

Southridge Wednesday

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August 29, 2012

Head of School

Looking Forward to a Great School Year

Welcome back to all of our students, teachers, staff and parents at the start of our new school year – our 18th. I hope the holidays were a relaxing and enjoyable time for everyone. We are really excited about the upcoming academic year. The school is in its typical state of preparation in anticipation of welcoming back our students and families next week.

Summer at Southridge was very busy this year. Our four weeks of camps were all very well attended as we welcomed close to one thousand young campers from the White Rock and South Surrey areas. There has been much painting and deep cleaning also happening around the school, not to mention landscaping work on the land surrounding our rugby field, including an expansion of the patio area outside the cafeteria. A very big addition to our campus over the summer was the final phase of our fencing project along 160th Street. The installation of vehicle and pedestrian entrance and exit gates will be completed shortly. Along with the fencing project, we are planning to add a short stretch of sidewalk to connect 160th Street with our internal walkway at the Senior School entrance (the south entrance to our property). With this additional walkway, we will have two clear, obvious pedestrian pathways for our community to use safely.

Please be aware that some of the landscaping, fencing and gate installation at the front of the school will be completed over the next few weeks. This means there may be some construction taking place on campus when school is in session. I appreciate your flexibility and understanding as we aim to complete our projects as soon as possible. You will also notice some major landscaping continuing to take place at the back of the Senior School. We have been able to take advantage of the required commitment of the local neighborhood developer and are taking the opportunity to expand our patio area to the east of the cafeteria. This will also allow us to realign our back play field to allow for an expanded end zone.

A very big thank you goes out to our community for their generosity at our fundraising events throughout the 2011-2012 academic year. Your wonderful support of Southridge has allowed us to pursue these projects during the summer of 2012, addressing some important issues regarding campus access and safety as well as attending to the general improvement of our overall campus plan.

We have a number of new families at our school this year, and I would like to take this opportunity to welcome them to our community. Starting at a new school can be a source of anxiety, but our experience has shown that our student orientations as well as our community Welcome Back Picnic go a long way to assist with the adjustment to a new environment. Besides, Southridge is a very friendly place and we are excited to have you here with us. We will do our best to help you feel welcome and well supported.

It is exciting that a new school year is just ahead of us, and I am very much looking forward to all that it will bring.

Thank You for the Years of Service at Southridge, Ms. Miller

After 14 years of dedication to Southridge, Lorraine Miller tendered her resignation during the summer. Her last day at Southridge was August 20. On behalf of the entire Southridge community, I sincerely wish Lorraine all the very best in her future endeavors.

Welcome to the World, Erika Lehn

I am very happy to share some exciting news with you. Erika Rose Paige Lehn was born on August 19th at Peace Arch Hospital. She weighed in at 4 lbs and 2 oz and is a healthy 44 cm long. All is very good with Ms. Lehn and her husband, Marty, and big sister Audrey is thrilled with her new little sister. According to the message I received from Ms. Lehn, the nurses have described Erika as being on the "feisty" side, and given that the name Erika means "always ruler" it seems quite fitting.

Have a great week!

Drew Stephens
Head of School

Important Dates	
Friday Aug 31	Junior School class lists posted
Wednesday Sept 5	Junior School New Student Orientation <i>Junior School Great Hall 9-9:45am</i>
Wednesday Sept 5	New Parent Drop-in Coffee <i>Senior School Cafeteria 9-11am</i>
Thursday Sept 6	Fall term commences: Junior School Day 1 Senior School Day 1
Tuesday Sept 11	Junior & Senior School Pictures <i>Junior Great Hall 8:10am - 1:00pm</i>
Tuesday, Sept 11	Strathcona Park Lodge Parent Information Meeting <i>Alan Brown Great Hall 6:30 – 8:30 PM</i>
Sunday Sept 16	Welcome Back Picnic <i>Junior School Field 11:30am - 3:00 PM</i>

Junior School News

Welcome Back

The faculty of the Junior School is eagerly preparing for the arrival of our students on Thursday, September 6, 2012. We are anticipating a great school year, and trust that our students will arrive refreshed after a great summer of experiences with family and friends. We have very little change in our faculty and are proud that our teachers are committed, fulfilled and excited to start the year. We have one new faculty to introduce to our families. Ms. Megan Fretter is our teacher intern and a seasoned swimming coach. Ms. Fretter's energy and enthusiasm will be well utilized as she will be teaching PE to Kindergarten and grade one students, as well as our DPA (Daily Physical Activity).

Some wedding bells chimed over the summer for two of our faculty members. Please join me in congratulating Ms. Trisha Riley and her partner, Derek Wray, on their nuptials. Mrs. Wray will continue teaching Grade 2 next year. The wedding bells also chimed for Ms. Lea Mollo as she wed Glenn Worner and will return to teach Kindergarten as Mrs. Worner.

Two of our teachers who were on maternity leave are back so we welcome Ms. Jenni Watson to as she resumes the teaching of Kindergarten, and Ms. Alison Graham to Grade 5 as well as her role of MYP Coordinator.

We do have some name changes this year as well. Ms. Ravi Sangha has changed her name to Ms. Ravi Kooner and Ms. Christine Chang is now Ms. Christine Chang Gardecki. One thing that will never change in the Junior School is the honour we feel when you entrust your children into our care. Trust that we take their care as our highest priority and we are excited about welcoming them back to this positive, vibrant environment. Welcome back to Southridge.

Edu-pac Availability and Class Lists

The Edu-pac supplies are available for pickup during the days of August 29- August 31, 2012. The Edu-pac supplies are not in boxes this year, but rather heavy, clear plastic bags. Once supplies are brought to school, we would like to recycle these plastic bags by sending them back to the company for reuse. It is best to bring the labeled materials to laptop rollout sessions, where we will collect the Edu-Pac bags. Class lists will be posted on the website on August 31, 2012. In order to preserve paper, the lists will not be posted in the Junior School Great Hall.

Locker Dimensions for Students in Grades 4 to 7 - Attention Grade 5 Students*

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. This year, all grade five students will need to purchase a backpack with these dimensions, as the school will no longer be providing roller backpacks for the laptops.

New Student Orientations and Grade 5, 6, 7 Laptop Sessions

New students (and their pre-arranged buddies) in Grades 1 – 7 are invited to attend our annual New Student Orientation on Wednesday, September 5, 2012. The orientation will take place between 9:00 and 9:45 am. As well, all students in Grades 5, 6 and 7 will need to attend school for a period of time on the 5th for their laptop orientation (Grade 5) and refresher (Grade 6 and 7) sessions. Students in Ms. Bennett's class will need to be at school from 8:30 - 10:00 AM, and students in Ms. Graham's class will need to be present from 10:15 – 11:45 AM. In Grade 6, students in Ms. Mauricio's class have their refresher from 12:30 – 1:15 PM, and students in Mr. Anderson's class have their refresher from 1:30 – 2:15 PM. Students in Ms. McNeil's Grade 7 class will have their refresher session from 2:15- 3:00. Students in Mrs. Beaulieu's Grade 7 class will have their session from 3:15 – 4:00 PM. In order for Grades 5, 6 and 7 students to receive their laptops, all necessary paperwork (the laptop damage/loss agreement and the acceptable use policy) must be signed and submitted to homeroom teachers on September 5th. If you require any additional paperwork, these forms will be available at the Junior School office.

All students attending an orientation session on September 5th must wear their summer uniform: white Southridge golf shirt, black shorts, white ankle socks, and black dress shoes. See you on the 5th.

New to Grade 5- 7 (MYP) Parent Presentation - Tuesday, September 5, 2012 4:00 – 5:00 PM

What is it like to be in Grade 5 -7 and have specialist teachers for your subjects, and use the laptop for many of your courses? Come and find out, as we present 'A Day in the Life of an MYP'. This parent session is open to all our existing Grade 4 parents who will be Grade 5 parents next year, and new parents to Southridge. Come and hear presentations about the laptop programme, MYP and the IB philosophy, homework (prep) expectations with time management strategies, an overview of the adolescent years and how we support their learning in the MYP, as well as an overview of term tests. Mr. McInnes video recorded last year's session so that if parents are unable to attend, these informative sessions can be viewed on our [website here](#).

Parent Coffee Hours

Although Southridge is a very busy place, we strongly believe in making connections with our parents and teachers. We enjoyed coffee hours two times per year for all grade levels and this was a great time to have conversations. The coffee hour is from 7:30 – 8:30 a.m. in the 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.

Kindergarten Orientation and Gradual Entry Process

All kindergarten children will attend school on Friday, September 7, from 8:00 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. (no lunch will be needed, just a snack). During the first full week of school, there will be a gradual entry process in place for all kindergarten students. No lunch will be needed until Thursday, September 13, 2012. Kindergarten will extend until 3:00 on Monday, October 1, 2012.

Monday, September 10	8:00 AM – noon (full school assembly in morning 9:40 – 10:30 am)
Tuesday, September 11	8:00 AM – noon
Wednesday, September 12	8:00 AM – noon
Thursday, September 13	8:00 AM – 2:00 PM
Friday, September 14	8:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Full School Assembly

Please set aside time to attend our first full school assembly on Monday, September 10 at 9:40 – 10:30 AM in our Senior School gym. There will be special presentations and introductions to start off the school year in a very positive way. All students need to wear their green sweater or vest on this day. Kindergarten parents will definitely want to attend this event.

Picture Day

Artona photographers will be here on Tuesday, September 11 and we ask that all students wear their winter uniform that day.

Meet the Teacher Evening - Thursday, September 20, 2012 - 7:00 – 8:00 PM

Please plan to attend our meet the teacher evening on Thursday September 20 at 7:00 PM. This provides an excellent opportunity for you to connect with our classroom teachers and understand the routines and expectations in each class. Earlier in the evening, we are also offering an 'Introduction to PYP' (Primary Years Program) for any of our new families from 6:30 – 7:00 PM that evening so that we can explain the philosophy and teaching practices of an International Baccalaureate World School (IB). Ms. Shanaz Ramji-Motani, our PYP Coordinator, will be pleased and honoured to explain our program.

Communicating Scheduled Late Arrivals and Unscheduled Sicknesses

Remember that absences and late arrivals must be called into the school. If it is more convenient for you, simply call the school before it opens in the morning (or even the night before) and leave a message regarding your child's situation. You may also email Barb Schaub at attendance@southridge.bc.ca and leave an email communication. Even if you communicate to your child's teacher, we cannot guarantee that this message will be forwarded to the office. Please ensure this communication to the office comes directly from you. This will help us keep on top of our attendance records. Thanks for your help. Additionally, please ensure that each school day you do not drop off your child any earlier than 7:40 AM as appropriate supervision will not be available until that time.

School Uniforms

There have been virtually no changes to the school uniform over the summer. Please ensure that your child attends the first day of school dressed properly. Boys' hair must be tidy in appearance, and its length must be off the collar with the earlobe showing. Uniform regulations include no dyeing of hair. If your son or daughter's hair had an adjustment to its colour over the summer, kindly ensure that it is back to its natural tone by September 6, 2012. Students who attend school in violation of our uniform regulations (including dyed hair) will not be permitted to attend class until such time that their uniform infractions have been ameliorated. Of course, the overriding principle of the Southridge uniform is that the students wear them with pride. Shoes should be polished and the uniform should be neat and clean. Recall that the students are representatives of Southridge and are recognized because of the uniform. I know our students are proud of our school- let that be reflected in the pride of wearing the uniform well. Thanks for your cooperation.

FSA Testing: Grades 4 and 7 Students

FSA testing (Foundation Skills Assessment/ BC) dates have been set for February 1 – 28, 2013. It is our intent that all Grade 4 and 7 students participate in these assessments during the first two weeks of February, so that we can properly assess and continue on with our programming. Please be mindful of these dates as you plan appointments for February.

Mrs. Middelaer
Head of Junior School

First Day Back to School Thursday, September 6, 2012

I hope you had a fun, exciting and adventurous summer and are excited for the first day back! Grades 1 through 4 need to bring one book you have read in the summer or had read to you. All other supplies will be provided! I am excited to begin another year! See you soon!

Mrs. Raber

Senior School News

Welcome Back!

Greetings to everyone! I certainly hope that everyone's summer provided lots of time to do a variety of activities different from school. I look forward to hearing about all of the adventures the students and their families had over the past few months.

I wanted to wish an extra special welcome to our new students and families coming into the Senior School. We are tremendously excited to have you become members of our community and I will do my utmost to spend the first few weeks connecting with you all. Please do not hesitate to introduce yourselves to me whenever you get the chance.

This summer, as I was spending many wonderful hours with my family, I was also incredibly engaged with the Summer Olympics that occurred in London. There were so many instances of inspiration, disappointment and success and I relished learning about these fascinating athletes and their stories. One aspect that shone through for me was the incredible focus and preparation that it took for these people to just make the national teams and compete. And I was struck by the goals they must have created and maintained to do this.

In the final few days of summer (while you are having a last “sleep-in” or staying up late at night) I encourage students to spend a few moments thinking about a few key goals they wish to accomplish by June. Perhaps, write these down and think about the steps it will take to reach these successes including the people that can help you attain them (teachers or coaches as an example). I believe this will help to set you up for a great year and allow you to focus on some wonderful growth over the next 10 months.

I can't wait to see everyone for another fantastic year in the Senior School! See you soon....

Mr. Doug Palm
Head of Senior School

Senior School New Student Morning

Wednesday, September 5th from 9 – 11:30 AM in the Alan Brown Great Hall

New students will meet their buddy, have a chance to tour the school, meet their Advisor and some teachers, receive their timetable and get their laptop for the year.

Dress for new students will be Summer Uniform.

Note: All Grade 12's need to attend New Student Day as buddies. They should arrive at 8:00 AM for a brief orientation in Number 1 uniform.

Strathcona Park Lodge Parent Information Meeting

Tuesday, September 11th - 6:30 – 8:30 PM

This information session is for all parents of Grade 8 and 9 students in the Senior School Great Hall. We will provide you with an extra copy of the gear list if needed, some packing and equipment suggestions, as well as pick up and drop off procedures. We will also go over what activities your children can expect to be involved in for the duration of the week, and how to best be prepared. There will be plenty of time allowed for Q & A. Students are welcome to attend as well.

Anna Szymczak, Outdoor Ed Coordinator
Norman Dods, Junior Division Coordinator

My Fair Lady

Southridge Senior School Drama Production is coming soon! Students who love to act and sing are encouraged to audition. You do not have to do both... only if you want to. Please see Ms. Kelly if you have any questions about auditions.

Auditions will be held in the Little Theatre the week of September 10th. Please prepare a song and/or be prepared to read from a script. Copies of the readings will be in the Little Theatre. You are also welcome to perform a monologue if you wish.

Jennifer Kelly

News for Both Schools

Back to School Picnic

We hope everyone is enjoying their summer! As summer holidays draw to an end, it's time to begin getting geared up for back to school. This is a reminder that our Back to School Picnic will be held on September 16. The theme this year is

Western, so come in your best duds! We are still in need of volunteers to fill in some shifts, so please email southridgepicnic2012@hotmail.com if you have 2 hours or so to help out.

Pauline Basran & Cheryl Spence
Picnic Co-chairs

Uniform Shop - Thanks to Jan Sinitsin

Jan Sinitsin has been a dedicated volunteer leader of the uniform shop for over fifteen years. Even after her children graduated she continued serving the school in this valued role. Jan spent countless hours, many of those in the summer, welcoming new students and families to the school through the uniform fitting and ordering process. As well, she was instrumental in planning the move and setting up the new shop in the Senior School. Much of Jan's work was behind the scenes; organizing, ordering and managing the various aspects of the shop.

Jan is retiring from her role to enjoy more traveling time with her husband. On behalf of the entire school community we would like to thank Jan for her exemplary volunteer service to Southridge. We are grateful for her commitment and dedication to our school, students and families.

Moving Forward

We are pleased to announce that Barb Collett will be taking on the responsibility of managing the Uniform Shop. Barb has been a member of the school community for 11 years and has a son in Grade 11. She has served in various volunteer leadership roles and her experience in retail merchandising, management and purchasing will be a great asset as we make plans to develop the uniform shop.

The shop will continue to be operated by our incredible volunteers who consistently provide our families with great service. And to improve access, store hours are being expanded as follows for school opening:

Wednesday August 29	- 10:00 – 2:00
Thursday August 30	- 10:00 - 2:00
Friday August 31	- 10:00 – 2:00
September 4 & 5	- 10:00 – 2:00
September 6 & 7	- 7:45 – 9:00, 2:00 – 4:00
September 10 – 13	- 7:45 – 9:00, 2:00 – 4:00
September 20 – 23	- 7:45 – 9:00, 2:00 – 4:00

Uniform Shop hours after September 23rd will be posted in the Wednesday.

Along with the expansion of shop hours, we will also be expanding the selection of “extra” Southridge spirit wear and items. Over the last few years, our uniform supplier has been inconsistent in delivery, a situation that Barb is busy remedying by focusing on sourcing new suppliers. The Uniform Shop will be carrying scarves, lunch bags, neoprene tablet sleeves, Hue Opaque Tights and Land's End fleece vests and jackets as part of their spirit wear collection.

To make space for our new items, the shop will no longer be carrying used clothing articles. Used clothing articles will be offered as a Grad fundraiser this year.

In order to provide consistency among athletic teams, Barb will also be responsible for all item selection and purchasing. In collaboration with team coaches and the Director of Athletics, team uniforms will also be sourced and ordered by Barb. This will ensure best prices as well as brand conformity and consistency, while freeing up time for coaches.

Debbie MacDougall

2011/2012 Fundraising Results and Decisions

What a year we had in 2011/2012! It gives me great pleasure to announce that we surpassed our fundraising results for all 3 events from the previous year! The Fall Fundraiser, Country Fair and Golf Tournament raised \$120,000.00, \$54,000.00

and \$20,000.00 respectively. It was an amazing year for us and we hope to be able to keep the momentum going in 2012/2013. Thank you everyone for your generous support!

In addition, venue location of future Fall Fundraisers has also been looked at and decided upon. For several years now, announcements have been made that this year will be the last year the Fall Fundraiser will be held at the school; only to find it held at the school once again. We wanted to clarify why this has happened and announce what we will be doing going forward. In previous year's we had hoped to find a location offsite that would fill our needs and keep costs down, so the search went on in the surrounding area to find this space. After an extensive hunt, we were unsuccessful in finding this location – it doesn't seem to exist at the present time in close proximity. Therefore, this year's event will be held at the school and it will be a Gala (unlike last years' unGala). We will alternate between the two formats to be as inclusive as possible to our community. Going forward, we will be holding these events at the school and for several reasons. The first and foremost is that there isn't an adequate space in the area that would fulfill our needs for this event. Also, logistically, there are issues regarding the transportation and security of moving the hundreds of the auction items to an offsite location, as well as the issues surrounding the accessibility to our payment system we use for check-out at the end of the evening. We have spent considerable time analyzing the costs of having it at the school and made some modifications so that we can keep costs down and still have a spectacular venue. We may look into holding this event offsite one day, but for now and in the foreseeable future, Southridge will be the home of the Fall Fundraiser.

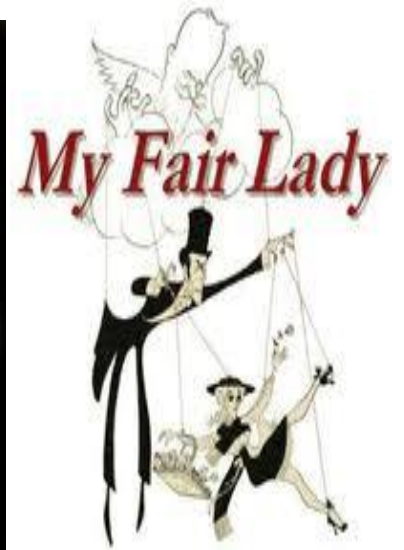
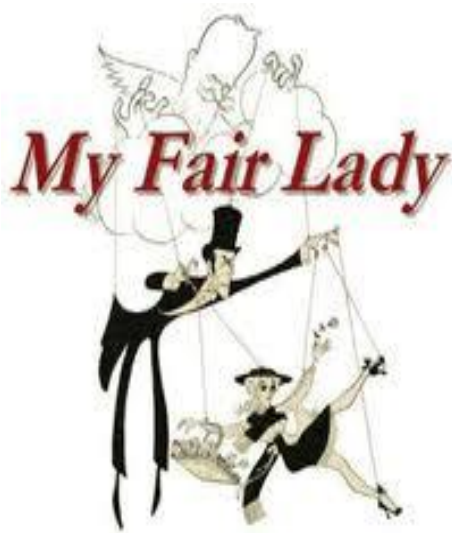
Christiane Hodson
Director of Advancement

This Year's Fall Fundraiser

Welcome back Everyone!!

Over the summer, Krinder Rai, Karen Dosanjh (this year's Gala Chairs) and the Advancement team have been hard at work organizing this year's Gala. We are thrilled to announce that the 2012 Gala, True Colours, will be held on Saturday, November 17th at Southridge. So mark your calendars and dust off your party shoes, for this year is sure to be a colourful soiree!

While procurement is already underway for external businesses, please check back in the Wednesday and the soon to be launched Gala website for sponsorship and auction item donation opportunities, volunteer opportunities, ticket sales, evening details and much much more!



Southridge Senior School Drama Production is coming soon! Students who love to act and sing are encouraged to audition. You do not have to do both... only if you want to 😊 Please see Ms. Kelly if you have any questions about auditions.

Auditions will be held in the Little Theatre the week of September 10th. Please prepare a song and/or be prepared to read from a script. Copies of the readings will be in the Little Theatre. You are also welcome to perform a monologue if you wish.

