

bridge

THE MAGAZINE OF COLLINGWOOD SCHOOL

Collingwood U!
**Gr. 12 students explore
what comes next**



We believe in
 ∞
opportunities



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the 2020-21 Tartan Fund

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DID YOU KNOW?

Collingwood School is the only Round Square school in Greater Vancouver.

LET'S CONNECT

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KEY DATES:

First day of classes after Spring Break, March 29
School closed for Good Friday, April 2
School closed for Easter Monday, April 5
School Closed for Victoria Day, May 24
Wentworth Last Day of School, June 23
Morven Last Day of School, June 24

For a full calendar of school events, please see our weekly News & Reminders or visit collingwood.org.

NEWS

What a difference a year makes!



This March marks one year since Covid-19 became a household reality and changed our lives dramatically. As the days grow longer and warmer and it begins to feel more like spring, it is easier to look ahead with optimism to life after Covid-19. Certainly, the vaccine roll-outs bring renewed hope that we will soon be able to spend more time with family and friends and return to some of our favourite activities and routines. As a school, we feel this same positive momentum, so we're planning now for what we will be able to do once life "opens up" again.

Thank you to the many members of our school community – students, staff, faculty, parents, and alumni – who participated in two key initiatives since January: our EDI stakeholder engagement and our collaborative approach to strategic planning.

Our Equity, Diversity and Inclusion work continued in January and February with stakeholder engagement. All members of our community were invited to get involved by joining a facilitated online discussion, completing an online survey or by sending us a written submission. All of this information will be part of the formal report that will help to inform our EDI Plan going forward. We will be working with our EDI consultant, Alden Habacon, on the next steps for our community and look forward to keeping you updated in the coming months. We thank the many members of the Collingwood community who participated by sharing their thoughts, ideas and experiences about what it means to have an inclusive community that creates a sense of belonging for all.

We resumed our Strategic Planning work in late February with invitations for people to join various stakeholder sessions representing all members of our school community. Small groups, led by our consultants from Berlineaton, shared the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats to Collingwood. Many other community members chose to answer an online survey that asked five questions, one of which was "What should Collingwood focus on to achieve future success for our students?" This data will allow us to determine common themes, and coupled with research on emerging trends and guided by the School's Mission, Vision and Values, we will be able to set and articulate the key goals for Collingwood going forward.

We continue to have conversations with Collingwood families about the Wentworth Hub Project, which will create a transformative teaching and learning space and become the "heart" of the Wentworth Campus. We have worked with architects and builders to reimagine the space on the second floor between the library and the Grade 6/7 wing that is currently under-utilized for student learning. Our innovative design includes recapturing space from the no longer used changing rooms for the small gym and a number of teacher and staff offices. Once complete, the Wentworth Hub will feature an extra-large classroom that will open onto an airy, social space. This more informal and larger collaborative space will allow students to spread out and work in pairs, small

groups or as a whole class. With high ceilings, lots of windows looking southwards toward the ocean, and moveable, flexible seating, the Hub will become a gathering place to reflect our Value of Community. This space will be able to accommodate visitors like authors, historians and artists to make group presentations to students and parents alike, thus creating a shared learning experience within our school community. If your family is interested in supporting this meaningful project, please feel free to reach out to me directly.

As we look ahead to the 2021/22 school year, there is optimism and hope for positive changes when it comes to everyone's health and safety. Like the majority of school leaders we have spoken to, our Senior Leadership Team is making plans for various scenarios to ensure a strong start to the new school year. We have been told by the Ministries of Health and Education to expect Covid-19 health and safety protocols to be in effect to begin the year. We are hopeful that we will be able to come together as a community to enjoy music concerts, athletic competitions, public speaking and debate events, and so many more social activities. It is exciting to be able to strategize for an "opening up" of life once again and to ensure our work on the EDI Plan, the School's new Strategic Plan, and the Wentworth Hub Project has us poised and ready to take advantage of new opportunities as we envision the future of Collingwood.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Lisa Evans', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Lisa Evans,
Head of School

#WENTWORTH

 collingwood school



228 likes

Beauty of a day for golf!! Gr. 7 spent a little time this morning practicing their swings at Takaya Golf Centre. #CollingwoodSchool #Wentworth

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313 likes

Today we wear black shirts to acknowledge the continuous struggle that Black Canadians face in the fight for racial equity. #blackshirtday #Wentworth

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183 likes

Funniest project ever! Ms. Klintworth's Gr. 2s designed their own city maps. This project used elements of coding, social studies, math and art. #CollingwoodSchool #Wentworth



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173 likes

Ms. Hadley's Gr. 1 class are mapping their hearts and getting ready for Valentine's Day and kindness month. #CollingwoodSchool #Wentworth

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236 likes

Wentworth got all dressed up today to celebrate Valentines and Lunar New Year! #fancydressup #happynewyear #CollingwoodSchool #Wentworth

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197 likes

Gr. 4 organized a Wentworth outdoor clean-up as part of Random Acts of Kindness Day!! Great job being RAKtivists!!! #CollingwoodSchool #Wentworth


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263 likes

Gr 9 EXL took advantage of the weather to make forts at Cypress and play in the snow. #snowday #CollingwoodSchool #Morven

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192 likes

It's important to talk about our mental health. It's #letstalk day. Join the conversation!!! #CollingwoodSchool #Morven



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230 likes

Fun fact about our new Head of Morven, James Lee: he played Div 1 US College Baseball while at Monroe College in Rochester, New York. #CollingwoodSchool #Morven

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163 likes

Our APES/Environmental Science 12 students learned about sustainable mining from alumni Ryan Jackson, '05, who spoke about his work with Newlox Gold. Thanks Ryan! #CollingwoodSchool #Morven

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191 likes

What a huge success kindness week has been! Thank you to all of our families, across both campuses, for your donations. Happy Valentines! #showthelove #CollingwoodSchool



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
148 likes

Gr. 12 dancers got a taste of Broadway, taking a zoom class taught by dancer/choreographer Shannon Lewis straight from NYC! #morvendance #collingwoodart

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Collingwood U!

This year's unique schedule offers Gr. 12 students the opportunity to explore what comes next






DO YOU REMEMBER THE TRANSITION to life after high school? For some graduates, the path forward is straightforward and clear. For many graduates, however, this can be a time of uncertainty and even anxiety.

With this in mind, Collingwood is proud to launch Collingwood U, a pilot program for current Gr. 12 students that's designed to help them prepare for post-secondary learning. Taking advantage of this year's unique schedule, which provides Gr. 12 students with a spare block between May 17 and June 17, grads will have the chance to participate in seminars, engage with alumni mentors from a wide variety of professions and experience activities that provide them with insights into university and adult life, future careers and leadership opportunities. It will also give our students a chance to celebrate their successes as Collingwood graduates.



With over 100 alumni and parents expressing interest in participating in the first week alone, this exciting program will include a mix of in-person and virtual experiences. While there are guidelines and requirements for students to meet, there will also be significant self-direction in how these goals are accomplished. Students may choose to build their schedule from a selection of suggested activities and opportunities before the start of the program, so they know where they are expected to be and what will be required of them. Alternatively, students may choose to design and propose their own program in addition to specific on-campus requirements. For example, students may choose to dedicate additional time to a fulfilling part-time job, pursue an in-depth internship or take on a passion project. In such cases, students are required to submit a detailed plan of action for approval.

This unique program will give our graduating class the freedom to look forward and explore the infinite possibilities for their lives that come with a Collingwood education. 





RECENT ALUMNI: GIVE BACK WITH COLLINGWOOD U!

Would you like to give back to your community? We are currently seeking out Alumni Mentors who are 1st, 2nd or 3rd year university students. Volunteering would be an opportunity to share your post-graduation experience with a Grade 12 student over a 1-2 hour conversation via an online platform!

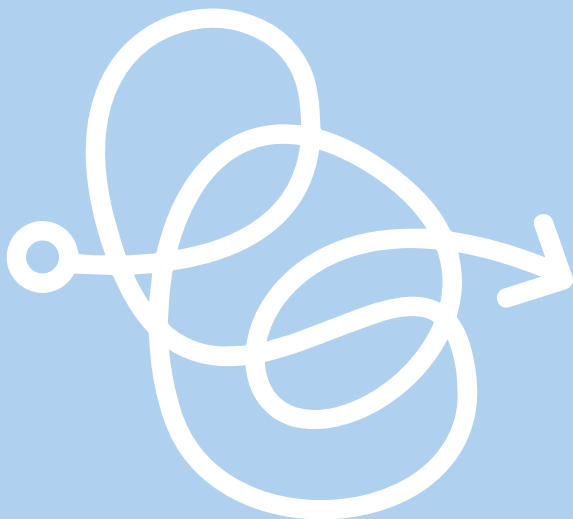
For more information, contact:
Samantha Weiss, *Director of Student Life and Leadership*
samantha.weiss@collingwood.org

Morgan McLaughlin,
Social Studies Teacher
morgan.mclaughlin@collingwood.org



The Great Flood of 2021

Wentworth staff and faculty model resilience in the face of adversity



FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, started just like any other Pro D Day at Wentworth. Faculty and staff were deeply engaged in an inspiring array of workshops and professional development activities. Everything was going exactly as planned.

Then a pipe burst in the ceiling right above Gr. 2 teacher Ms. Nielsen's desk.

Springing into action, all available hands responded with mops, buckets and anything useful they could find to try and minimize the damage. When all was said and done, two Gr. 2 classrooms and the two Gr. 4 classrooms directly below suffered significant water damage. Ms. Nielsen's desk, along with her many artifacts and keepsakes collected throughout her years at Collingwood, was a soggy mess.

With the priority of ensuring that student learning was able to continue without interruption, it was quickly decided that the four classrooms would be relocated to the library, staff room, art room and Gr. 6 science lab. Over the long weekend, faculty and staff worked together to painstakingly reassemble each classroom in the alternate location. Great care was taken to ensure the classroom contained familiar objects and learning tools so the students would immediately feel at home. The staff room coffee machine was also relocated.


Students arrived back at school from the Family Day long weekend to find their familiar classroom set up in an entirely different place. Students demonstrated remarkable resilience and participated in guided reflections to compare what they like about both their usual and new classrooms.

Throughout these challenges, the Wentworth faculty have demonstrated their own remarkable resilience. The four

homeroom teachers impacted have stepped up to manage these complexities. Art teachers, science teachers and librarians have adjusted to more mobile roles. PE teachers have even found ways to work around the part of the gym that's being used for temporary storage.

"While not ideal," said Rheanne Stevens, Director of Teaching & Learning at Wentworth, "it is a shining example of our community pulling together and affirming that we're living our values."

While significant repairs are required, the goal is to have relocated students back to their usual classrooms later this spring.

A special shout-out goes to Kevin Zweep, Head of Building and Grounds and his team for their amazing response to the Great Flood of 2021. 



PRACTICING HOW THEY PLAY

In a year that has lacked the normal competitions, Collingwood athletes are still training like there's a banner at stake.

"Senior Girls Basketball had a great time working on their skills and competing against each other. Lots of fun was had as they competed for prizes and inter-squad glory. The highlight was our Senior's practice where the Grade 12's dressed up in neon and ran all their favourite drills!"

- Coach Morgan McLaughlin

"Our team focused on what we could control highlighted by our motto of playing with No Regrets. The team bonded over this and showed tremendous perseverance and resilience in the process."

- Coach Andy Wong

"The wrestling coaches and athletes faced the unique circumstances of wanting to practice and compete but couldn't actually wrestle each other. However, everyone adapted and we had a great season using innovative drills to simulate the contact and fatigue that are such a big part of wrestling."

- Coach Tom Larisch





Stuart Cooper, Sam Fuller, Nic Daal



Carolyn Yu, Remy Li



Zach Bosa, Oliver Bosa, Innocenzo DeCotiis, Harbour Dollinger

Alpine Team Report

This season brought the opportunity for students to focus on their technique, tactics and mental strength. The athletes showed dedication and determination in the hopes that they will be able to show off their developed/enhanced skills next year.

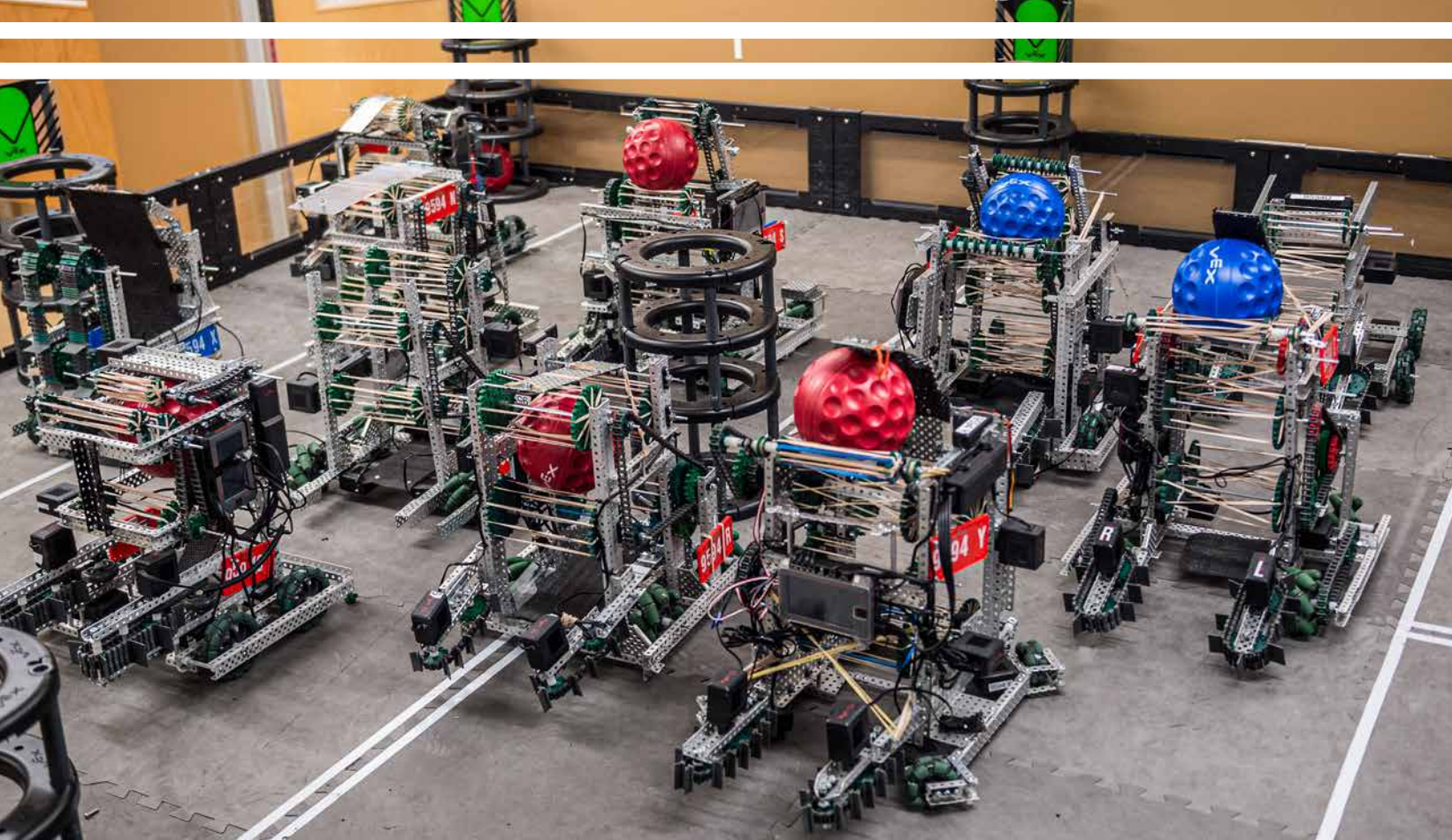
Conditions this season ranged from fresh snow and blinding wind to an arctic outflow that brought double-digit negative temperatures rarely seen at Seymour. No matter the conditions, the athletes brought positive energy and looked forward to the training sessions every week. To say that these athletes improved is an understatement. In only five sessions, the coaching staff saw athletes go from little or no experience in a racecourse to calm, confident competitors who gained a need for speed.

A big thank you has to go out to the Gr. 12 athletes who came to help out this year. They joined the team knowing full well that they would not get to end their high school ski career as they would have hoped. We will miss this group of Gr. 12's immensely next year!

- Coach Calindy Ramsden



Madeleine Kottmeier, Remy Rose Caplan



THE ROBOCAVS MACHINE ROLLS ON

Finding ways to make the most of co-curricular activities during COVID-19

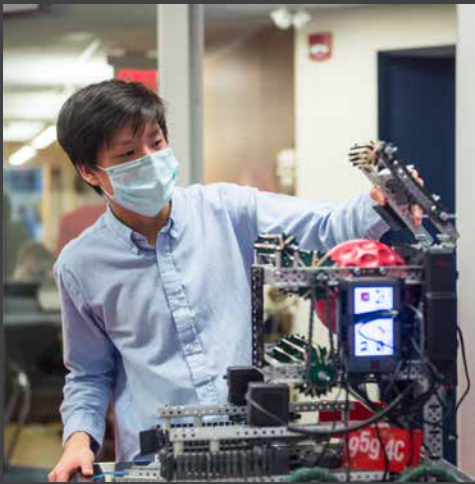
WE ALL KNOW THE CURRENT SAFETY PROTOCOLS have presented numerous challenges to learning environments around the world. However, with the help of dedicated faculty, many of Collingwood's co-curricular activities are finding a way to continue providing students with inspiring educational experiences.

One example of this is our amazing robotics club, the RoboCavs. In order to continue to manage safety protocols, several changes were required to the program this year. Team structures were altered to keep students within their learning groups. Additional roles and responsibilities were placed on the students to ensure attendance logs, isolation between groups and proper cleaning of equipment. "While not a typical year, we've seen a lot of really

good things happen,” says STEM Teacher Shaina Gleicher. “The students have stepped up to take on a lot of extra roles and are developing a high level of leadership.”

VEX, the international organization that runs robotics competitions, pivoted this year to provide competitions in a remote format. This format includes a remote skills competition, where participants run an auto-code script for their robot for 60 seconds. A referee views the skills via camera and scores the demonstration for various criteria. While this different format has taken some time to debug, the team has found ways to overcome the challenges. For example, the RoboCavs successfully participated in an event hosted by Harvard Westlake in California that included teams from all around the world.

Best of all, despite the unusual format of this year’s events, the RoboCavs have now expanded to 13 active teams, comprised of over 60 students. In early spring, the RoboCavs will be hosting the Collingwood Invitational, which will include a more standard, in-person format that follows current safety protocols. Go RoboCavs! 📺







For more pictures, see the Photo Gallery
section of collingwood.org



Collingwood gives you wings!

What lifts you up?

WELLNESS WEEK WAS THE PERFECT OPPORTUNITY to launch one of Morven's most exciting art installations of the year. Each feather carries a student's thought about what makes them happy, lifts them and helps them through tough times. This inspiring project is the hard work of Ms. Desjardins, Ms. Grivakes, Ms. Underwood and countless students.







The Impact of Change on the University Application Process at Collingwood

As the Greek philosopher Heraclitus, said: “change is the only constant.” Heraclitus was a man ahead of his time, considering the unprecedented changes in the university application process this past year. Never before have schools been more adaptive to the radically changing environment and landscape of post-secondary applications. From the removal of standardized testing in the USA to how students earn credits, universities have adjusted their admissions processes to accommodate widespread changes.

In the US, taking an SAT or ACT standardized test has historically been required to apply for admission. Last year, this changed as access to tests decreased, and virtually all schools went “test-optional.” This means a student can send test scores if they want, but not sending them does not harm their application. The University of California system has gone one step further and declared a “test-blind” policy moving forward. This means students cannot send test scores to support their applications to any of the UC campuses. As COVID continues, most schools have announced they are extending their test-optional policy into the 2021-22 application cycle. Our current Gr. 11s should consider this information as they plan for any US applications in the fall.

To facilitate learning in BC government-approved cohorts of 120 high school students or fewer, we adopted a new “2-5-1” system for the current year, which will continue for the 2021-22 academic calendar. All students complete their first two courses of the year by the end of October; finish five more courses (including all APs) by the end of May; and end the year with one

course. Most universities use a self-reporting system for grades at the time of application, and updated grades are provided throughout the year. Collingwood students are advantaged by having final results for the first two courses in the school year completed before our internal deadline for application.

Our UG office is pleased to provide timely support to Morven students in the different grade levels. We meet with every student, in every grade level, every year. This spring, we will conduct writing seminars for Grade 11 students to assist them with their personal statements for their upcoming university applications. This will allow time over the summer for students to develop their ideas and arrive in the fall with a head start on their application process. We will also participate in the Collingwood U transition options for the current Grade 12 students as they prepare to take on the challenges in their move from secondary to post-secondary studies.

As always, we remain committed to working with parents to keep everyone informed about any changes that continue to impact Collingwood students moving forward. We want to sincerely thank the Collingwood community for the incredible support and warm welcome our new UG team has received this year.

Have you ever wondered what it is like to be a university admission officer? Gr. 10 and 11 students and parents are invited to join us for the chance to work with talented university professionals on case studies to guide parents and students through the admissions process, where you will be asked to admit, deny and waitlist potential candidates.

When: Wednesday, May 19th

Time: 7pm

Venue: Online

ADVANCEMENT

Tartan Fund Donor Profile

Susan Hu and Paul Tan are proud to support the students, families and teachers at Collingwood School through their gift to the Tartan Fund. They hope their donation will help provide students with an education that will lead to a successful future and further benefit generations to come.

Susan and Paul's daughter, Sophia, joined Collingwood this past September as a Gr. 3 student. Already she has made many friends, connected with her teachers and found her favourite places in the library and the huge playground at Wentworth. As a family, they value the wide variety of athletics at Collingwood. So far, Sophia has participated in badminton and cross country running. She also enjoys the many service opportunities and the sense of family inherent in the Collingwood community.

Susan and Paul would like Collingwood's faculty and staff to know how much they appreciate the extra efforts needed to keep students learning and enjoying their educational experience during COVID-19. They are so grateful for all of the open communication from the School and believe that challenging times like this are when we should all come together as a community to support each other. Looking forward to when things get back to normal, Susan and Paul are excited to start travelling again, with a sunny trip to Mexico in the plans.



It's not too late to give to the Tartan Fund!

Thank you to the entire Collingwood community for your support of the 2020-21 Tartan Fund. It's not too late to help us reach our goal of 100% participation throughout the Collingwood community. Together, we can do it! To donate, please visit our giving page at collingwood.org/giving.

Donations can also be sent via mail or via student drop-off. For further information please contact our Advancement Department at advancement@collingwood.org or 604.925.3331 ext. 1182

As a reminder, the Tartan Fund is our annual fundraising campaign. Donations help to provide supplemental funding for educational resources not covered by tuition and government grants. These are the resources and programs that help make Collingwood's four-strand education approach an exceptional one. The Tartan Fund allows our students to fulfill their potential and tackle new ideas, dreams and infinite opportunities. We are strongest when we are unified in our efforts. That's why our goal for the Tartan Fund is 100% participation from our community. It's never too late to make your donation!

PARENTS' COUNCIL

Parents' Council aims to help all parents build a strong connection within our Collingwood community. While this year has been challenging with the necessary social limitations, the events we have been able to hold were all well received. We're hoping to add some additional events to the Parents' Council calendar, so please be on the lookout for details in the coming weeks. If you have an idea for parents to connect, we'd love to hear from you! Email cwconnections@mycw.org.

Recent highlights include:

- Christmas baking in December. More than 30 parents connected with Chef Regina to bake Christmas Yule cakes.
- The French Connection club hosted Christmas in France online trivia night in December.
- Tasting through style wine tasting in January.
- Love around the world Valentine's Trivia night in February.



- Lunar New Year online celebration in February. Hosted by Morven students for the Chinese Connection club.
- Monthly/bi-monthly grade-wide virtual book/social club gatherings that provided an opportunity for parents to stay connected with their peers in a fun and casual way.
- Teacher appreciation lunches in March that featured a South Asian food truck.

We encourage you to get involved with Parents' Council. Parents' Council is a wonderful way to get to know others in our school community, give back, and have fun. We are looking for new volunteers to join our Council for the 2021/2022 school year. We have a wide variety of roles to best fit with each parent, and we would

love to have you! Please contact Nemelia Winckler at pcchair@mycw.org for more information.

ADMISSIONS

As you all know, our community is the best source of new student applications. If you know of any families who are interested in Collingwood School, we encourage you to let them know to watch out for our virtual Coffee & Conversation events to learn more about our School, our admissions process for the 2022-23 school year and our financial assistance program for Gr. 6-12 students. More information about these events is available collingwood.org/admissions.

Financial Aid

Collingwood School provides financial assistance to parents of our current students and incoming students in Gr. 6-12. The Financial Aid Program exists to provide financial assistance to qualified families who demonstrate financial need, who reside on the North Shore or in the Greater Vancouver area, and who would otherwise be unable to afford the full cost for their child/children to attend Collingwood School. For more information, please contact our Director of Financial Aid, Janis Clark at janis.clark@collingwood.org or 604.925.3331 (Ext 2293) or visit collingwood.org/admissions/financial-aid.



"I had no idea until last year that the school offered financial aid. We are so relieved to have qualified and received tuition support. Our children absolutely love Collingwood, and this financial support helps to bridge the gap between what we can afford and the actual tuition costs. We are forever grateful to Collingwood!"
- Wentworth/Morven family

"Our son continues to love and thrive at Collingwood. Seeing his pace of learning and how engaged he is in every subject, we are all very grateful for the support and the opportunity you are giving him every day. In these crazy times, at least once a week I think "Thank goodness Collingwood is open!" You guys are a model for what a school should be."
- Morven family

Alumni profile: Meghan Chase



Meghan knew she wanted to be a teacher from a young age. A large part of her deciding to teach was so she could return to Collingwood. "At graduation," she said, "I was crying because I didn't want to go."

Diagnosed with dyslexia in elementary school, Meghan was told school was always going to be a challenge for her. However, she attributes her passion for learning to the guidance and compassion of her teachers at Collingwood. "Every teacher is here because they are passionate about education," Meghan said. "I knew that I wanted to help facilitate that love for learning that I experienced throughout my Collingwood career."

Since graduating from Collingwood in 2015, Meghan attended Bishop's University, where she graduated at the top of her class and completed three degrees in five years (BA, BFA and B.Ed). Six years later, Meghan is back at Collingwood, working alongside her former teachers, Laurie Geddes and Jake Francis, in the art department at Morven. "I feel fortunate to work in a place so familiar and comforting," she said. "It has been so interesting to see all the work that goes into the Collingwood educational experience." For example, she describes how eye-opening it was to be part of a meeting where elementary teachers gathered and discussed each student's likes, dislikes and how to better engage them in the classroom.

Meghan is passionate about making art more accessible in school environments. Her advice to students of Collingwood comes from her own experience, "Be 100% your true self and hold on tightly to your dreams and ambitions throughout your high school and university career. Being able to focus on academics and what truly makes me happy helped me find the most success."

Shaping Perceptions of Your Brand: An Alumni Workshop

What does being authentic mean to you? On February 18th, Collingwood Alumni were invited to attend an online workshop hosted by experts at The Humphrey Group. Through this interactive workshop, Alumni were encouraged to identify their values in four aspects of their lives: professional, family, community and self. Considering these values in relation to family and community was an eye-opening experience for participants, many of whom had only thought about personal branding in the context of their professional lives. For participants who had been working on their resumes or looking to make a career change, the workshop served as an opportunity to re-evaluate their strengths and understand what is unique about them as a candidate.


ALUMNI EVENTS

Do you have an idea for a topic or speaker you would like to see featured at one of our workshop and webinar alumni events? Please reach out to Annabelle Lin at alumni@collingwood.org

JOIN THE COLLINGWOOD ALUMNI EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE!

Do you want to get involved in the planning of alumni events and initiatives? Applications are now open for the Alumni Executive Committee. You can apply at collingwood.org/alumni/join-us

STAY CONNECTED

 [collingwood/alumni-linked-in](https://www.linkedin.com/company/collingwood-alumni-linked-in)
Add Collingwood in the education section of your profile.

 [Collingwoodschool](https://www.instagram.com/collingwoodschool)

 [CollingwoodSchoolAlumni](https://www.facebook.com/CollingwoodSchoolAlumni)

Update your mailing address at:
collingwood.org/alumni/update-your-address



Lise Middleton

Wentworth Gr. 4 Teacher

5 THINGS YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT HER:

1. Grew up in a small town in northern New Brunswick. Mom spoke mostly French. Dad spoke mostly English.
2. Loves the snow and lobster rolls.
3. Plays the Native American flute. And owns two of them.
4. Has identical twin granddaughters who are turning 13 this month.
5. Can see herself becoming a published author in the future.



While COVID-19 has been hard on everyone, it has been especially so for our frontline workers. Led by Gr. 5 students Jonathan Yeung, Jaysen Gill and Ryan Saremi. Share the Love was created to show our Lion's Gate Hospital frontline workers how much the community is thinking about them and how much we appreciate their continued efforts. Healthy snacks such as protein bars and granola bars were collected at Wentworth and delivered to Lion's Gate Hospital just before Spring Break.



The Share the Love service initiative was led by Gr. 5 students Ryan Saremi, Jonathan Yeung and Jaysen Gill.



WE'RE PROUD TO BE A SUPPORTIVE
MEMBER OF OUR COMMUNITY.



One of our School's core values is community. With this in mind, our Service Learning program instills a sense of awareness of social and environmental issues through opportunities to work with over 30 different non-profit organizations. That's why our goal is to help shape our students into local stewards, community partners and global citizens. This year, in response to the pandemic, our students will be available to help our neighbours on the North Shore with outdoor chores like yard work, recycling and dog walking. To inquire about student availability, please email service@collingwood.org.



COLLINGWOOD
SCHOOL

Return all undeliverable Canadian addresses to:

Collingwood School

70 Morven Dr, West Vancouver, BC V7S 1B2 Canada