of emails asking for copies of the many photos I would take at a given event. To respond to each request would have been a full-time job and I felt we were frustrating parents who obviously would have liked copies of their children's photos. With Vidigami, you can download the full resolution copy of any photo. You can also use the Vidigami Store feature to order prints and other photo products of any photo.

Vidigami has also been a huge benefit to the creation of the annual Yearbook. It provides the Yearbook committee of student and faculty volunteers with a way to capture photos for each area of the annual book.

A very powerful and useful feature is called, "Sets". These are virtual collections that you can create for yourself of any number of photos. You could create a Set for each of your children of the best photos throughout each year and the download them to your own computer. You could also use the Set feature to create a collection for a photo book for each child. These collections could be a school trip, being on an athletics team, being in a play, or some other school event.

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As they say, "there is an app for that" and yes, there is a Vidigami app for both Apple and Android phones which allows you to browse the entire Vidigami collection on your phone. You can even take photos on your phone at a school event and then upload them to Vidigami from your phone.

If you do any amount of photography for your family, you will appreciate the incredible value that Vidigami has added to the Southridge community for gathering and sharing our many memories through photography. You may also want to become a regular contributor of your photos to Vidigami that you take at school events. I certainly know that many of you have great cameras and photography skills that would be welcomed by other parents who can't be at every event or who don't have good camera skills.

If you haven't already taken advantage of this amazing service you can still log on and begin to enjoy this world of great memories. Please feel free to email me to request a log on connection.

Alan McInnes Manager Web and AV Services amcinnes@southridge.bc.ca



# **Important Dates**

Event	Date	Time	Location
Grade 7 Parent Evening about Senior School	Thursday, January 18	7:00 - 8:15 pm	Alderdice Library (Senior School)
Admissions Related Non-Instructional Day for K-2 Students	Friday, January 19	All Day	Junior School
Grade 6 and 7 Dance	Friday, January 19	7:00 pm	Junior School Gym
Junior School Assembly	Wednesday, January 24	8:10 am	Junior School Great Hall
KFACE Classic Basketball Tournament	January 25 – 27		Senior School Gym
Admissions Related Non-Instructional Day for Kindergarten Students	Friday, January 26	All Day	Junior School
Artona Grad Portraits and Group Photos	Friday, January 26 and Saturday, January 27		Artona Studios
Junior School Assembly	Wednesday, January 31	8:10 am	Junior School Great Hall
Jump Rope for Heart	Friday, February 2	All Day	Junior School Gym
Junior School Assembly	Wednesday, February 7	8:10 am	Junior School Great Hall
BC Family Day Holiday	Monday, February 12	All Day	Both Schools

# **Junior School News**

# Student-Led Learning Conferences: Thursday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> (noon dismissal)

Throughout the learning process, students actively select work samples and write reflections to include in their PYP or MYP Portfolios. These pieces reflect many different subject areas, skills and attributes as they relate to the elements of the IB PYP and MYP programs and demonstrate their own personal reflections and growth as a learner. On Thursday, February 22, 2018 students will have the opportunity host their own student-led learning conference. This is an important opportunity for students to showcase and communicate their growth with their parents. Please be aware that there will be a **12:00 noon dismissal** on that day to accommodate the conferences. Please save the date and plan to be present to support your child.

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# Professional Development Day, Family Day Holiday and Half-Term Holiday, Friday, February 9<sup>th</sup> – Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>

Friday, February 9 is a Professional Development Day – school will not be in session for students. School will be closed for the Family Day Holiday on Monday, February 12 and for the Half-Term Holiday on Tuesday, February 13. Classes will resume with a late start on Wednesday, February 14 at 10:25 a.m. *Please do not drop off students any earlier than 10:10 a.m. as all faculty and staff are in meetings and no supervision is provided.* 

# Mark Your Calendar: Admissions Related Non-Instructional Days in January 2018

In order to assess and get to know prospective students applying to the school for the 2018-19 school year, the following dates will be non-instructional dates for the specific grades indicated:

- Friday, January 19, 2018 No School for <u>K-2</u> students (Gr. 1-3 Admissions Assessment Day). School is in session for Grade 3-7 students.
- Friday, January 26, 2018 No school for <u>Kindergarten</u> students (Kindergarten Admissions Assessment Day). School is in session for Gr. 1-7 students.

Thank you in advance for making alternative arrangements for your child on the affected dates.

# After School Clubs Program to Open for Registration

After School Clubs program will open registration for our Junior School Families on Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 am for full time care. For those interested in part time care (2 or 3 days a week), registration will open Monday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>. The term will run from February 1<sup>st</sup> to March 16<sup>t</sup>, 2018. An email with a link will be sent to all Junior School families, please click the link in the email for information and registration. For families, who would like to register more than one child in the program, please register each child separately by repeating the same process.

# You're Invited: Grade 7 Parent Evening

#### Attention all parents of Grade 7 students!

**Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup>** from **7:00 - 8:15 pm** is our *Grade 7 Parent Information Night*. Because we held a similar session during Open House in November, do not feel obligated to attend next week, though you are more than welcome to come and hear more detailed

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information about the transition to the Senior School, course selection information, cocurricular opportunities, and of course, you will have an opportunity to have all your questions answered. This event will be held in the **Alderdice Library** on the second floor of the Senior School and is for parents only.

Brad Smith Head of Senior School

## **Jump Rope for Heart February 2nd**

Thank you very much for your participation in our Heart and Stroke Foundation fundraiser. Your pledges are of great support to research projects and medical intervention for existing patients, and to aid preventative educational initiatives. Please remember to return the pledge envelopes to the homeroom teachers by Friday, February 2nd. If you did not receive an envelope via your child please email me at <u>imurchie@southridge.bc.ca</u> or drop by my office. I have extras.

We all look forward to the jump rope activities and mindfulness about those special family members and friends who have been touched by heart and stroke challenges. As such, the homeroom teachers will also create or send home paper hearts the week of the event to personalize in honour of your affected loved ones. On Friday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, students should come dressed in comfortable clothing in the colours of pink or red as a silent symbol of support. As that Friday is a Casual Day your donations are in lieu of the usual donation. Thank you very much for your thoughtful involvement.

Jo-Ann Murchie PYP Coordinator

## **Dance at Junior School**

On Friday, January 19<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 - 9:00 pm the Grade Seven House Captains are hosting a dance for Grades six and seven students in the Junior School gymnasium. Music will be provided by our in-house DJ's. The admission fee is \$5; students can also purchase snacks and drinks from the concession. All proceeds go to the Grade 7 Legacy Fund: supporting local, national, and international service causes.

Ms. McNeil MYP Division Leader

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# **Senior School News**

# **University Counselling & Career Education Update**

#### What are you doing this summer?

The new year is underway and even though we are in the midst of our winter days, **it's time to promote the high school summer programs at universities in Canada, U.S. and across the globe**. Students in Grade 10, 11 & 12 who are interested in university preparation should review the notice board in the University Counselling area and take note of upcoming deadlines for applications.

#### Sample programs:

- 1. Oxbridge For over 30 years, Oxbridge has been offering outstanding summer programs for high school students in Europe and America. Faculty are drawn from some of the world's leading universities including Oxford, Cambridge, Yale, Harvard and Columbia. <u>www.oxbridgeprograms.com</u>
- 2. University of Toronto, Future Student Summer Enrichment Programs for Law, Engineering, Medicine. <u>http://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/futurestudents/academics/hsprograms/other</u>
- King's College, London Pre-University Taster. Check out the selection of subjects & courses. <u>https://www.kcl.ac.uk/study/summer/summer-schools/pre-university/pre-university-index.aspx</u>
- Columbia University Summer Immersion in New York Program, a selection of courses for high school students. <u>https://sps.columbia.edu/highschool/summerimmersion/new-york-city-3-week</u>

This is a small sampling and I encourage families to check out universities of interest to see if they offer high school summer programming as this can be a wonderful opportunity to explore the campus, meet professors and find out more about academic programs and university life in preparation for post-secondary applications.

Yvette Livingston Director of University Counselling

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# BC Ministry of Education: Numeracy Assessment, Student Self-Reflection & Reporting

In an earlier article, I wrote about the changes to curriculum and assessment that the BC Ministry of Education is undertaking in order to lay the foundation for a learning environment that emphasizes the need for 'deep' understanding and 'big' ideas over rote learning and memorization. As part of this revised curriculum and new graduation program beginning in 2018, there is the imminent introduction of a numeracy skills test and of a literacy skills based test with a proposed introduction date of 2020.

#### Numeracy Skills Test: All grade 11 Students on June 22, 2018: 8:30-11:30am

This test must now be taken as part of the graduation program and for students currently in grade 11 they will be the first cohort to sit the numeracy skills examination in June of this year. As the literacy test is not yet fully developed, grade 12 students will continue to write the English 12 English Provincial examination for the foreseeable future.



#### The Core Competencies

The BC Ministry have also introduced core competencies as key components of the redesigned curriculum and students are required to report and reflect on their own growth and development in the following areas of competency: communication, creative thinking, critical thinking, personal and cultural identity, personal awareness and responsibility, and social responsibility. https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/competencies

#### Self Reflection & Reporting to Parents

At Southridge we are asking our students initially to reflect on their learning specifically in the area of communication: the skills they have developed, the improvements they have made, and the areas to focus on for their future growth. **On Friday January 19**<sup>th</sup> in their advisory period, students will review their online reflection sheets with their advisors and students will then email a link to these digital

files to their parents. Please take the time to talk over your son or daughter's thoughts, comments and aspirations and continue to be valued partners in the educational process. **On February 8<sup>th</sup>, when we hold our Student-Led conferences,** there will be another opportunity to see their continued growth, as we will ask students to include a reflection on their critical and creative thinking skills at this time. I would like to thank Ms. Heather



Mosher for her help in setting up these digital files, which we hope will support the students as they build up a repository of their competency development, together with links to examples of performance, which will enable them to show a continuum of development over their high-school years.

Ms. Jan Holt (Senior School Academic Program Director)

## **Time to Book Graduation Portraits**

Artona has reserved January 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> for Southridge Grad Portrait Sessions. For information about how to prepare for your grad portrait session, <u>click here</u>. Students have the option to take photos in casual/formal clothing of their choice; however, all Southridge students will have a cap and gown photo that is used for the yearbook and the portrait composites that hang in the hallways. All students must wear their Southridge white, button-down shirt and formal school tie (no school trips ties or personal ties) for the cap and gown photos.

Please visit <u>https://artona.com/schools/SRIS/programs/graduation</u> to book your personalized 60-minute professional Studio session at Artona Photo Group. If these dates do not work for you, please contact Artona directly to book a time that works for you.

Artona Studio 353 West 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue Vancouver, BC V5Y 1M2

Phone: 604-872-7272 Email: csr@artona.com

# **Both Schools**

## Strategic Plan Circulation on Thursday, January 18th!

Tomorrow we will be circulating the school's recently-completed Strategic Plan. Accompanied by a letter from our Board Chair, the plans will be distributed to the youngest child from each family – through Homeroom in the Junior School and Advisory in the Senior School. Please be sure to ask your child for this important and exciting package of materials! If your plan doesn't make it home for any reason, please contact Erin Labbé, Director of Communications & Marketing to request another copy: <u>elabbe@southridge.bc.ca</u>.

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## Ken O'Connor Event

Thank you to all parents who were able to join us for the special presentation by assessment and grading expert, Ken O'Connor on Thursday, January 11<sup>th</sup>. We truly appreciate you taking the time to be a part of our ongoing dialogue about changing practices in assessment and grading at Southridge. Ken also enjoyed spending the day engaging K-12 faculty members in professional learning.

# **Country Fair ALERT!**

Have you ever wanted to get more involved with planning the Country Fair? Here's your chance!

This year we are looking to fill several *"shadow"* positions, which are for interested volunteers to learn the ropes in order to take over the role in 2019.

#### 1. Country Fair CO-CHAIRS (Shadows):

We are looking for two people to shadow our current Co-Chairs in overseeing the production of the entire Fair. The Country Fair Chairs are responsible for:

- Coordinating and overseeing the function of the fair departments, working with the Advancement Department, and ensuring the overall success of the Fair.
- Scheduling & chairing committee meetings.
- Reviewing past financials, establishing a budget, and monitoring budget controls.
- Maintaining communication with Department Heads, and drafting Wednesday submissions.
- Debriefing with each department, and drafting a post-event summary.

#### 2. Recycled Toys—DEPT HEADS (Shadows)

Two people are also needed to shadow the Department Heads in Recycled Toys in order to take over in 2019. The Recycled Toys Department Head is responsible for:

- Organizing and managing the recycled toys area during the 7 days of collection week and Fair Day.
- Attending committee meetings as needed.
- Determining volunteer requirements and ensuring volunteers follow policy and procedures.
- Liaising with fellow department heads to determine logistical, equipment, supply, signage and space needs for assigned area.

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- Organizing and working with volunteers on Fair Day to set up, run, and tear down area as directed. Of note, hours of operation are earlier and longer than regular Fair hours, and include setting up on Friday.
- The Department Heads must also supervise volunteers with cash.

#### Ready to jump right in? Department Heads are needed *immediately* for:

#### Traffic & Parking—DEPT HEAD

The Traffic and Parking Department Head is responsible for:

- Organizing and managing the Country Fair's traffic flow, parking lots and shuttle services on Fair Day.
- Attending committee meetings as needed.
- Determining volunteer requirements and ensuring volunteers follow policy and procedures.
- Liaising with fellow department heads to determine logistical, equipment, supply, signage and space needs for assigned area.
- Organizing and working with volunteers on Fair Day to set up, run, and tear down area as directed. Of note, hours of operation are earlier and longer than regular Fair hours, and include setting up on Friday.

Please contact <u>volunteer@southridge.bc.ca</u> if you are interested in filling one of these essential positions!

# Save The Dates!

If you haven't already marked your calendars, below are the dates for our three major fundraising events in 2018. Whether you participate as a donor, sponsor, guest or volunteer, please plan on joining us at these important community building activities:

Country Fair – Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup> Golf Tournament – Friday, June 8<sup>th</sup> (Hazelmere Golf Club) Gala – Saturday, November 17<sup>th</sup>

The Country Fair volunteer portal will be available by March 1<sup>st</sup> and everyone is encouraged to sign-up for at least one pre-event shift and one Fair-day shift. Volunteering is a great way to connect with other parents and your invaluable support and time is what makes the event so successful!

Also, please remember that tickets for the Golf Tournament and the Gala are limited and sell-out early, so be sure to watch for future event updates in *The Wednesday*.

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If you have any questions about these events, please don't hesitate to contact Shelley Slaughter at 604-542-2334 or <u>sslaughter@southridge.bc.ca</u>

Thank you!

Shelley Slaughter Advancement Officer

# Join the Southridge School Sun Run Team!

Now that the holidays are over and the new year is here, it's the perfect time to get running – especially with the Sun Run just around the corner. This year's event will take place on Sunday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> at 9:00 am. We had a large Southridge contingent last year, and we are hoping for an even bigger team this year! All ages are welcome to take part in this fun and fit community event. Whether your goal is to run the full 10 K race or the 2.5 K Mini Sun Run, we would love to have you join us on the Southridge team.

Beat the rush and sign up by February 15<sup>th</sup> to enjoy an 'early bird' discount– making the cost only \$22 per student and \$35 per adult! To register, go to <u>https://register.vancouversunrun.com/#!/events/2018-vancouver-sun-run</u> and click on "Join an existing team." Our team name is "Southridge School" and the password to join the team is "southridge". The online registration seems to be very user-friendly this year, but please email us if you have any questions.

#### Happy running!

Dr. Bespflug (kbespflug@southridge.bc.ca) and Ms. Fera (dfera@southridge.bc.ca)

## Human Resources News – Director of Information Technology

On behalf of Drew, the hiring committee is pleased to announce that Sanja LeBlanc will be joining Southridge on February 5 as the Director of Information Technology. Sanja earned her Bachelor of Science in Computer Science from UBC and brings to this new position more than 15 years of experience managing complex information systems infrastructures in an educational environment. She started her IT career with the University of British Columbia and is currently in the leadership position of Manager, Systems.

Sanja has a diverse technical skill set, including a background in web development and programming, project management, network security, and systems infrastructure. She is service oriented, values collaboration and enjoys the combination of strategy and vision.

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Sanja is looking forward to joining the Southridge IT department and becoming a part of our school community. She is excited about the future of information technology at Southridge and supporting the school's strategic direction while also meeting our present and future business and educational IT needs.

Darcie Sagert Manager, Human Resources

# Lockdown/Lockout Terminology Update

We would like to inform our community that on the advice of regional experts we have changed our terminology from "external/internal lockdown" to "lockdown/lockout." The purpose of these procedures is to keep students, staff and visitors safe when a threat is present on campus or in the local area. In the event that there is an immediate threat to the school, such as a hostile intruder on campus, students will follow "lockdown" procedures where they will move to and remain locked in secure areas until the "all clear" has been communicated by two Southridge administrators, or a uniformed police officer.

In the event that there is a threat in the local area that does not immediately involve the school property, the school may decide to follow "**lockout**" procedures in which all outside doors will be locked and remain locked. Students, faculty and visitors will be permitted to move about inside the building; however, no one will be permitted to leave or enter the buildings until it is deemed safe to do so. Should the need arise for the school to initiate lockdown/lockout procedures (or any other emergency procedure), the school will communicate instructions and information with parents via text message and email.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to direct them toward me.

Sincerely

Norman Dods Risk Manager

# Southridge Cafè

Here are a few things that hopefully will help you and help us keep everyone happy and with full tummies.

• We welcome feedback of any kind. Please do not hesitate to email us with any concerns or requests. <u>southridge@canuelcaterers.ca</u>

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- The kitchen is always happy to help accommodate anyone with diet concerns or allergies.
- Breakfast is ready each morning at 7:30 am. Every morning, we also bake fresh muffins, cookies, scones and cinnamon buns.

Please review the attached menus for January.

Canuel Caterers

### **Uniform Shop News**

The Uniform Shop will be closed for inventory check on January 31<sup>st</sup> (Wednesday) and February 1<sup>st</sup> (Thursday). We will resume our regular hours on February 5<sup>th</sup> (Monday). Thank you for your understanding.

Our opening hours are:

Monday – Thursday 7:45 - 9:00 am and 2:00 - 4:00 pm Friday: closed

Phala Tan Business Services Manager

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	Mon-15	Tues-16	Wed-17	Thur-18	Fri-19
Breakfast	Smoothie Day	Bacon Egger	Smoothie Day	Lemon Poppy seed Muffin	Smoothie Day
Chef's Entree	Stuffed Chicken	Salad Bar	Burrito Bar	Salad Bar	Fish sticks & Rice pilaf
Pasta Bowl	Ravioli	Spaghetti	Mac and Cheese	Alfredo	Primavera
Grill Central	Fish Burger	Chicken Noodle Bowl	BBQ Ribber	Personal Pizza	Spicy Chk Burger
Weekly Panini	BBQ Chipotle	BBQ Chipolte	BBQ Chipolte	BBQ Chipolte	BBQ Chipolte
Great Greens	Chic Pea Salad	Salad Bar	Chicken Caesar	Salad Bar	Chef Salad

We always offer our regular menu in addition to our daily specials



	Mon-22	Tues-23	Wed-24	Thur-25	Fri-26
Breakfast	Smoothie Day	Breakfast Burrito	Smoothie Day	Blueberry Muffin	Smoothie Day
Chef's Entree	Perogies and Sausage	Salad Bar	Lemon Grass Chicken	Salad Bar	Fish Sticks & Rice Pilaf
Pasta Bowl	Tortellini	Bow Ties	Mac and Cheese	Rose'	Primavera
Grill Central	Smokie	Red Thai Curry	Pot Pie	Personal Pizza	Poutine
Weekly Panini	Chicken Pizza	Chicken Pizza	Chicken Pizza	Chicken Pizza	Chicken Pizza
Great Greens	Grain Salad	Salad Bar	Caesar Salad	Salad Bar	Tossed Salad

We always offer our regular menu in addition to our daily specials



	Mon-29	Tues-30	Wed-31	Thur-1	Fri-2
Breakfast	Smoothie Day	Blueberry Muffin	Smoothie Day	Bacon Egger	Smoothie Day
Chef's Entree	Chicken & Fries	Salad Bar	Burrito Bar	Salad Bar	Fish Taco
Pasta Bowl	Cannelloni	Spaghetti	Mac and Cheese	Alfredo	Marinara
Grill Central	Fish Burger	Stuffed Chicken	BBQ Ribber	Pizza	Japa Dog
Weekly Panini	Chicken Caesar	Chicken Caesar	Chicken Caesar	Chicken Caesar	Chicken Caesar
Great Greens	Chic Pea Salad	Salad Bar	Chef Salad	Salad Bar	Tossed Salad

We always offer our regular menu in addition to our daily specials

