



SOUTHRIDGE WEDNESDAY

Our Weekly News

JUNE 22, 2016
ISSUE #37

Head of School

Welcome to Summer

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 as we reflect on our students' successes.

Our Senior School Commencement exercises are scheduled for Friday at 7:00 pm and our Junior School Closing Celebration is scheduled a little earlier in the day, at 9:00 am. Both events will take place in the Senior School gymnasium. We would love to have our parents, grandparents and friends here with us to help bring our school year to a joyful conclusion.

As we bring the year to an end, we like to think that we are all “another year older, another year wiser” . . . well, another year wiser at least. Although I am uncertain where the saying originated, it has great application in a school setting. Back in the late 1500's French philosopher Michel de Montaigne wrote an essay called On Educating Children. In it, he writes about ideas that are still highly relevant today, one of which is balancing “book learning” and character development, two ingredients to wisdom.

Beyond the direct connection between the adage and Southridge's emphasis on knowledge and goodness is the theme of judgment. According to 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 an intelligent and sensible way is an excellent descriptor of wisdom. “Another year older, another year wiser” resonates so well at Southridge because the primary focus of a Southridge education is to become a good person – someone who is wise in smarts and character. To be sure, making a difference in the world relies on both parts of our students being equally nurtured.



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Drawing the school year to a close presents a wonderful opportunity for all of us to take stock of how we have each become a bit wiser. So, I hope you will be able to celebrate with us on Friday as we reflect together on our students' successes.

Have a wonderful week!

Drew Stephens
Head of School

Important Dates

Event	Date	Time	Location
MYP Certificates Ceremony	Thursday, June 23	8:15 – 9:00 am	Junior Great Hall
Senior School Awards Ceremony	Thursday, June 23	2:00 – 4:00 pm	Senior Gymnasium
Grade 7 Graduation Dinner and Dance	Thursday, June 23	5:30 – 10:30 pm	Junior Great Hall & Junior Gymnasium
Junior School Closing Ceremonies	Friday, June 24	9:00 – 11:00 am	Senior Gymnasium
Senior School Commencement & Closing Ceremonies	Friday, June 24	7:00 – 9:30 pm	Senior Gymnasium
Grade 12 Grad Tea	Friday, June 24	9:00 pm onwards	Junior Great Hall
Senior School Graduation Dinner / Dance	Saturday, June 25	6:00 – 11:30 pm	Vancouver Convention Centre
Summer at Southridge Day Camps	Monday, July 4 – Friday, July 29	9:00 am – 3:30 pm	Southridge School
Summer Session	Tuesday, July 5 – Friday, August 12	8:00 – 11:00 am	Southridge School
New Parent (Grades 1-12) Coffee Morning	Wednesday, September 7	9:00 – 10:00 am	Junior Great Hall
Fall Term Commences	Thursday, September 8		Southridge School
Kindergarten Parent Coffee Morning	Friday, September 9	8:30 – 11:30 am	Cafeteria
Full School Assembly	Wednesday, September 14	9:40 – 10:30 am	Senior School Gymnasium
Welcome Back Parent Barbeque	Friday, September 16	3:00 – 5:00 pm	Commons



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Junior School News

Head of Junior School

Down Time

Southridge is a busy place and we are all part of a very busy community. So much takes place throughout the school year and it is hard to believe that we are at an end already. My hope is, that with summer upon us, we will all take some time to slow down, take a breath, read a book, play in a park, go camping or do something else spontaneous and unstructured. I believe our children are looking forward to some down time and the summer provides the perfect opportunity for it.

I want to thank all parents and teachers for your dedication to helping make this year successful, and I wish each of you a wonderful, relaxing summer!

Last Two Days of School at a Glance

Thursday, June 23 - Day 3

- PYP take part in classroom clean-ups and are introduced to the program at the public libraries. PYP students wear PE strip on this day.
- 8:10 - 9:10 am - **MYP Certificate Ceremony** for academic honour roll, AR reading certificates, technology and photo team recognition, math contest and Spirit Awards. Parents, please plan to attend.
- 9:10 - 11:00 am - Students with their regularly scheduled teachers.
- 11:00 - 11:45 pm - Soccer game: teachers versus Grade 7s on the turf field.
- 12:00 pm - All MYP students dismissed for class parties - Grade 7s grad prep.
- 5:30 pm - **Grade 7 Graduation Dinner and Dance** - all Grade 7 students will be presented with their graduation certificate and a memorable graduation video.

Friday, June 24

- 8:45 am - late start and **Closing Ceremonies** at 9:00 am in the Senior School gymnasium - This is a very formal closing ceremony with opportunities for photographs and memories. Students must wear full winter uniform and there are special rites of passage for our Kindergartens, Grade 3 and Grade 4 students. Kindergarten students are dismissed right after their part in the program, as it is a longer ceremony. Parents are welcome to join Ms. Reid and Mrs. Ridley-Thomas in the Kindergarten rooms during their transition time in this program.



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- Dismissal for all students after Closing Ceremonies.
- PYP report card sent home. MYP report card to be mailed home on June 30, 2016.

Looking Forward to September

The Locker Dimensions for Students in Grades 4 to 7

If you are planning to purchase a backpack or other school bag for your child, please keep in mind that our locker dimensions are 32 cm (depth) by 21 cm (width). Bags must be able to fit completely into lockers for safety reasons. It is difficult to find a backpack with wheels that fit into the lockers, so please take a measuring tape with you when shopping.

Uniform Reminders

For those parents purchasing black dress shoes over the summer, just a reminder that the shoes must be polishable, and not have logos or designs on them. Thank you for your support in this area.

September Dates

Wednesday, September 7, 2016 - 9:00 am: New student orientation and laptop rollout (see our website for time for each class)

Thursday, September 8, 2016 - First Day of School (Day 1)

Parent Coffee Hours

Although Southridge is a very busy place, we strongly believe in making connections with our parents and teachers. Coffee Hours are a great way to start making these connections at the beginning of the school year. We will be hosting one coffee hour per grade again in the first few months of school. The coffee hour is from 7:45 – 8:45 am in the Junior School Great Hall, and we would love to see as many parents as possible. Please check our school website for these dates, and mark them on your calendar so that you can attend that day.

Outdoor Education

All students in Grades 4 - 7 will be going on exciting adventures during the year. For your planning, here are the dates of the trips:

- Grade 4: YMCA Camp Elphinstone, June 14-16, 2017 (compulsory)
- Grade 5: YMCA Camp Elphinstone, September 26-28, 2016 (compulsory)



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- Grade 6: Camp Qwanoes, Adventure Program, September 27-30, 2016 (compulsory)
- Grade 7: Camp Summit Outdoor Camp, September 27-30, 2016 (compulsory)

For all outdoor education trips, there will be an additional charge to school accounts. All-inclusive costs range from \$250 - \$325 (approximately).

Alison Graham
Interim Head of Junior School

Grade 7 Grad Live Video Broadcast

The **Grade 7 Graduation Ceremonies** on **Thursday, June 23** will be **broadcast live** starting at **6:00 pm**. You can watch the broadcast by going to this [web page](http://www.southeridge.bc.ca/page.cfm?p=3341). You can send this URL to family and friends to watch as well: <http://www.southeridge.bc.ca/page.cfm?p=3341>.

You will need a high speed internet connection and a web browser that supports the Flash plug-in.

Alan McInnes
Manager of Web and AV Services

Lost and Found (Junior School)

As we reach the end of the year and the kids are getting tired, the weather is getting warmer, and our schedules are getting busier, the lost and found volunteers are finding an increasing amount of items being left behind.

There has been an increasing amount of unlabelled lunch kits and water bottles never being retrieved; the volunteers do try their best to throw out spoiled food and give the owner a chance to come back for it.

Please come to the lost and found with your child in these last couple days of school and help them claim some items. Maybe you do not even realize that something is missing, so just check it out and see what has walked out of your house.

All this being said, this year, the kids have been more responsible and the volunteers saw a HUGE improvement with fewer items in the Lost & Found.



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A huge thank you to our dedicated volunteers, Jenn Smith-Toporowski and Tracy Kidd! They come each week without fail in order to stay on top of it and to return all labelled items to the right owners.

*** Reminder: All items left after the closing ceremonies are donated to charity.**

Thanks for coming by with your child.

Summer Reading!

Reading is a lifelong habit and skill, which we all wish to foster. The public libraries have fun and motivating clubs to join. I encourage all students to register. The number of students who participate are reported to our school; it is encouraging to know that we many active readers at the library.

Students entering Grades 1 through 4, please bring:

1. List of books you read in the summer (may use public library recording card).
2. Short summary of one book you want to recommend others to read and/or a copy of the book.
3. Current Grade 3's (next year's Grade 4's) need to have a minimum of one, three point, AR book read to be able to write one AR test on the Thursday or Friday of the first week back!

Children entering Grade 1 in September 2016 may have parents read to them and scribe for them.

Note: Students need to spend a minimum of 30 minutes each day to maintain (60 minutes to increase) their current reading level. Happy Reading!

Have a fun, exciting and adventurous summer!

Rowena Raber
PYP Division Leader



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Senior School News

Head of Senior School

A Last Wednesday – Hambani Kahle (Go Well and Safely)

This is the last *Wednesday* submission for the year, and personally, my last one at Southridge. It has been an honour and a privilege being the Head of Senior School and I will miss the Southridge community in many ways. I would like to spend my final submission by thanking some key groups of people.

To the Senior School parents – I thank you for your generosity of spirit; for supporting and encouraging your children in so many ways; for the games watched in all weather, the productions viewed along with the media nights, the art exhibits and the numerous concerts enjoyed; for driving in early to have them here for morning practices or late at night to pick them up from a ferry ride after an outdoor education trip; for the many ways you volunteered in the library, Country Fair, Career Day, Grad Transition interviews, Uniform Shop and all of the Graduation events. I appreciate your energy and dedication. As a parent myself, I know there were probably other times at home you were needed – helping with an assignment, organizing a group to get together to work on a task, or just being a cheerleader or sounding board for your children. You are a big part of the success of Southridge. ***Thank you!***

To the Senior School students – not just this year's crew, but also to all of the four Graduating Classes that were a wonderful part of my time here. You are all incredibly special – you are talented, caring, giving, hard-working and dedicated to learning! I am constantly in awe of your ability to accomplish so many amazing things each year. The rigorous approach you take to learning in the classroom provides so much energy to all of us here each day. You demand a great deal of yourselves and this also set a strong example for all of us to do our best. This dedication doesn't end in the classroom, however, but also continues through the many opportunities you take advantage of in the co-curricular program. The sports teams you commit to, the drama, band, choir and media projects you produce and perform in, the amazing art work you create that inspires so many. The activities such as Model UN and Reach for the Top, Hub Club and Culture Club where you immerse yourselves into all of the delights and discoveries that these bring. And finally to the spirit of service that you undertake in ways both big and small and always very meaningfully – the international service trips, Advisory soup kitchens, the Semiahmoo House initiatives and support, and peer mentoring (to name just a few). In all honesty, spending each of my days with you all is why I am a teacher; I think I have the best job in the world and I ***thank you!***



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And finally, to the faculty and staff that I have had the privilege to work with over the past for five years – they say that the true test of an organization is by looking at the people that work at it. Not only do I agree with this statement, but because of it, Southridge is an exceptional place. In all of the schools I have worked, I have never found a harder working, more committed, passionate and student-centred group of teachers or staff. There have been so many times that I have found individuals doing whatever it took to ensure that their students were supported, encouraged and successful. Whether it was staying late to meet with someone that had one last question to be answered, going to a game halfway across the city because a member of their advisory was playing, finding new ways to innovate their subject or classroom to make it more engaging or just stopping to talk and ask how a student was feeling – each of these moments point to educators that are truly focused on their craft of teaching. They carry a confidence to be able to be effective, but remain humble and willing to look at how to improve. For many, they have been in the profession for quite some time, and still, they continue to be progressive and stay current. Our non-teaching staff are wonderful – they are so involved in the community and wanting the students to thrive in their experience. Often they are not as visible as our teachers, but they are such an important part in the school's success. To all of these colleagues, many, many **thanks!**

On behalf of my entire family (Cheryl, Rebecca and Alex) as we head to Victoria to start a new adventure, I share a farewell that comes from the Zulu language – “Hambani Kahle” which translates to “Go Well and Safely”.

Have a restful summer and best wishes to you all in the future!

Doug Palm
Head of Senior School

Grade 12 Grad Live Video Broadcast

The **Grade 12 Graduation Ceremonies** on **Friday, June 24** will be **broadcast live** starting at **7:00 pm**. You can watch the broadcast by going to this [web page](http://www.southridge.bc.ca/page.cfm?p=3342). You can send this URL to family and friends to watch as well: <http://www.southridge.bc.ca/page.cfm?p=3342>.

You will need a high speed internet connection and a web browser that supports the Flash plug-in.

Alan McInnes
Manager of Web and AV Services



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Laptop Returns (Senior School)...

...BEFORE your last paper exam or AFTER your last Electronic Exam.

The general rule for laptop returns in the Senior School is to return your laptop in the half hour before your last paper exam or if you require your laptop for an e-exam, then return your laptop after completing your last e-exam.

Please ensure that you return your laptop, the charger and backpack when you return your laptop. If you do not return all three items, then you will be billed for the missing items. All returns go to Room 224 in the Senior School. In general, the students will be expected to return their laptops, chargers and backpacks on the following dates:

Grade 8	Tuesday, June 14	7:30 am
Grade 9	Thursday, June 16	7:30 am
*Grade 10	Friday, June 24	12:00 pm
Grade 11	Wednesday, June 22	12:00 pm
*Grade 12	Thursday, June 16 (or Friday, June 24 if you are rewriting the English 12 e-exam)	7:30 am

*For Grade 10 & 12 students - the imaging process of the laptops does not take an excessive amount of time, but given that the laptops are being returned after your e-exam, you may want to pick up your laptop on Monday, June 27.

Thank you!

Heather Mosher
Senior School Technology Coordinator

Book Return Process for Senior School Library

Thank you to everyone who has returned their library books. **All library books are now due and need to be returned for our inventory.** We will begin summer checkouts soon.



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Library Books

- Students and one parent or guardian should have received emails informing them of all items on students' accounts. All library books need to be returned immediately.

Textbooks

- Most textbooks will be returned in the Great Hall on exam days. We will begin collecting textbooks from 7:45 am for morning exams and from 11:45 am for afternoon exams. Students can return textbooks to the library for non-examinable courses on Thursday, June 9.
- All textbooks should be returned by the final day of exams on Friday, June 24.

Please note that charges will be incurred for any library books and textbooks not returned by Wednesday, June 29, at which point replacement orders will be processed.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Maggie Yee
Senior School Teacher-Librarian

Selling Used Band Instruments

Each year, students at Southridge end their concert band playing careers, either because they graduate or elect to do another fine or performing art. If you are one of these people and are interested in selling your instrument to an 'up and coming' Southridge student, please use the Bulletin Board which is on the Parent Portal on the school website. There is an online form to fill out and if you want to add a photo, please email it to Mr. McInnes (amcinnnes@southridge.bc.ca). Details to include:

- Instrument
- Brand
- Model
- Condition
- Price
- Contact

We strongly recommend that you get the instrument professionally cleaned and serviced, so that you know what you're selling is in good working order. Any reputable music store can do that for you (Tapestry, Long & McQuade, Tom Lee, etc....)

Steve Burrage
Senior School Music Teacher



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Both Schools

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, three fundraising campaigns, and the many other events and initiatives within Advancement were all great successes!

First of all, our new playground is a huge hit with our Junior School students! Phase 1 was installed in early September and Phase 2 was completed during spring break – all thanks to the generous donations we received from our parent community as well as the success of our fall gala. In total, more than \$100,000 in directed donations was raised for the playground project and donors of \$1,000 or more will be recognized on a donor wall that will be installed during the summer.

The Masquerade Ball, chaired by Jody Thomas and Anita Hundal, was a great success, raising \$185,000 for a number of projects around the school including the playground, cafeteria enhancement and landscaping. We are looking forward to another great gala next year – save the date – November 19, 2016.

The Country Fair was also a great success! The crowds came out on a beautiful day in May and were greeted by our warm and welcoming volunteers. Expenses are still being tallied, but we'll net over \$40,000! This year's revenue was earmarked for three projects: the development of our school mascot, the purchase of several additional Smart TVs and a new lawnmower. Thank you so much!

The Golf Tournament, our third major event of the year, was held only a few short weeks ago. We are still finalizing expenses, but we are able to report that over \$30,000 was raised from our parent and alumni community. Thank you to all the golfers, sponsors and dinner guests for your participation in this fun community tournament! The money we raised from this event will be used to purchase a new dividing curtain in the Senior School gymnasium, new goals for the soccer and rugby fields, and a line painter.

Our Legacy Giving Campaign was also a great success. Once again, the vast majority of our new families made multi-year pledges totaling nearly \$700,000. My personal thanks to all our canvassers and our very gracious new families who welcomed their visits! Thank you!



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Thanks to annual donations from our families, staff, friends, alumni and alumni parents, we raised over \$116,000 and donations are still coming in. This will definitely allow us to purchase all the items on our wish list, including the new scoretable for our Senior School gymnasium. In addition, a family has also established a new bursary fund – stay tuned for more information in a September issue of *The Wednesday*.

Thank you again to all our families who so generously gave this year!

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!

Christiane Hodson
Director of Advancement

PS – It's not too late to make a donation this year! [Gifts can be made online any time.](#)

Human Resources News

Keeping You Up to Date – Changes and Movements

As the 2015 – 2016 school year comes to a close, we find our school saying goodbye to the following employees who are moving on to pursue new and exciting opportunities. We wish to thank them for their commitment and dedication to Southridge over the past years and we look forward to recognizing them at our Junior School Closing Ceremonies and Senior School Commencement Exercises.

Teachers moving to new leadership positions

Shanaz Ramji-Motani will be the PYP Vice-Principal at Mulgrave School
Daryl Weaver will be the Assistant Principal of the Senior School at Vancouver College
Heather Nolan-Wood will be the Senior School Vice-Principal at Mulgrave School

Teachers pursuing new adventures

Anne Boyle will be teaching internationally in Hong Kong
Joyce Chong will be moving to the Vancouver School Board



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Alexis Mauricio will be moving to Crofton House School
Lea Worner will be spending more time with her young family

Teachers completing temporary contracts at Southridge

Raubi Dillon is pursuing new opportunities

Danielle Fera is beginning a Kindergarten teaching position at Urban Academy

Jaime-Lyn Hugh is pursuing new opportunities

We are very much looking forward to and excited about welcoming our new teachers to Southridge in the fall. Their diverse teaching backgrounds, enthusiasm for learning and excitement about contributing to Southridge will make them wonderful additions to our school community. They will each be introduced to you in the August edition of *The Wednesday*, so please stay tuned!

Social Media Survey – Coming Soon!

As the year wraps up, we believe it's an important and relevant time to collect meaningful feedback from the members of our community. In the coming weeks, **we will be contacting you by email to request that you complete a survey focused on social media.**

We are interested in learning about how active our community is on social media generally, as well as when and how you might be connecting with Southridge. We also want to understand more about the types of content you prefer to see on our channels.

We thank you in advance for participating and sharing your opinions. They will help us measure our performance, create benchmarks and provide valuable input into our social media strategy.

Erin Labbé
Director of Communications & Marketing



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Summer Hours

Please note that summer hours for the administrative offices of the school are 8:30 to 3:30 pm, starting Monday, July 4. We are busy with summer camps for the month of July, so the majority of administrative staff enjoy their holidays in the month of August. Access to some administrative services may be limited during August as there will be relatively few administrative staff on site.

If you require transcripts from the Senior School, please ensure that requests are made prior to Wednesday, July 13.

Enjoy your summer!

Wendy Simpson
Director, Finance & Administration

Uniform Shop News – Closed for Summer

The Uniform Shop is now closed for July and August. Stay tuned (in a future issue of *The Wednesday*) for the date in which it will re-open.

Thank you for support over the last year!

Phala Tan
Business Services Manager

Southridge Cafè News

The cafeteria is now closed for the summer. Thanks, everyone, for your support over the past year, and enjoy your holidays!

