

BLUERIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



2650 Bronte Drive North Vancouver BC V7H 1M4

Telephone: 604-903-3250 Fax: 604-903-3251

Safe Arrival / Callback: 604-903-3252

www.nvsd44.bc.ca

www.blueridgeschool.ca



Friday, October 7, 2011

Dear Parents,

We can't believe how quickly September has gone. Students and staff have been establishing routines and expectations, the students are settling in nicely. Our students are productively engaged in many areas of study, and a tremendous amount of energy and determination are being directed towards a range of excellent learning activities. Many thanks go to all members of our community for what has been a very smooth startup. They include:

- *The Blueridge Parent Advisory Council (BPAC) for organizing the opening day Koffee Klatch*
- *The Grade 2 parents that arranged the Newcomer's Tea*
- *The Grade 5 parents and BPAC for organizing a very successful Welcome Back BBQ*
- *Our staff for their dedication and expertise throughout each school year*

We would also like to recognize the Annual Blueridge Terry Fox Run, which was held Sept. 16th. Blueridge raised \$450.00 dollars and has made a valuable contribution towards the fight against cancer. Many thanks go to Mr. Scott Sutherland and the grade 7's for spearheading this event with a fun and challenging route throughout the school property.

On behalf of the staff, we'd like to thank the parents and students for all the fundraising you do for the children at Blueridge. Without your participation in some, or all, of these events, we would not be able to provide all the wonderful educational enhancement items for your children. We have already purchased three Smartboards, two new high jump mats shortly and an iPad to support the Learning Assistance Centre. The BPAC has graciously approved the budget for the 2011-2012 school year and we will be purchasing items in the near future for your children to use.

If your child is going to be absent, or late, please use the callback line at 604-903-3252. We have created an e-mail address for you to use as well to report any attendance. If it is easier for you, please e-mail blueridgeattendance@nvsd44.bc.ca to report your child's absence. Please include their first name, division and reason for absence. We will check the e-mail each morning at 8:15. We can also forward this information to the classroom teacher.

As indicated in the September 27, 2011 newsletter, the NVTAs has confirmed that teachers may continue to communicate with parents in informal meetings, phone calls and emails to discuss student progress. This includes teacher participation in the upcoming 2:00 early dismissal days scheduled for Thursday October 13 and Tuesday October 18th. If you wish to arrange a meeting or have questions regarding your son's/daughter's progress, please contact the appropriate teacher directly. Your child's teacher may also contact you. Although teachers need not prepare or distribute report cards during Phase 1, they are assessing and evaluating your son/daughter on a regular basis and can provide you with up to date progress status in the curricular areas of instruction.

We'd like to remind everyone of the importance of staying healthy as we head into the fall and winter months. Please remember to wash your hands regularly especially before eating and after using the washroom. If your child is not well, please consider keeping them home until they are well enough to resume their studies.

Please continue to support our staff as we work towards educating your children. We are looking forward to a wonderfully productive school year.

Sincerely,

Ms. Katherine Kee
Principal

Mr. Scott Sutherland
Vice-Principal



Blueridge School Calendar 2011 - 2012

Thanksgiving	M. Oct. 10/11
Interviews Early Dismissal 2:00	TH. Oct. 13/11
Interviews Early Dismissal 2:00	T. Oct. 18/11
Grade 6 Vaccines	TH. Oct. 20/11
District-Wide Professional Day	F. Oct. 21/11
BPAC Meeting	W. Oct. 26/11
Bighouse - Grade 4's	T. & W. Nov. 1 - 2/11
Photo Retakes	W. Nov. 9/11
Remembrance Day	F. Nov. 11/11
Blueridge Professional Day	M. Nov. 14/11
BPAC Meeting	W. Nov. 30/11
Report Cards Home	M. Dec. 5/11
Christmas Concert	T. Dec. 6/11
School Closes (Winter Vacation)	F. Dec. 16/11
School Reopens (After Winter Vacation)	T. Jan. 3/12
Curriculum Implementation Day	M. Jan. 16/12
Outdoor School - Grade 6's	M.-F. Jan. 23 - 27/12
Interviews Early Dismissal 2:00	TH. Feb. 2/12
Interviews Early Dismissal 2:00	T. Feb. 7/12
Outdoor School - Grade 3's	T.-Th. Feb. 21 - 23/12
District-Wide Professional Day	F. Feb. 24/12
BPAC Meeting	W. Feb. 29/12
Report Cards Home	Th. Mar. 8/12
School Closes (Spring Vacation)	F. Mar. 9/12
School Reopens (After Spring Vacation)	M. Mar. 26/12
Good Friday	F. Apr. 6/12
Easter Monday	M. Apr. 9/12
BPAC Meeting	W. Apr. 25/12
District-Wide Professional Day	F. May 4/12
Victoria Day	M. May 21/12
BPAC Meeting	W. May 30/12
Fun Day Dismissal 2:00	F. June 15/12
Grade 7 Farewell Assembly	F. June 22/12
Last Full Day Of Classes	T. June 26/12
Final Assembly - Dismissal 10:30	W. June 27/12
Blueridge Professional Day	TH. June 28/12
Administrative Day	F. June 29/12
School Closes	F. June 29/12

Allergen Aware Area!



We have several students with life-threatening allergies in the school. To reduce the risk of accidental exposure, please exercise caution with foods containing nuts, sesame seeds or products containing these allergens in the posted "Allergen Aware" areas.



Choir

The Blueridge Intermediate Choir (grades 4 - 7) will start singing on Tuesday, October 18th (grades 4 & 5) & Thursday, October 20th (grades 6 & 7). The grade 4's & 5's will practice on Tuesdays at 7:55 a.m. and the grade 6's & 7's will practice on Thursdays at 7:55 a.m.

School Supervision

Our supervision aides are on duty supervising students at recess and lunch. There is no formal supervision before 8:40 a.m. or after 3:00 p.m. (2:10 p.m. Wednesday). Unless they have a band or sports practice or have made special arrangements with their teacher to work in the classroom, **students should not enter the school before 8:30 a.m. and, ideally, we ask that they not arrive prior to 8:40 a.m.**



Call Back Reminder

604-903-3252 or

blueridgeattendance@nv44.bc.ca

If your child is involved in the **gifted** program, please ensure that you inform the Call Back line whenever your child will be absent on a day (s)he would normally be at the Zone Explorations or Challenge Centre.



Volunteers Are Needed

In the Library!

The Blueridge School library is looking for parent volunteers to help with re-shelving, filing, typing and data entry. Please look at your schedule and contact our librarian, Jullie Desmarais (Mondays, Tuesdays or Wednesdays), if you can spare some time. Volunteering can be fun! Why not try working with a friend and sharing a coffee while helping out?



Student Sign-In/Sign-Out Book

Schools are responsible for looking after their students each day from the beginning to the end of classes and have obligations regarding the safety of pupils travelling between home and school. In order to better protect your children, Blueridge has a Student Sign-In/Sign-Out book. We ask that whenever one of our students leave the school during class time, a parent or guardian sign them out of the office. Your son/daughter may sign themselves in upon their return, except when they are too young.

A Message From Victoria Miles, Communications Manager

A REMINDER ABOUT FILMING, PHOTOGRAPHY AND STUDENT PRIVACY

With all the exciting school activities that occur throughout the year, we provide this consideration regarding the filming and sharing of student photographs and videotapes of student events.

Parents are welcome to photograph and videotape school events. However, the potential promotion, exchange or sharing of student images raises privacy issues that are important to be aware of.

A parent wishing to film or photograph students and then post these images to a website (i.e. YouTube) *needs to have signed permission for the students (provided by parents or guardians in the case of minors) in the video before posting their photos.* To do so without signed permission is a violation of student privacy.

While any liability would lie with the photographer/videographer in a situation like this, we feel it's important to remind all parents to respect the privacy of other students and their families. While it's understandable that many families would appreciate being able to exchange photographs or videotapes of school events, privacy concerns must take precedence.

Thank you for your understanding.

Congratulations to the following Blueridge students who completed 50 days of reading as part of the 'Summer Reading Club:

Olivia A.
Carrie B.
Brody B.
Megan B.
Kate B.
Keira B.
Logan C.
Brenton C.
Keenan C.
Amanda F.
Emily F.
Ethan F.
Hannah F.
Emma G.
Marlo G.
Jack H.
Owen H.
Jade R.
Thomas K.
Emily K.
Kiana M.
Liam M.



Riley M.
Sarah M.
Lynn M.
Mona M.
Gabriella M.
Lucia M.
Jordyn M.
Sydney M.
Ainsley M.
Noelle M.
Lainey P.
Max P.
Tyler R.
Anya R.
Nicola R.
Ella R.
Skye R.
Megan S.
Sebastian S.
Jaime W.
Ryan W.



Lateness

Our school day begins at 8:40 am with a warning bell. At that time, students should be hanging up coats, organizing books and materials and reporting to their desk or carpet area. All students should be at school by 8:40 am for our 8:45 a.m. start. Lunch begins at 11:55 a.m. and the bell rings at 12:45 p.m. for students to return to their classrooms. Afternoon classes begin promptly at 12:50 p.m. A reminder to parents that students may not go to another child's house for lunch without written permission from their parent.

Student Registration 2012 - 2013 School Year

These procedures for registration and transfer requests are in effect for the 2012/2013 school year. These procedures are consistent with the North Vancouver School District **Policy 605: Admissions of Students to Schools.**

Priorities for student placement are dependent upon place of residence as well as meeting registration and transfer deadlines. Please refer to **School Catchment Areas** to determine the school catchment area for your place of residence.

The following dates are in effect for the 2012/2013 school year.

- October 19th, 2011** Kindergarten Parent Information session held at Lucas Gym 7 - 9 p.m.
- November 7th, 2011** Registration begins for new kindergarten students
- December 16th, 2011** Deadline for priority placement consideration for New Registrations, Kindergarten - Grade 12
- January 23rd, 2012** Registration and transfer requests for grades 1- 12 begins
- January 25th, 2012** LFI Parent Information Meeting, 7:00 p.m. at LMCC
- March 9th, 2012** Deadline for priority placement consideration for New Registrations, Grade 1 - Grade 12 and Transfer Requests

New Kindergarten Registration

Applications will be accepted starting November 7th, 2011, until December 16th, 2011. Effective date of registration is entered when all required documentation has been received. Applications received following the December 16, 2011 deadline will be placed according to space and facilities availability, and the legislated placement priorities.

Children born in 2007, turning 5 by December 31st, 2012, can register for kindergarten for September 2012. All applications for Kindergarten require the child's original birth certificate, (if not born in Canada, bring proof of citizenship, passport and Permanent Resident Card), proof of current residence at the date of application, (BC Hydro bill, Purchase agreement, or if Tenancy agreement, to also include a letter from the landlord and copy of the landlord's Hydro Bill).

All Kindergarten classes will be full day classes.

All registration forms must be dropped off in person at **Central Registration.**
Located in the William Lucas Centre
Room 102 - 2132 Hamilton Avenue
North Vancouver BC V7P 2M3
(North of Capilano Mall)

New Registrations Grade 1 - 12

All children new to North Vancouver (not currently attending a North Vancouver School District school), must register at **Central Registration** beginning January 23rd, 2012. **Registration deadline for priority placement is March 9th, 2012.**

All registrations require the student's original birth certificate, (if not born in Canada, bring proof of citizenship, passport and Permanent Resident Card), proof of current residence at the date of application, (BC Hydro bill, Purchase agreement, or if Tenancy agreement, to also include a letter from the landlord and a copy of the landlord's Hydro Bill). A copy of the report card from the previous school is also required.

Late French Immersion - Grade 6 entry

Late French Immersion is designed for non-French speaking students. Following two years in Grade 6 and 7 at the elementary level, Late French Immersion students complete their bilingual program with their peers from the Early French Immersion program at a secondary French Immersion school.

A Late French Immersion Parent Information meeting will be held January 25th, 2012, 7:00 p.m. at the LMCC

Registration for Late French Immersion will begin on January 23rd, 2012. Registration deadline is March 9th, 2012.

Continuing Students

Students currently attending schools in North Vancouver are not required to apply annually to continue their registration in their current school.

Transfer Requests

Students requesting a transfer from one North Vancouver school to another North Vancouver school must submit a Transfer Request Form between January 23rd, 2012 and March 9th, 2012 for priority placement. This form will be available at all school offices, this website and Central Registration as of January 2012. **All transfer forms must be submitted in person to the Central Registration Office.** Please bring proof of new address.

Following March 9th, 2012, no further transfer requests will be accepted unless the student has moved into the requested catchment area.

Students who would like to attend a French Immersion Secondary School other than their designated French Immersion Secondary School must complete a transfer form. Placement will depend on space and facilities availability.

International students apply for transfers through the International Student office.

For further information, please contact: registration@nvsd44.bc.ca or call 604-903-3368.



Community and Family Health Program
Central Community Health Centre
132 Esplanade W 5th Floor
North Vancouver BC V7M 1A2

October 2011

HEAD LICE

As thousands of children returned to school this September after the holidays, so did head lice. This is just a reminder to parents that this is a common issue among school-age children and one that can affect anyone. Parents need to remember a few facts regarding head lice:

- Lice are wingless - they do not jump or fly but rather spread by crawling from one head to another.
- Lice spread relatively quickly.
- Lice spread through DIRECT head-to-head contact as well as through personal articles such as hats, combs, brushes, helmets, scarves etc.

The best way to reduce the chances that your child will get head lice is by being proactive:

- **Check each** family member's head **EVERY week**. Make this a family routine Sunday night before returning to school on Monday.
- Provide individual combs and brushes for each family member.
- Teach children to avoid sharing items that come in contact with your head or neck, for example: towels, helmets, hats, scarves.
- Children with long hair should tie their hair back. Braids are ideal.

If you have any further questions please call the On-Call Community Health Nurse at 604 983-6700. You can also go to:

<http://www.vch.ca/media/SneezesDiseases.pdf>

http://www.vch.ca/your_health/school_health/head_lice_in_schools/

If you discover that your child has head lice please report this to the school office and they will provide you with information regarding treatment options. Personal information communicated to us in the office will be confidential. If there is a case of head lice at school we will advise you through School Connects. Children with head lice may remain in school during the treatment period.

OCTOBER 2011

PEDESTRIAN SAFETY TIPS



Under the age of 9, children are developmentally not able to judge when it is safe to cross the street, and therefore need supervision when crossing the street.

After age 9, children have better peripheral vision, are less impulsive, are more aware of risks, and can handle many pieces of information at one time.

Please review and model these 5 important steps with your child:

1. Stop
2. Look both ways
3. Listen for traffic
4. Make eye contact with drivers
5. Cross only when street is clear and all traffic has stopped

For more information go to:
www.safekidscanada.ca



GRADE 6 IMMUNIZATIONS!



Over the next 2 month, all grade 6 students will be bringing home immunization consent forms. Please fill out the form and return to school by the deadline indicated in the package.

“INTERNATIONAL WALK TO SCHOOL WEEK”

OCTOBER 3-7



The purpose of this week is to:

- ✓ Encourage active living
- ✓ Decrease traffic congestion around schools
- ✓ Decrease pollution from cars and the risk of car and pedestrian accidents

WHEN TO KEEP SICK CHILDREN HOME?

Keep your child at home if he/she:

- ✘ Has symptoms such as persistent cough or sore throat, a constant runny nose, vomiting or diarrhea, a rash of unknown origin, or a fever
- ✘ Is too sick or lethargic to participate in normal school activities

Consider:

- ✘ The illness can spread to other children, their families and school staff
- ✘ Your child’s recovery can be delayed without adequate rest
- ✘ The school’s inability to care for an ill child

For more information call:

Public Health at 604-983-6700, your family Doctor or Health Link BC 24 hours a day at 811

Sneezes and Diseases, a resource book about childhood illnesses

<http://www.vch.ca/media/SneezesDiseases.pdf>

BC Health Guide/files online:

www.bchealthguide.org/healthfiles