

Southridge Wednesday

12-13

A Weekly Publication of Southridge School

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No. 21

Head of School

The Importance of Multiple Stories

A couple of weeks ago one of our English teachers sent me a link to an interesting Ted talk. The talk was about problems associated with making conclusions and judgments with too little information. The speaker, African novelist Ms. Chimamanda Adichie, warns that if we listen too closely to only a “single story” about another person or country, we risk making dangerous misinterpretations.

The notion of single stories got me thinking about our students at Southridge, and how important it is for them to be involved with a diverse array of activities, opportunities, perspectives and opinions. Our mission statement speaks about developing well-rounded students, and by well-rounded we often refer to their involvement in academics, the arts, athletics and service to the community.

However, another way of considering the idea of well-roundedness is in relation to multiple stories. By that I mean for our students to be truly open-minded and effective at communicating their points of view while remaining respectful of differing opinions, they need to be exposed to a variety of experiences and thoughts (i.e. stories) that challenge their beliefs and understandings. At Southridge, we support this conviction by taking an approach to our classroom interactions that requires asking questions, thinking critically about issues, problem solving, collaborating and adopting a variety of roles during discussions. Taking multiple stories into consideration quells the likelihood of bias, supports a balanced outlook and works to strengthen convictions.

With single story thinking we not only risk making dangerous misinterpretations but we also risk taking dangerous actions. The first time I went skiing at Mont Orford in Quebec with Ms. McCaw twenty-three years ago, she had only seen one story related to skiing – downhill racing on television. As we were preparing to begin our opening run, she promptly assumed the tuck position and proceeded to move down the hill. She had never skied before and thought that what she had seen on the Wide World of Sports was not only easy but also the only way to ski. If I had not been able to stop her, she would have careened down the hill at increasing speed becoming a hazard to herself and the other skiers on the hill. In this case, a single story could have had disastrous results.

So, thanks to Ms. Robinson for bringing the dangers of one story thinking to full illumination for me. Not only did it stimulate some new perspectives on our mission statement and well-roundedness, but it also helped to solve a long standing question in my mind – what on earth was Ms. McCaw thinking?

Have a wonderful week!

Mr. Drew Stephens
Head of School

Important Dates			
Course Selection – Gr. 8-9 & 10-11	Wednesday, Feb. 13th	6:30 pm	Alan Brown Great Hall
Kindergarten Applicants Assessments	Friday, Feb 15 th		No Kindergarten
Junior School Early Dismissal for Student Led Conferences	Thursday, Feb 21 st	Noon	Junior School
Casual Day	Friday, Feb 22 nd	All day	Both Schools
Senior School Play “My Fair Lady”	Wednesday, Feb 27 th – Mar 1 st	7:00 – 9:00 PM	Alan Brown Great Hall
Senior School Play “My Fair Lady”	Saturday, Mar 2 nd – 3 rd	2:00 – 4:00 PM	Alan Brown Great Hall

Junior School News

Caring Provides the Best Soil for Learning

February 14th brings shades of pink and red to our Junior School as we mark the celebration of friendship and 'love' on St. Valentine's Day. Although this is very fun for our students, it does remind me that one of the attributes of a life-long learner is to be caring. Caring, as described by the IBO, is to "show empathy, compassion and respect towards the needs and feelings of others. They have a personal commitment to service and act to make a positive difference to the lives of others and to the environment." We are very deliberate about teaching what it means to be caring, and of course, part of that teaching is modeling that caring attitude towards our students. Although we are intentional in demonstrating this caring attitude, please don't misinterpret that it is contrived. Our teachers do genuinely care for your son or daughter. On that same note, I was intrigued by an article written by Dr. Nel Noddings (Stanford University) entitled Caring in Education.

http://www.infed.org/biblio/noddings_caring_in_education.htm

Dr. Noddings' premise is that caring relations will not accomplish everything that must be done in education, but these relations provide the foundation for successful learning. Children do thrive when they know that they are genuinely cared for. At Southridge, it has been our yearly goal that the children who are in our care KNOW that they are understood and cared for. We thank you in this partnership as we both work together to create the best, nurturing environment for your child.

Happy Valentine's Day.

Mrs. Middelaer
Head of Junior School

Kindergarten Parents - No school Friday, February 15th, 2013

Just a reminder to our kindergarten parents that there will be no school for their children on Friday, February 15th, 2013 due to entrance testing for prospective kindergarten students. Thank you for making alternate arrangements for your children on that day.

Student Led Conferences: Thursday, February 21st, 2013 (Noon Dismissal)

Scheduling is available on Pick-a-Time today

Throughout the school term, students have been actively selecting their own pieces of work to secure in a portfolio. These pieces reflect many different subject disciplines and should demonstrate their own personal growth as a student. On Thursday, February 21st, 2013 we will be holding student led conferences so that the students can share their portfolios with their parents. This opportunity is empowering for students as they can share their own journey as a learner and actively reflect on each piece. Please be aware also that there will be a 12:00 noon dismissal on that day to accommodate the conferences.

MYP Musical: Tuesday, March 12th, Wednesday, March 13th and Thursday, March 14th, 2013

Please make your plans to join us in our celebration of our interpretation of *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory* as our MYP students present in song, dance and theatre. We extend an invitation to our grandparents to join us for tea on Tuesday, March 12th and then stay for the matinee performance at 1:30 PM. There will also be two other evening presentations; Wednesday, March 13th at 6:30 PM and Thursday, March 14th at 6:30 PM. Come and enjoy these enthusiastic and endearing presentations.

Senior School News

Thank you for Student-Led Conferences

Welcome back to everyone in Senior School after our mid-term break. I am hopeful that everyone had a chance to take advantage of BC's first Family Day. Many students told me they were staying close to home and just using the break to slow down a bit and recharge. Others mentioned heading up to ski at Whistler or our local mountains. It was nice to have some sunny skies for part of the break at least.

I wanted to use this week's Wednesday to focus on the Student-Led Conferences that occurred last week. Mainly, I wanted to thank all the parents for supporting your children in this important process. I know we have communicated numerous

times the benefits of having the students participate in this opportunity but it doesn't really work effectively without your presence and support.

These conferences allow a time for students to self reflect and evaluate their experience at Southridge during the particular year in which they are participating. We ask the students to focus on a different aspect of their experience that matches their grade. For example, we have our Grade 8's look at what it is to be a Senior School student including the challenges they are experiencing and the goals and aspirations they wish to accomplish over the next five years. By Grade 12, the conference focuses on the Legacy that they feel they have left at Southridge and where they are planning to move forward in the future.

For each student, the conference is a time that they can feel a bit of freedom to create a presentation that has a sense of individualism and variety and plays on their strengths. It also gives them a time to share their ideas with the important people in their life (parents and Advisor). Knowing young adolescents and their development, this isn't something that happens all too often. And speaking with parents, sharing with their children becomes a more difficult path to navigate. In my interactions with parents during last week's conferences, some stated it was really valuable to have this time to listen to their children.

The other aspect of the conferences that is valuable is that there isn't a grade attached to these presentations. It is not that they are not valued; rather the experience of creating the presentation and giving it holds the benefit. However, in the world of summative evaluation and the quest for University acceptance we can often become one tract in the idea that if it is not for grades, it is not important. In reality, there needs to be a balance between these types of assessments. For example, with too much summative-type evaluation, students can often lose their risk-taking ability due to the fear of failure and this is a vital skill in the process of learning.

These conferences allow them to try out some new ideas and stretch their boundaries while they reflect on their experiences in high school without the stress of it "counting" in the percentage. Your presence as parents, show them that there is value in this and that you are appreciative of this effort. Similar types of learning take place in athletics, service learning and on an Outdoor Education trip. It allows important growth in the individual and this almost always translates into growth as an academic learner as well.

So, thank you to everyone that participated last week! It was clear that your children appreciated it and we did too! With a mere 5 weeks remaining in Term 2, I encourage you to help your children remain focused and stay true to those resolutions that they made at the beginning of the term. We are here to help them grow – please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

Have a great week!

Mr. Doug Palm
Head of Senior School

Southridge Rugby Club - Las Vegas

The Southridge Rugby Club was well represented in an international rugby tournament in Las Vegas this past weekend (February 8-10). Jeffery Beaulieu (Grade 10), Nick Collett (Grade 11) and Jared Thind (Grade 9) were representing various club and provincial sides in the hot desert sun.

Nick Collet was playing in the renowned High School International 7s tournament as a member of Team BC U-18 Sevens rugby team. The Sevens tournament showcased many top American and Canadian development squads as both nations prepare for the long term goal of the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Sevens rugby will make its Olympic debut in Rio, and so both nations look to develop their youth programs in anticipation of rugby continuing on as a full Olympic sport.

Jeffery and Jared were on the dry and hard pitches of Nevada representing their local Bayside Rugby club in the annual youth 15-aside rugby tournament. Reports back from Las Vegas had Jeffery as the man-of-the-match in their first game as he broke free for a long try to secure the game. Jared continues to impress as a stalwart young scrum-half for Bayside and more importantly, Southridge, as we head into our spring season.

All three lads are excited for our upcoming 2013 Southridge UK Tour as we depart March 13th for Edinburgh, Scotland, our first stop on tour.

Congratulations to all the boys in representing our club well in the hot sun of the Las Vegas desert.

Mr. Paul Doig

Senior Girls Basketball Update

The Southridge Senior Girls Basketball Team is coming off what is perhaps the most significant win in the team's history. At the Big Kahuna Cup tournament at York House School, a tournament that featured 8 of the top 12 AA Ranked Teams, The Storm opened with a 60-43 trouncing of the #8 ranked Sa-Hali Sabres. They followed it up with a very entertaining 72-70 upset of the #2 ranked Britannia Bruins, the defending AA Provincial Champions. Both Ashley Andreou and Lauren Bromage scored 30+ points in that game...also a school record. After a loss to the #1 ranked Holy Cross Crusaders in the semi final, the Storm bounced back and defeated the #5 ranked GW Graham Grizzlies 52-50 on a last second shot giving them 3rd place in the tournament. The win will almost certainly put Southridge in the top 5 ranked AA Teams and has helped them secure the #2 seed at the FV Tournament coming up later this week.

The Storm start their march towards Provincials at home this Friday night at 6:15 PM where they will play the winner of FV#7 Rick Hansen and FV #10 St John Brebeuf.

Mr. Paul Chiarenza
Varsity Girls Basketball Coach

Senior Drama Class Wins First Place at Surrey One Act Play Festival

Last Thursday the senior drama class competed in the Surrey *One Act Play Festival* at Enver Creek Secondary School. Earning high praise from the festival's adjudicator, Scott Swan, Serena Bonneville, Bryan Redies, Abby Wells and Nirvon Soraya-Galo were recognized as demonstrating excellence as lead actors and their production of the play *Doubt: A Parable*, directed by Ms. Kelly, went on to receive a first place designation and an invitation to compete at the provincial one act play festival at the beginning of May.

Doubt: A Parable, by John Patrick Shanley, is a Pulitzer Prize winning play that was made into a film, starring Meryl Streep, in 2008. The action of this play unfolds in a Catholic school in the early nineteen sixties as a priest, two nuns and the mother of the only African American child in the school find themselves in conflict with each other and a changing world. Words become weapons as the play's parable challenges the audience to consider the impact that unproven suspicions, spread by gossip, can have on a community. The weightiness of the play's subject matter is frequently offset by comedic moments that the cast plays perfectly.

Backstage, the actors were ably supported by our Drama Steward, Carson Vandernoot, as the production's technical crew. Congratulations to the cast and crew of *Doubt* for this remarkable achievement and a special thank you to Ms. Kelly for her outstanding direction and her unfailing commitment to the production of exceptional theatre at Southridge. If you enjoy great theatre, I highly recommend that you seize the opportunity to see *Doubt* during its run in The Little Theatre from April 15 -19. You will have a final chance to see this impressive production at Douglas College in New Westminster from May 2 -5.

Ms. Gail Robinson

My Fair Lady

Southridge Senior School presents *My Fair Lady*, a musical based on George Bernard Shaw's play, *Pygmalion*. After its successful run in 1956, it was transformed into an award winning film, and has had numerous Broadway revivals. It remains a timeless classic that is extremely popular with audiences today.

The story is set in 1912 in London, England where a poor 'cockney' flower girl, Eliza Doolittle aspires to live a better life. Eliza wishes to take speech lessons from Professor Henry Higgins, an esteemed phoneticist, who makes a bet with a good friend, Colonel Pickering that he could pass her off as a lady of higher society. The hilarious attempts to change her speaking voice, along with Eliza's father's opinions on social class and morality, are extremely engaging to watch.

While Professor Higgins finds teaching Eliza how to pronounce her vowels and consonants, and showing her off to high society, an amusing game, he regards her social position to be irredeemably lower class. However, she later proves that she is remarkably self-aware and communicates her feelings far better than he. Moreover, Higgins's self-indulgent bet to transform Eliza into something better than a poor flower girl is not as significant as her ability to deeply transform his soul and touch his heart.

My Fair Lady has been a true community production and the dedicated ensemble includes talented students from Grades 8 through 12, and also features three of our own Southridge school teachers, Ms. Holt, Mr. Doig, and Mr. Sterelyukhin.

Tickets are \$10.00 and can be purchased online through this link.

The five performances will be held in the Alan Brown Great Hall in the Senior School:

- Wednesday, February, 27th at 7:00 PM
- Thursday, February, 28th at 7:00 PM
- Friday, March 1st at 7:00 PM
- Saturday, March 2nd at 2:00 PM
- Sunday, March 3rd at 2:00 PM

Ms. Kelly
Senior Drama Teacher

It Takes a Community to Run a Debate Tournament

Thank you to the Southridge community of volunteers who made the Southridge Regional Tournament a real success. Thank you to the many parents who came out to judge and our hospitality team, to students from the junior school and senior school who came to be time keepers, moderators, runners, lunch servers, and more. Thank you to our supportive staff who helped behind the scenes in recruiting volunteers and arranging thank you gifts for our judges. Finally to my supportive colleagues who helped in preparation and set-up and those who judged and my amazing coaching team- Mr. Barnim and Ms. Nolan-wood who were my right and left hand. A special thanks to Ms. Holt for her leadership, advice and support in this project.

Cecilia Rodriguez-Lang
Senior Debate Coach

Debate Regionals and Provincials

We had two junior teams and three senior teams representing Southridge at the Regional Tournament, hosted by us! Our students certainly were among the top students of our region and I would like to highlight some of these results. In the junior category (grades 9-10) Nicole Moretto and Iksha Kumar earned 1st place as a team and individually Nicole came first, followed by Iksha in second. In the senior category (grades 11-12) Gurneet Dhatt and Se Young Jeon earned 2nd place as a team and individually Gurneet came in second. Congratulations to all the teams who participated. Earning a spot at the Provincial tournament in Trail, BC are Amy Doerksen, Veer Shete, Nicole Moretto, Iksha Kumar, Gurneet Dhatt and SeYoung Jeon.

Cecilia Rodriguez-Lang
Senior Debate Coach

News for Both Schools

Mark Your Calendars – Tell Your Friends

Southridge Speaker Events are open to all members of the Surrey/White Rock community.

Paul Tough – Thursday May 9th at 7:00 PM

On Thursday May 9th at 7:00 PM, [Paul Tough](#), author of [How Children Succeed: Grit, Curiosity and the Hidden Power of Character](#) will be at Southridge to talk about how curiosity, conscientiousness, optimism, self-control and grit contribute to a child's character. Contrary to the popular story that childhood and success comes to those who score highest on tests, from preschool to admissions SATs, Tough argues that the qualities that matter most have more to do with character: skills like perseverance, curiosity, conscientiousness, optimism, and self-control.

Tough will peel back the mysteries of character and trace the links between early childhood neurological development and environment. By showing how “nature” and “nurture” are intertwined, Tough will explore how childhood stresses modify life success and the surprising ways that parents do – and do not – prepare their children for adulthood. Tough will help parents understand how early adversity affects childhood emotional, social and cognitive development in ways that will carry on throughout their entire lives. He will also provide tips for parents on what they can do about it.

You can purchase your tickets online by going to the Southridge homepage and clicking on the speaker button.

Debbie MacDougall
Director of Community Relations

Volunteer Committee Update: Country Fair Volunteers

Yes, the Country Fair is still months away but we wanted to let everyone know that there are some great lead volunteer opportunities available this year. We are looking for lead volunteers in these areas:

Southridge Café - In this role, you will be working with an experienced department head to organize and manage the Southridge Café which sells snacks, sandwiches, muffins and drinks. You will be assisted by a team of assigned volunteers to set up and run the Cafe on Fair Day. Certification in Food Safe is an asset but not a requirement.

Signage, Internal - In this job, you will also be working with an experienced department head to create, print and laminate signs for various departments. This work is completed before Fair Day. This is a great job for someone who is creative!

Signage, External - The External Signage Department is responsible for arranging for outside signage to guide fair patrons to the fair and provide way finding signage on the school site on fair day. This involves directing a team of volunteers to put up "Country Fair Today" signs in the community the night before the fair. This work is completed before Fair Day.

Shadow Department Heads for Various Areas, including Games, Face Painting, Loonie Bags and Toys.

We have people in place for the 2012 fair but we are hoping to recruit some volunteers that can shadow/observe an area this year and step in as lead volunteers next year (2013). No past experience is necessary so we welcome new parents as well as volunteers that would like to try out a new area of the fair! It would be great to do with a friend, be a —risk taker and try something new!

Contact the volunteer committee if you are interested. We are happy to answer any questions you may have.
volunteer@southridge.bc.ca

Roles for 2013 / 2014 school year

We are actively planning for next year's volunteer calendar! We have taken stock and there are many leadership opportunities available in a variety of areas such as the Junior School Library, Gala or Golf or departments at the Country Fair. If this type of role interests you and you would like to chat with us about it, please contact the Volunteer Committee at volunteer@southridge.bc.ca

Changes to the Volunteer Website

We are very excited to announce that, starting with the Country Fair, all volunteer opportunities at Southridge will be available for ‘sign-up’ online! You will be able to read the job descriptions, select shifts that fit into your schedule and sign up your spouse at the same time! We will rolling out the full website with all the jobs later this Spring, but will be going ‘live’ for Country Fair jobs on March 4th. Watch for more information, including instructions, in next week’s Wednesday!

Rachael Lawson, Chair
on behalf of the Volunteer Committee

Grad Bottle Drive

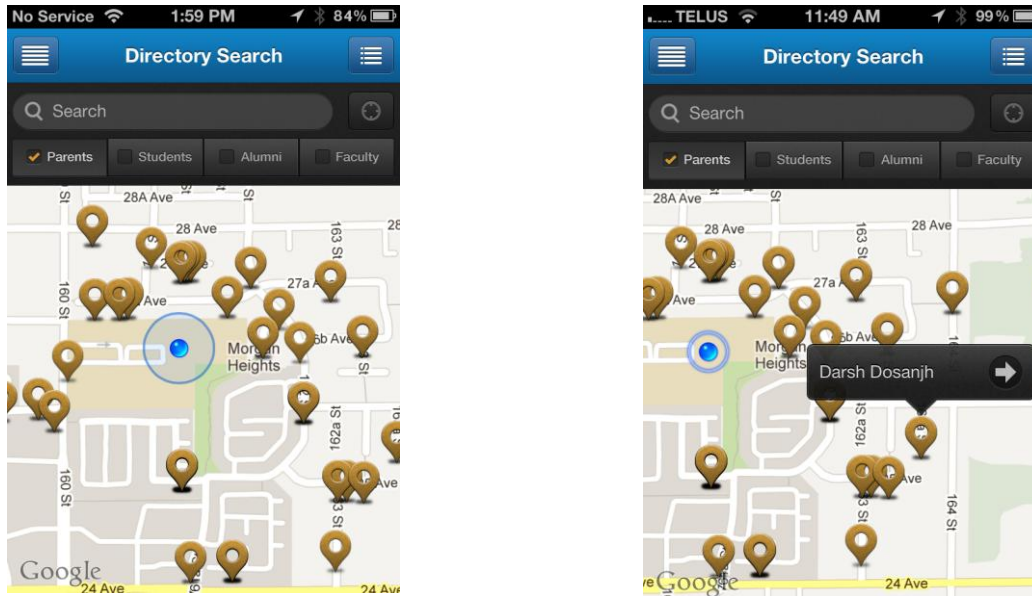
The bottle drive will be running Wednesday, Thursday and Friday in front of the senior school. We appreciate your support!

Using Directories in the New Southridge iPhone App

Hopefully by now, many of you have had the opportunity to download and start using the new Southridge School iPhone App. With each Southridge Wednesday newsletter, I will write about various aspects of the App and how you can get the most out of its use.

Once you have logged in, you can access the Directories function of the new iPhone App. The Directories function is both an information directory and mapping function. You can look up parent, student, alumni and faculty/staff to view contact information and for parents, you can view location for organizing carpools.

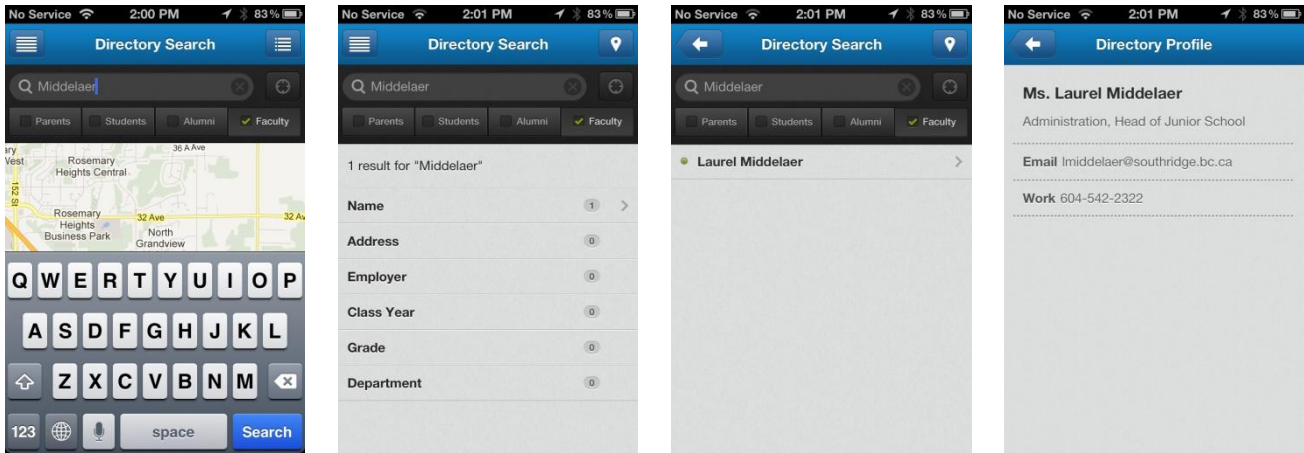
NOTE: Parents must set their address to be viewable in the UPDATE PROFILE section in order for their address to be viewable by other parents. This is set to viewable by default when parents' information is first entered into the Parent Directory.



The screen above on the left shows the view that you will see when you select the Parents' Directory by touching the Parents button at the top of the page. The blue dot represents your location and the surrounding icons represent parent locations. When you touch one of the parent icons, you will see a name flag as is shown in the screen above on the right. When you touch the right arrow icon next to the parent's name, you will be taken to a page with the parent contact information.

DIRECTORIES

To perform a directory search, select the directory you want to search by touching one of the category buttons at the top of the page; Parents, Students, Alumni or Faculty(Staff). Enter the first or last name of the person you are searching for and press the Search button in the lower right corner on your keyboard.



The Directory Search sequence of pages is shown above from left to right.

NOTE: You can search multiple directories at once by selecting each directory before you enter the search name.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have about the use of the new iPhone app.

Alan McInnes
Manager
Web and AV Services

Weekly Menu

FEBRUARY 18th – 22nd, 2013

Monday

Quesadilla

Chicken, Cheddar cheese, tomatoes, onions, peppers and salsa

Tuesday

Sweet and spicy chicken

With fried rice

Wednesday

Green curry sauce with noodles

Vegetables and beef

Thursday

Chicken souvlaki

Roasted potatoes and tzaziki

Friday

Alfredo pesto sauce

With penne

