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# COLLING 1001

## The Gr.4

Pilot Project: An innovative Wentworth program embraces forward focused learning





## **bridge**

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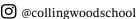
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#### **Paper Certification**

#### **DID YOU KNOW?**

104 Collingwood Faculty and Staff have been with our School for over 20 years.

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#### **KEY DATES:**

School closed for National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, September 30 School closed for Thanksgiving, October 10 School closed for Province-wide Prod D Day, October 21 Non-instructional day for students - Parent Teacher meetings, November 9 School closed for Term Break and Remembrance Day, November 10-11 Last Day of Classes before Winter Break, December 15 First Day of Classes after Winter Break, January 9

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



Welcome back! At the start of each school year, I feel re-energized and look forward to seeing what the academic year will bring. This year is certainly no exception, especially as we have made our way back towards more normal times. Our Strategic Plan has given us a roadmap for the next five years—prioritizing Forward Focused Learning, Building Community, Wellbeing and Sustainability—and while we will intentionally advance goals under each of these Four Pillars, we'd like to really hone in on building community at the start of this new school year.

Our EDI Commitment states: We aim to foster an inclusive and equitable environment that embraces diversity. Through education and courage, we are committed to cultivating a pluralistic environment as we work together to remove barriers so that everyone feels welcomed, understood and valued. Welcomed. Understood. Valued. These are our goals. We want to make our School a better place for everyone.

Every person is looking for their place in the world. We want our students to pursue their passions to find their unique purpose in the world. Students need to feel seen, safe and supported-this strong sense of community contributes to the overall success of our students. Studies confirm that students cannot focus on concepts and that their learning is adversely impacted if they are worried about interpersonal or social-emotional issues.

Community is one of our school values, and as part of building community, we are committed to strengthening engagement with families and alumni. For our current families, I encourage you to take part in the many activities offered by Parents' Council and to make time for events hosted by the School, including our Collingwood Parent Conference, other guest speaker series, affinity groups and on-site events. For our Alumni, please be on the lookout this fall for our first alumni survey in more than ten years—we want to learn more about your experiences as students and how to improve our connection with you as adults.

For both families and Alumni, we welcome you to enrich student learning by considering volunteering your time or your professional expertise in the classroom, as a guest speaker, or as a mentor to a Senior School student as we look to expand the opportunities for real-world and experiential learning across the Four Strands. This is connected to Forward Focused Learning as well as we look to deepen and expand connections with local and global partners to generate authentic learning experiences for students of all ages.

There's some terrific examples of some of the work already being done on this front that you can read about in this issue of Bridge. Be sure to read the Gr. 4 Pilot Project article. And, don't miss the Q & A opposite this page, to learn more about our new Principal of the Senior School, Martin Jones. We are so excited to have Mr. Jones with us to lead the Morven team and look forward to introducing him to our community at the Welcome Back BBQ!

yalwane

Lisa Evans, Head of School

#### Getting to know Martin Jones, our new Head of Morven

#### Where are you from? Where did you go to school?

I grew up in South Surrey, BC. I attended Semiahmoo Secondary and graduated from Elgin Park. I then attended University of Victoria (to follow my rugby passion) and later Simon Fraser University for my graduate degree.

#### What motivated you to become an educator?

My primary connection to education was through sport. I played many sports growing up and volunteered as a coach to give back to the sporting community. I realized my passion for working with children and young adults through coaching. I am motivated by how coaches and educators can help young adults become better than they think they can be.

#### Where have you worked previously?

Following graduation from UVic, I traveled and worked in New Zealand. It was an amazing experience. I got to coach rugby at one of the most prestigious schools in the country. I then returned to Canada and began working at Mulgrave. I have been in various roles at Mulgrave for the last 19 years.

#### What role do you see technology playing in the future of education?

Technology is already playing a massive role in providing access to information and the increased ability to collaborate with others- we saw this develop significantly through the pandemic. I think technology has the potential to provide very personalized (and hopefully individualized) learning pathways for each student. While there are already several metrics we can use to support student learning in many areas, there is still an opportunity for further use of technology to help students along a customized pathway to their specific needs. This is impossible to do with one teacher in a room of students but can be managed with technology.

#### What do you think you will be known for at Collingwood?

I hope I am known for a few things. First, my strong connections with students, colleagues and the community. Also, my sense of innovation.

#### What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?

I enjoy a wide variety of outdoor activities such as mountain biking, skiing, surfing and camping.

*Do you have a favourite sports team?* Yes, many! Canucks, Seahawks and the New Zealand All Blacks to name a few.

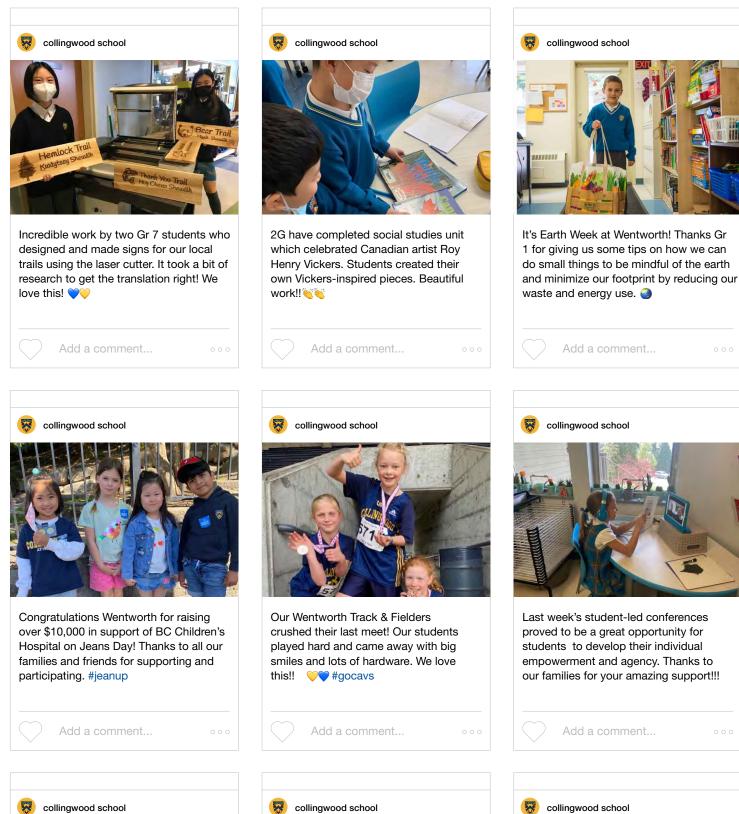
What is your favourite musical artist? Nirvana (but I am also a huge fan of any hip hop).

What is the most interesting item on your bucket list? Surfing in Indonesia.



Martin, Finn, Megan and Esme

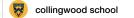
#### #WENTWORTH



a said



#MORVEN





As part of our PHE curriculum, Gr 10 students take Emergency First Aid & CPR training. Thanks to St. John's Ambulance for teaching our students these life saving skills!

Add a comment...



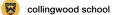
Madame Dey's French 8 class spent their first day back on a service field trip with @backpackbuddiesbc. We love this partnership and it was so great to finally reconnect in person!

Add a comment...



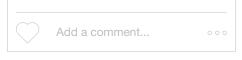
This week our Environmental Science 12 class went urban farming at Loutet Farms. It was a great day to get outside and get our hands dirty learning about soil & sustainable farming! @the\_egp

Add a comment...





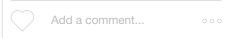
Big shout out to everyone involved in this spring's production of Murder On The Orient Express. It was so wonderful to once again host live performances in our theatre. Bravo







Celebrating our CW Lifers today with visits from a few of their favourite Wentworth teachers. One of our most favourite traditions! We love all the memories. The class of 2022





Congrats to our Drum Corps who placed 2nd in Provincials yesterday! Also competing, in the exhibition class, was our Community Drumline. Fantastic job, Drummers!!!! #gocavs







MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH YOUR DONATIONS TO THE TARTAN FUND

# The Gr.4 Pilot Project

An innovative Wentworth program embraces forward focused learning



LIKE MANY ADULTS, you might remember sitting in an elementary school classroom counting down the minutes until you were released to go outside. Luckily for kids today much has changed. We now understand the importance of finding ways to engage young minds to inspire explorations, connections and ideas. Through the inquiry process, classes explore questions in a topic area that inspire their students' curiosity and engagement. What's weird about this topic? What's cool about it? Is someone or something being helped or harmed? Is there something that's morally right or wrong? Is there a buried treasure we might find if we look closely? Is there a secret to discover or a puzzle we can solve? Not surprisingly, when students find a topic intriguing, they generally want to learn more about it. With the rollout of Collingwood's Strategic Plan this year, Wentworth created an Academic Innovation Committee. This committee aims to support Collingwood's Forward Focused Learning pillar at the elementary level through the design of projects and programs that challenge our students to dive deeper into their learning opportunities and step beyond the traditional classroom setting. After generating a wealth of ideas and plans, the committee was faced with an intriguing question of their own. Where to begin? The answer turned out to be the Gr. 4 Pilot Project.

So what exactly was the Gr. 4 Pilot Project? Throughout last spring, Collingwood's Gr. 4 students had the opportunity to participate in an immersive, forward focused, 4-week learning experience that explored climate change.

The project began with a week of activities, experiments and other experiences designed to help provide students with an introduction to climate change and an understanding of how and why it's happening. Next, students "became experts" through a series of four stations that explored the results of climate change: fires, floods, soil erosion and warming/rising oceans. Each station included a variety of enriching educational experiences ranging from videos and games to interviews with subject experts to science experiments to field study in collaboration with several local organizations. (Huge shout out to Collingwood alumni Kennedy Weiss '21, McKinley Kennedy 20' and Isabella Parker '19 who joined the project as interns and assisted throughout.) Students were prompted to see the learning embedded in their experiences and encouraged to explain through reflections what they learned through their days in the field. Students were empowered to look for solutions to the climate change challenges we face and come up with an action plan in one of the four areas.







#### THE INQUIRY PROCESS: STUDENT-CENTRED LEARNING

- Create question
- Research (not just reading, include interviews, podcasts, etc.)
- What questions do you have based on research?
- Learning Activities (set goals, timelines, competencies)
- Assessment students create statement for each competency area
- Next steps set actions and goals for moving forward







For their final project, students were given the opportunity to choose the form in which they would present their learnings and ideas for solutions. Students' presentations could take the form of media (like a podcast), data (like infographics), or story (like short fiction). These choices of form also serve to encourage students to share their learnings with others to inspire positive change. In addition to their teachers, the Gr. 4's provided their first big audience. Several students were also selected to present their projects to Collingwood's Senior Leadership Team.

Of course, the Gr. 4 Pilot Project leads to another important question. What's going to be the next major forward focused learning initiative at Wentworth? Stay tuned.



"A highlight of this project, for the teachers and students, was collapsing our traditional subject-focused timetable model and transforming into community-based learning groups. It was inspiring to watch the Gr. 4's connecting with their focus groups and researching their passions."

- Jacquelyn Johnson, Wentworth Math Teacher





#### STUDENT REFLECTIONS

I discovered that you don't have to keep your learning in the classroom, it can happen anywhere.

- Ava, Gr. 4

I discovered that one experience can spark a lot of new ideas when it comes to looking for solutions to climate change.

Blair, Gr. 4

We need to learn to live sustainably if we want to keep our Earth healthy. We need to reduce our carbon footprint.

- Rebecca, Gr. 4

What I have learned has allowed me to grow and better understand what I need to do next when it comes to helping with climate change.

- Arianna Gr. 4

If change-makers change the world, you can too! We need to work together to keep our planet healthy.

Alex, Gr. 4

# ROBOCAVS TAKE ON THE WORLD

Students travel to Dallas to compete in the VEX Robotics World Championships

Updates from the competition by Paul Rogers, Morven STEM Teacher

#### MAY 2

This morning at 3:45 am our intrepid roboticians met at the airport to go take on the world. This is quite literally a World Championship. The senior team will be competing against 820 other teams, and the middle school team against 400. Teams are coming from all over the world. The list is too long, but attendees include students from countries such as Canada, Taiwan, the UK, Kazakhstan, Puerto Rico, Columbia, Mexico, New Zealand, South Korea, the Philippines, and Singapore. For each team, their robot is a result of hundreds of hours of designing, building, testing, re-designing, coding, more testing, a lot of teeth-knashing and a bit of magic. This senior team has even put together a reveal video of their robot, the 5th version of this robot they have built.





#### MAY Y

Last night was the opening ceremony, with our very own Tommy Meng walking into the stadium carrying the flag to represent Canada. 8000 spectators watched and cheered. The atmosphere here is amazing. I have talked to teams from England, Mexico, Ireland, South Korea and all over the U.S. Teams decorate their pit areas with banners and flags, and most teams came with wrist bands or buttons or stickers to trade and collect. Our kids are now wearing backpacks covered in pins. The Middle School Tournament kicks off today. Robotics competitions are a 2v2 event with every team randomly assigned an Alliance Partner for each match. They will play 11 matches over the next day and a half leading up to the playoffs. Most of our alliance partners are from the U.S. but we are also partnered with a team from Kazakhstan and one from Japan. We will also be competing against teams from Alberta, Quebec and Australia.



Today saw the end of the line for our intrepid Middle School Robocavs. Their tournament started off on the wrong foot as they went two wins and two losses over their first four matches. Their fortunes changed, however, as they went into a match partnered with the team from Kazakhstan. This match was an epic battle and saw them earning their highest points total of the tournamen. The Robocavs then went on to win five straight and climbed to 14th in the division. The playoffs are a single-elimination event, with 32 of the 71 teams taking part in the divisional playoffs. Unfortunately, our first playoff match was against the very good team from Kazakhstan and we lost 176 to 60, and our tournament was over. Now the focus turned to the Senior Team. Their tournament is just getting started and today was their opening ceremonies, pit setup, robot inspection and practice opportunities. 818 teams will compete in 10 divisions at the Senior level. Alwyn Tong had the privilege of walking in carrying the flag to represent Canada. Their first matches start tomorrow and run through Saturday morning. If they progress to the divisional playoffs, that will occur Saturday afternoon.





#### MAY 7

I am sorry to report that the Robocavs have fallen. Today started with some difficulties that placed us in 32nd spot with our path to the playoffs in other teams' hands. As the final matches of the divisional play wrapped up, many of the results worked for us, with teams above us losing. This saw us rise to 28th at the end of all regular matches and were selected as partners by the 22nd ranked team from Maine. We fought hard and never gave up, but it was not to be. Kevin drove masterfully and did most of the scoring for their alliance. Alwyn worked the strategy side, communicating with the other team to maximize both offence and defence. The team was heartbroken at the result, but I am sure, with time, they will look back on all they have done with pride. I would also like to update you on the Senior team's final Skills score. They finished all of their driver control and autonomous runs today and ended up with a tournament-wide ranking of 47th out of the 818 teams competing. That also places them at 197th on the year-long skills list for all teams worldwide. With 20,000 VEX teams worldwide, that is an amazing accomplishment!



#### ROBOCAVS TEAMS WHO QUALIFIED FOR CHAMPIONSHIP:

9594S (Senior Team) Kevin Qu Alwyn Tong Dominic Kowalski Quinn Reynolds

9594A (Middle School Team) Tommy Meng Rasta Piri Abereena Xu Eric Tam Jungyoon Park

#### THE 2022 VEX ROBOTICS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

This competition brought over 3,000 teams from 36 nations together to celebrate STEM excellence. Student-led teams ranging from elementary to university-level showcased their strategy, teamwork, and desire to be crowned champions at this world-class global event held at the Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center in Dallas, Texas.



FEATURE

"I love rugby because all the players need to work hard together to be successful. Rugby always challenges me physically and emotionally on the field and off the field, I love hanging out with my friends. I am extremely excited to move to Morven because I want to experience the next level of rugby and meet new players."

- Tryton Haddad, Gr.7

**RUGBY IS AN IMMENSELY POPULAR** and growing sport because of its strategic nature, fast pace, team play and accessibility. And most of all, because it is fun. Unlike just about any other team sport, rugby is about all players having the same opportunity to run with the ball, pass the ball, and play defence. It is very difficult to dominate a game with one really good player. You need everyone to participate, and because of that, everyone gets to participate.

Unlike many elementary schools, students at Wentworth are offered the opportunity to play rugby starting in Gr. 3 with the non-contact flag version. This past year 15 students signed up to play. Contact starts with the Gr. 4 and 5 program, which has grown in popularity. This past year, Collingwood had 27 Gr. 4 and 5 athletes playing rugby, and they even attended a rugby tournament in Victoria. Our Gr. 7 team featured 20 athletes who are excited about moving up to Morven this fall and taking their next step in rugby. Our coaches believe there are a number of benefits to starting rugby early in an athlete's development. Rugby is a particularly good sport for encouraging and developing young athletes' hand/eye coordination and catching abilities. The nature of the game also encourages players to keep their head up and look for the ball. And, like most team sports, playing rugby also helps young athletes develop important skills such as teamwork, communication, respect, discipline and resilience. Another one of the great things about rugby is that it is an extremely inclusive sport due to the diverse nature of participant roles. Rugby really is a game for all shapes and sizes, so there is a place for everyone. Wentworth rugby teams are also considered co-ed, and there are a growing number of girls that play each year. So be sure to watch for information about joining the Wentworth rugby program. **b** 



Collingwood Athletics Director David Speirs was a member of Canada's 1991 World Cup team that made it all the way to the quarterfinals. In 2018, the team was inducted into the B.C. Sports Hall of Fame.









# No longer waiting in the wings

Freaky Friday marks the long-awaited return of musicals to Morven





**BASED ON THE BELOVED 1972 NOVEL** by Mary Rodgers, Freaky Friday is the story of an uber-organized mother and her spontaneous teenage daughter who magically swap bodies and have just one day to put things right. Masquerading as each other, they must work together to solve the mystery of how to break the spell. By spending a day in each other's shoes, they come to appreciate one another in a way they could never have imagined. In the end, both learn the true power of love and the strength and potential of teamwork.

Teamwork is an appropriate theme, given what it takes to put on a musical production. "Musical theatre presents a unique opportunity for collaboration between the arts as it features theatre, dance, music and design," said Cara Tench, Morven Performing Arts Teacher who, along with Luke McAndless-Davis, Morven Choir and Music Teacher, is leading the Freaky Friday production. "I couldn't think of a better way to celebrate the return of live performances than a musical that brings all the performing arts disciplines together in a joyous celebration," added McAndless-Davis. "You could feel the bubbling anticipation in the room from the first rehearsal to the last show."

Freaky Friday premiered in mid-June with electrifying performances for their live audiences. Musicals at Morven are back and here to stay. Watch out for an announcement in the coming months about this year's musical production!

- "I have loved how diverse the cast and crew are and how we are all learning so much during the process."
- Monique Kelly, Gr. 12
- "From being in the musical, I have learned that anyone really, truly can do it. It's simply a matter of fully committing when you are given the opportunity."
- Jake DeLuise, Gr. 12

"Step out of your comfort zone, you will have a great experience no matter how large of a role you have. Whether you are part of choir, band, dance or none, there is always a spot for you in the musical."

- Alwyn Tong, Gr. 12









































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

# The Dora Love Prize

#### Learning about the attitudes that led to the Holocaust

DORA LOVE, A HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR, spent much of her life raising awareness about the attitudes that made the Holocaust possible. This intolerance, discrimination and hatred of those we see as different still exists around us today. While Dora Love passed away in 2011, the University of Essex hosts the Dora Love Prize to ensure her work continues. Each year a student project is selected which best expresses what was most important to Dora Love: speaking up against hatred wherever it occurs, never forgetting the ultimate consequence of seemingly small acts of discrimination, and developing a sense of personal responsibility. The winning entry is then provided funding and advice by the university to turn their proposal into reality. Originally intended for students in Essex and Suffolk, England, Collingwood School is the first international school to take part in the competition. In addition to learning about the Holocaust, students also explored these attitudes through the lens of colonialism in Canada. The output from their project was on display at Morven in June and the Dora Love Prize awards ceremony was hosted during the summer.

"We believe that participating in the Dora Love Prize will not only reinforce holocaust awareness, but further strengthen our students' commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion."

-Ben Lane, Morven Socials and English Teacher











As part of the Dora Love Prize project, Morven students took part in a virtual talk by Holocaust Survivor Lillian Boraks-Nemetz.



Jade Han, Hailey Xi, Mike Alexander, Rebecca Sun, Mila Scholz

As part of their research for the Dora Love Prize project, four students attended the exhibition "We are the Land, We are the Water" by Anishinaabe artist Mike Alexander at the Massy Arts Society. The students were there working on their curatorial skills and were lucky enough to meet Mr. Alexander.

#### ADMISSIONS

As we 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 about the return of in-person Open House events and our virtual Connect Over Coffee events to learn more about our School, our admissions process for the 2023-24 school year and our financial assistance program for Gr. 6–12 students. More information about these events is available collingwood.org/admissions.

#### **Financial Assistance**

Collingwood School's Financial Assistance Program provides financial support for qualified families of incoming or enrolled Gr. 6-12 students. For more information about our Financial Assistance Program and the application process, please contact lindsay.thierry@collingwood.org.





#### UNIVERSITY GUIDANCE

#### **Collingwood Case Studies**

In the United States, highly selective universities and colleges have a certain cachet, with walled campuses surrounded by mystery. What does it take to get in? Unlike Canadian admissions, which are often based on percentage grades alone, US admissions incorporate not only grades but also qualitative factors such as reference letters and personal statements. This holistic process and the resulting decisions can seem baffling and inscrutable. As an antidote to the confusion, Mr. Chris Payne brought case studies to our School.

Collingwood Case Studies is a series of evening events targeted toward Gr. 10 and 11 families whose students are considering applying to the US. With the wonders of digital conferencing technology, we create small breakout rooms where students and parents can step into the shoes of admissions officers and discuss mock student applications to the fictitious "Red Brick University." Our participants then determine whether "Stephanie," "Michelle," and "David," will be admitted, waitlisted or denied. Case Studies participants find that engagement in the breakout room discussion produces the most robust learning takeaways. With limited time, the committee must split hairs to determine the best-fit candidate for Red Brick, and deliberations often come down to the wire. In this way, families come to understand the real-world conditions of admissions, learning what matters – and what doesn't – on a student's application. Extracurriculars, essays, reference letters, background context, and even typos on the application can all tip the scales.

One significant benefit of the program is assistance from current US admissions officers. They lead the discussion and wait to reveal their home institutions until the conclusion of the event. In the past, we've seen colleges as diverse in size, location and offerings as UCLA in California, Trinity University in Texas, and Barnard College in New York.

A special thanks to Mr. Payne for recruiting university reps and organizing this opportunity in collaboration with Shawnigan Lake School and Brentwood College School on Vancouver Island. Stay tuned for an announcement regarding upcoming sessions.

#### PARENTS' COUNCIL

On behalf of the entire Parents' Council, we would like to extend a warm welcome to both our returning and new families for the 2022/23 school year!

Did you know that each and every parent at Collingwood is a member of our Parents' Council? Our Parents' Council Executive Committee consists of up to 20 elected positions and a variety of off-council coordinators and volunteers, which then work as a team to represent the entire parent community. Our mission is to build a strong and inclusive Collingwood community while being fiscally responsible and applying sustainable practices.

Parents' Council is thrilled to offer a variety of events and activities throughout the coming school year, all of which are meant to engage and connect our school community. From book clubs and wine tastings to the dog walking club and floral arranging, we hope there is something to suit everyone. If you have any creative suggestions for clubs or activities, we would love to hear from you! Please connect with Eileen Lian and Sophia Moctezuma at cwconnections@mycw.org to share your ideas.

We are optimistic that this year will allow for even more of our Parents' Council initiatives to occur in person and, in turn, a variety of opportunities for parent volunteerism to be available. Getting involved as a parent volunteer is the perfect way to connect with others in our school community, set a good example for your student(s), and, most importantly, have fun! If you are interested in learning about volunteer opportunities, please email our Volunteer Coordinator Camille Shariff at pcvolunteers@mycw.org

We can't wait to experience this new school year with you, and look forward to creating new memories & friendships between us all!

Kristen Langdon, PC Chair Athena Kondopulos, PC Vice Chair

#### DO YOU HAVE AN IDEA FOR PARENTS AND FAMILIES TO CONNECT?

Email pcchair@mycw.org



## Where to find Parents' Council members and volunteer this year:

- Grade Wide Coffee Mornings: these casual format meetings allow you the chance to meet and mingle with fellow parents, while hearing everything you need to know for the term ahead
- Unishop: with 4 sales dates throughout the school year, Unishop is not only a fabulous resource to purchase gently used uniform pieces, but also a great parent volunteer opportunity
- Festive Craft Day: this much loved Collingwood tradition offers students in K through Gr. 3 the chance to create a special winter craft to take home for a loved one
- Bingo: a fun filled evening for all our Wentworth families to try their luck at being the first to call Bingo
- Teacher & Staff Appreciation Lunches: offered at both campuses in the spring, these special luncheons are served to those who make our School so incredibly wonderful for our students
- Spring Fair: our signature event of the year! In April, the Morven campus is transformed into a country fair, truly offering something for everyone
- Parent Party: be it a casual BBQ, a formal Gala, or something in between, a Collingwood Parent Party event brings together our entire parent community to create special memories and connections
- Grade-Wide Book Clubs: the perfect way to meet and socialize with fellow parents while discussing new book selections
- Cultural Celebrations: Parents' Council loves to support events that showcase the diversity of our school community, such as Lunar New Year and Nowruz— Persian New Year

Please visit our webpage at collingwood.org/parentscouncil to get the most up to date information on upcoming events.

#### ALUMNOTES

#### Alumni profile: Taisha Teal Wayrynen '11



Taisha is an Art Therapist and Artist and this past spring was featured at Art Vancouver, Western Canada's most prestigious art fair that brings together respected local, national and international artists and galleries.

*Tell us about your life after Collingwood*. After graduation, I took some time off and went travelling around Europe.

Once I returned to Vancouver, I studied at Capilano University and received my Associate's Degree concentrating in Psychology. Then I went to SFU and earned my Bachelor in Psychology. Then I went to The Vancouver Art Therapy Institute to become an art therapist. I currently work at The Carlile Youth Concurrent Disorders Centre at Lions Gate Hospital and have my own private practice in Vancouver. I also love event planning and work for Vancouver Visual Art Foundation, which hosts the annual Art Vancouver International Art Fair. I started to professionally sell my artwork in 2015 when I began to exhibit in art fairs around the world. I'm very blessed to have art collectors and agents around the world.

What inspires you as an artist? I am a contemporary artist always experimenting with new materials. Traveling the world is my inspiration and I learn from other artists I meet along the way.

How did your time at Collingwood support your love for art? Ms. Geddes was my AP art teacher and Mr. Francis was my photography teacher. They were both so positive while encouraging me to do my best! And always so supportive when I've come back to Collingwood to find volunteers.

What are your fondest memories of Collingwood? Art, photography, friends, sports games, and the amazing teachers who were always so patient with me!!!

What advice you would give current students? Try everything, travel the world and follow your dreams!

You can view Taisha's work at taishateal.com

#### A special Collingwood thank you to Tim O'Neill

This year marks the end of the term for Chair of the Alumni Executive Committee, Tim O'Neill, who has served on the committee since 2017. Tim was a founder at Collingwood starting in Gr. 1 in 1984 and continued at Collingwood until Gr. 10. Thank you, Tim, for your years of service and for leading and creating engaging alumni programs over the years. Ariana Sairafi '11, a member of the Executive Committee since 2018, will be taking up the role of Chair.



#### IN-PERSON ALUMNI EVENTS ARE BACK!

Our CAVS Business Lunch finally returned in-person this past spring. We were joined by Sam Gharegozlou, a 2006 alum and Co-Founder and President of Axiom Zen and winner of the Mackenzie Award for Academics, for a fireside chat moderated by Alumni Executive Committee member Joey Tai' o6. Sam shared how Axiom Zen brought together a team of tech-savvy individuals around the simple idea of future-building to create some of the most successful properties in gaming and entertainment today. With several exciting events being planned for fall, be on the lookout for news about these amazing opportunities to connect with other Collingwood alumni.

#### **REUNIONS RETURN!**

This spring, many graduating classes were finally able to gather and celebrate their reunions at the Morven campus. With a flurry of events that included 10, 20 and 30-year reunions, Collingwood alumni, former and current faculty gathered to enjoy socializing and reminiscing. Dates and information for upcoming reunions will be coming soon! For more information, contact 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/alumniexecutive-committee

## Donor Report 2021-2022 School Year



There are many ways to support Collingwood School, from volunteering on our Board and Parent's Council, providing support for teaching and learning through classroom activities and making financial donations. We are grateful for each and every action of support. Thank you! The purpose of this Donor Report is to share with our community the importance and impact your donations have on our students and School.

#### The Tartan Fund

The Tartan Fund is the fuel for the pursuit of passions at Collingwood. Your donation enables our students to deepen their learning and reach for their dreams. As an unrestricted annual fund, gifts to the Tartan Fund are directed to priority areas that have an immediate and lasting impact on students' learning and growth at both our campuses.

Like all non-profit independent schools, tuition and government grants cover most operating costs and compensation. We rely on the generosity of our community to fund enriched programs and learning resources, technology, and health and wellness essentials.

Thank you to all our families who supported our Tartan Fund for the 2021-2022 school year. 57% of our families participated along with staff and alumni. Because of you, we were able to raise \$1,000,115!!!!

#### Why We Give

"Although it was our first year at Collingwood after relocating from Hong Kong, our children were immediately welcomed into the school community and have thoroughly enjoyed the abundance of educational programs the School has to offer. Many of these programs rely on financial donations, and as such, we felt it was important to support the School and in particular, the Outdoor Education Program at Wentworth, which we think is unique and provides the students with a valuable experience. We would encourage other families to support a program they feel strongly about as well." -The Yoshino Kitahara Family

Your Dollars at Work - Living the Impact of the Tartan Fund

#### OUTDOOR ED

Thanks to donor support for the Tartan Fund, we have been able to take our Outdoor Education program at Wentworth to the next level. Equipment purchases such as snow shoes and binoculars would not be possible without donations. We've also been able to get a small shed to store games and teaching supplies out in the local forest and are in the process of building a low ropes course. These program opportunities allow our students to learn everything from the identification of local flora and fauna to leadership traits and interpersonal skills.

"Being outdoors has really changed how I feel about the world around me. Something as simple as finding crabs underneath the rocks at Ambleside or the excitement of watching a bird on your hand has opened a door of infinite possibilities." -Jessica Zhao and Emily Zhang, Gr. 7

#### EXL

ExL, or Experiential Learning, is the name for our program in the A/B and H block terms where students in Gr. 8 and 9 have a day off-campus each week to participate in learning experiences focused on healthy living, being active in nature, learning about the community, socializing with peers and developing independence. Organized by the Explore department in collaboration with PHE, Heads of House, as well as other key faculty contributors, ExL has been an excellent example of how Collingwood is reimagining the delivery of dynamic educational experiences. ExL activities support academic courses by providing students with immersive experiential programming such as a visit to the Cheakamus Center in Squamish to learn about Indigenous culture for Humanities 9.

"My favourite EXL activity this year was white water rafting because it was so fun to go down the rapids and participate in a team building activity with my friends!" -Joelle Cohen, Gr. 8

#### PHE SPECIAL PROGRAMMING

Soccer, Hip Hop Dance and Jiu-Jitsu lessons impacted close to 700 K-7 Wentworth students who received specialist instruction from a variety of expert athletes, coaches and instructors. From practicing soccer foot skills to hip hop dance choreography to defensive martial arts techniques, students were able to experience new and different PHE activities with instructors.

"I really enjoyed getting creative and thinking outside the box by expressing myself through the hip hop classes. I also really enjoyed the flexibility and choice we were given in the program when we created our dances. It was also fun to learn new dance moves and let loose with my friends! -Connie Jin, Gr. 6



#### ROBOTICS

"To me, robotics is a powerful tool for education. In school, we often don't get the opportunity to solve problems which can only be solved with a combination of multiple subjects and disciplines. The beauty of Collingwood robotics is that students are supported through this program, and as they develop other skills in other classes, they are able to test them and hone them in the robotics field. The Tartan Fund allows the robotics department to share this powerful multidisciplinary educational experience with as many students as possible."

- Quinn Reynolds, Gr. 11



#### WENTWORTH MUSIC

"Through playing instruments, students develop life skills such as self-discipline, conflict resolution and time management. Additionally, students begin to recognize their own feelings, develop empathy, and feel the satisfaction of having success at something that takes a lot of personal effort over a long period of time. The Tartan Fund provides funding for basic band necessities such as reeds, lubricants, cleaning supplies, and repairs, plus capital purchases like new or replacement instruments."

-Natalie Prichard, Wentworth Music Teacher

#### NUVU

NuVu, an innovative studio-based school in Cambridge, Massachusetts, partnered with Collingwood to execute our first ever immersive design lab for Gr. 9 students.The NuVu Challenge asks students to develop robots that explore the sea floor and collect specimens using biomimetic grippers.

"My experience with Nuvu has been eye-opening. By inspiring us to think outside of the box, we secured an indisputable will for innovation. By the end of the week, we were working on complex concepts like biomimicry. One of my favourite moments in the NuVu workshop was being able to incorporate sustainability in the STEM field, a unique idea that is very relevant."

-Rasta Piri, Gr. 9

#### WELLNESS

Across the Wentworth campus there is currently much work being done to support and further develop Social Emotional Learning. Teachers are using specific programs such as Kelso's Choices, Mindup and the Zones of Regulation to help students build a foundation of understanding their own emotions and making responsible decisions. With the generosity of the Tartan Fund, we have been able to purchase the Second Step social emotional learning program for all of our classrooms. The Second Step curriculum helps children learn social-emotional skills such as responsible decision-making, working together to solve problems, managing strong emotions, and getting along with others, which are skills that can help children succeed academically and socially.



#### **MORVEN DANCE**

"Collingwood Dance has pushed me to challenge myself as a creative artist and dancer through amazing opportunities to create our own choreography. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with other talented dancers and feel a satisfying sense of accomplishment when we perform live for an audience. For myself, Junior Dance Company and Senior Dance Company has been something I look forward to every day and SDC is now an irreplaceable part of my life."

- Erica Cho, Gr. 10

"Throughout my 5 years of dance at Collingwood, I was exposed to a whole other side of me. Learning about expression through movement and performing to live audiences have immensely increased my mental health and self-confidence." - Eva Bosa, Gr. 12

"As a student who recently joined the Senior Dance Company, I truly mean it when I say that dance at Collingwood has changed my life. I have never felt more supported by my teacher and fellow friends and peers at Senior Dance Company." -Audrey Wong-Frick, Gr. 10

CATEGORY	SUMMARY	AMOUNT
Arts	Art and design supplies, band revitalization, costumes and production support for performances, dance workshops, replacement and purchase of musical instruments, videography and film supplies	\$158,796
Facility and classroom improvements	Classroom renovation, furniture upgrades, playground enhancement	\$375,696
Health & Wellness	Therapeutic equipment, coaches and guest instructors and programming enhancements, analytical equipment for athletics, COVID-19 supplies, Second Steps Wellness program, safety supplies, Wentworth gym soundproofing	\$96,213
Experiential learning	EXL programming, service learning on both campuses, equipment for exploration and learning such as snowshoes tents, outdoor activities like snow caving and Ocean Ambassadors, pilot project to support future focused learning	\$72,302
STEM	Classroom games and manipulatives, ALEKS Math pilot program, science equipment, aquarium maintenance, salmon enhancement program, Nuvu pilot project, robotics equipment and support	\$93,669
Teaching & learning enhancement	Work PODs, Gr. 3-4 literature circles, technology upgrades, library books, yearbook cameras	\$203,439
TOTAL		

#### Tartan Fund Allocations 2021-2022:

#### Additional Giving Opportunities at Collingwood

In addition to the Tartan Fund, donors can support the School through gifts to our endowment, for student awards and major projects. Throughout the year, we work with our Leadership Team and staff who may identify additional funding needs for priority projects.

For example, this year, new athletic vans were identified as a priority. With our bus leases ending in June 2022 we were provided with the opportunity to reassess our needs to ensure we are best serving our programming and our students. It was determined that the mini buses being used by Athletics (along with Explore and other departments) for practices, tournaments and field trips did not meet the needs of our programs. Due to their size, these buses were difficult to maneuver, and our staff did not feel comfortable or confident driving them. Flexibility at events and tournaments was also limited as timing is dictated by the driver's schedule. The current busing arrangement limits our students from accessing all possible opportunities and necessitates a new approach.

Following stakeholder engagement and a needs assessment, our Athletics team identified two fifteen-seat vans as the ideal solution to provide transportation for our students and to support their athletics and extra-curricular endeavours. As there are no lease options available for these vehicles, we plan to purchase them for the 2022/23 academic year. These new athletics vans will impact the lives of over 250 students and 30 athletic teams across multiple grades.

With the amazing support of two of our families, we have started to fund this project with a matching gift of \$50,000. For more information about how to support this project and take advantage of a matching gift opportunity, please contact our Executive Director of Advancement, Rebecca Kerbel at 604-925-3331 ext 2293.

"Some of my fondest memories from my time at Collingwood revolve around traveling with my team and coaches to sporting events. I'm excited for the opportunity to help facilitate creating more memories!" -Riley Senft, Alumni and Parent







### Thank you for your generosity in 2021-22

We recognize and acknowledge the generous gifts made by the following families and friends of Collingwood during the fiscal year July 1, 2021 to Jun 30, 2022. Your support provides the fuel needed to help students pursue their passions at Collingwood. Our goal is to encourage 100% participation in the Tartan Fund each year. To this end, we are recognizing donors who have given consecutively for 3, 5 and 10+ years, as indicated. Thank you.

#### **TARTAN FUND**

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## phy & True

bridge

#### **Kyla Chau** English Teacher & Debate Coach -Morven Campus

#### 5 THINGS YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT HER:

- 1. Grew up in Middleton, Nova Scotia.
- 2. Has dyed her hair every colour imaginable.
- 3. Once performed in Notre Dame Cathedral with her choir group.
- 4. Can recite by memory any scene from the Lord of the Rings trilogy.
- 5. Often sings Broadway show tunes while grading essays.

#### ZacPacs 2.0

Collingwood Gr. 9 student Zac Weinberg is the founder of the ZacPac Project. This service initiative provides homeless people with a waterproof, 30-litre bag full of useful supplies for those living rough. Following up on their successful 2020 campaign that distributed 2,200 bags, this past spring saw the return of ZacPacs, with a focus on making an even bigger difference in the lives of those experiencing homelessness. This time, the 3,000 bags also included a waterproof sleeping bag. With the help of 14 of his Collingwood classmates and other volunteers, the bags were packed and then delivered to community agencies such as Covenant House, the Salvation Army, and the VPD, who then passed them on to people in need. Zac and some of his classmates also had the opportunity to personally distribute several of ZacPacs at Vancouver's Crab Park.







#### Bear Yeung wins 2021 BC Medal of Good Citizenship

Collingwood Gr. 6 student Jonathan "Bear" Yeung has actively helped the North Shore community since he started cleaning up beaches at age five. When COVID-19 struck, Bear learned about our exhausted frontline health care workers. He responded by using his life savings of \$70 to purchase healthy snacks and electrolyte drinks for the team at Lions Gate Hospital. When he realized the pandemic was persisting, he engaged other community members and companies to help expand and maintain his snack drive for over a year. He then realized that children being treated at B.C. Children's Hospital were isolated from their families and friends due to strict COVID-19 visitation restrictions. As a result, Bea started a toy and tablet drive that resulted in the delivery of 159 electronic tablets and over 1,000 new toys to Children's Hospital in time for Christmas. For these and his other inspiring service efforts, Bear was awarded a 2021 BC Medal of Good Citizenship.





#### The 2022-23 Tartan Fund is counting on you!

Thank you for your continued support of the Tartan Fund. Let's make this Giving Tuesday, November 29th the biggest Tartan day ever. You can also make a donation any time at collingwood.org/tartan



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