



# Ridgeway Elementary School

440 Hendry Avenue, North Vancouver, British Columbia, V7L 4C5

Phone: 604-903-3740 Fax: 604-903-3741

[www.ridgewayschool.ca](http://www.ridgewayschool.ca)

**At Ridgeway we encourage a cooperative link between home, school and community**

- To value social responsibility and cultural diversity
- To achieve our highest potential
- To promote life long learning

## Newsletter #9 – May 2011

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### Update on the Ridgeway Renovation Project

May 15<sup>th</sup> is the date by which we will officially know whether or not we can move into Ridgeway for a September start. However, the new school is still on schedule and we are anticipating that this will be a reality come the end of August!!! We are very excited at the thought of becoming one big school and both the staff at the Cloverley site and at the Annex have met as one staff over the past two months. Both the Ridgeway and Ridgeway Annex PAC have also come together to look forward to next year.

To view photos of the restoration project from April 2011 please click on the link below: <http://nvsd44.bc.ca/SchoolSites/Ridgeway/News/Ridgeway%20Restoration%20Project.aspx> or go to our website at <http://nvsd44.bc.ca/schoolsites/ridgeway.aspx> and click on the word “more” below the title Ridgeway Restoration Project on the right hand side of the page.

If you have any questions or feel that you are missing information regarding our transition back to Ridgeway, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or by email at [aburlone@nvsd44.bc.ca](mailto:aburlone@nvsd44.bc.ca)

Aline Burlone  
Principal

**YEAR END REVIEW AND PLANNING** - This is the time when schools are making organizational plans for the coming school year. *It would assist us greatly if you would notify the school if you child will not be returning to Ridgeway in September. **Withdrawal forms must be completed for students who will be attending an elementary or secondary school outside the North Vancouver School District or a private school.*** Withdrawal forms may be picked up in the school office.

If you know of someone new to the Ridgeway community, please inform them of the need to register at the Lucas Centre, 2132 Hamilton Avenue, North Vancouver at their earliest convenience.

Between now and the end of June the staff will be meeting to organize classes for school opening in September. As in previous years, all organizational plans for the fall are tentative and subject to change depending on the enrollment registration throughout the summer. When planning for classes and student placement, the staff works as a team to ensure that thoughtful consideration of each child’s social, emotional and academic needs are aligned with the need to create balanced and effective learning environments.

Much thought and effort goes into the placement of each child and we look carefully at their individual needs as well as the needs of the group at each level. Specific criteria are used to help with this task. The following criteria are not intended to be in any priority order or exclusive of any other. They act as a guide for consideration and discussion:

- Age distribution
- Ability distribution
- Teaching/learning styles
- Friendships
- Boy/girl ratio
- Previous experiences of teachers and students
- Parental input
- Student strengths and needs
- Work/organizational skills
- Special needs student distribution
- Group dynamics
- Positive leaders
- Teacher recommendations
- Resource team input

If you have specific information and/or concerns based on clear educational needs, please put these in writing and forward to Mrs. Burlone by June 3, 2011. The written information that you provide will be given to the team of professionals for consideration as one of the criteria listed above in the placement of your child. Please note that letters including names of staff members will not be forwarded to the team for placement consideration.

It is our goal to meet the needs of all students at Ridgeway to maximize their learning potential. We appreciate your on-going support in this complex process of organizing educationally sound and balanced classes.



**TRACK & FIELD** – Track and field meets are as follows:

**Field Events:**

- Tuesday, May 24<sup>th</sup> – Grade 4/5 Qualifier at Brooksbank from 3:15 to 4:45 pm
- Tuesday, May 24<sup>th</sup> – Grade 6/7 Qualifier at Queensbury from 3:15 to 4:45 pm

**Track Events:**

- Tuesday, May 17<sup>th</sup> – Grades 4-7 at Handsworth from 12:00 noon to 4:00pm

**District Track & Field at Swangard**

Tuesday, June 7 from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm

**JUMP ROPE FOR HEART** – On Friday, May 27<sup>th</sup> Ridgeway and Ridgeway Annex are once again participating in Jump Rope for Heart. There are many benefits from such an event. First and foremost, it is a fun and unique program that gets children physically active. It also teaches our children about heart healthy choices and raises funds to support the **Heart and Stroke Foundation**. Students will receive pledge forms to raise funds (pledges) from sponsors that will be donated to the Heart and Stroke Foundation. Afterwards, students will receive thank you prizes for the pledges they raise individually. We ask that the pledge envelopes be returned to the office by Thursday, May 26, 2011.

**SCHOOL SUPPLIES**

In anticipation of our consolidation in September 2011 student supplies will be handled in a different manner next year. Supply companies such as Teaching Things will not be used next year. We ask for your understanding and support in changing the way we traditionally have dealt with student supplies in order to help us in this transition.

For all students entering primary grades (Grade 1 to Grade 3) at Ridgeway Elementary in September 2011, we are offering a service to facilitate the purchase of student school supplies. The school will purchase all items needed by primary students in bulk and pool the supplies. This will enable the teachers to purchase the exact materials needed for the classroom. We are

in the process of developing lists for the primary grades. A letter outlining the materials and cost will be sent home within the next month for your information.

For all students entering the intermediate grades (Grades 4 to 7) supply lists will be handed out to intermediate students in June. Students can purchase their supplies over the summer months and bring them labeled and ready to use on the second day of school in September.

**APRIL WAS POETRY MONTH** - The literacy focus for April was Poetry. The school enjoyed listening to many staff and students read their favourite or self-written poems after the morning announcements.



**DRESS CODE REMINDER** - Just a reminder as the weather “springs” into summer we ask students and their parents to support a learning environment where attire is appropriate, and not distracting or offensive to others. Articles of clothing that are: too revealing, have inappropriate language, topics or images, are unacceptable. The school’s staff and administration will determine if a student’s dress is appropriate. Some examples for dress expectation are:

- Shirts/tops cannot be seen through
- No thin straps or ‘spaghetti’ straps for tops or bra straps shown
- Appropriate neckline must be worn
- Clothing must cover the midriff
- Hats, caps and hoods must be removed in the school
- No underwear showing

Thank you for your help and support on this issue.

<b>Dates to Remember</b>	
May 1	Outdoor School Open House 10:30 am to 3:30 pm
May 4	Jessie Miller Parent presentation 7:00 pm
May 6	District Professional Day – No classes
May 14	Spring Fair (Saturday) 11 am-2pm
May 23	Victoria Day – School Closed
May 26	<b>Ridgeway Annex Closure Celebration</b> 4:-00-6:30 p.m.
May 27	Jump Rope for Heart
May 30	Curriculum Implementation Day – No classes



**Hot Lunch Envelopes for June** are due back on **Wednesday, May 18**. If you would like your child to participate in the Hot Lunch Program, extra envelopes are provided at the main entrance to the school for your use.

**RIDGEWAY SCHOOL PLAN** – The School Plan for 2011/2012 has been completed and submitted to the School District. For next year, our two school goals are:

1. To increase student achievement through the use of digital technology.
2. To increase the number of students who feel that the school is a safe and caring community.

The Plan will be posted to our website in the fall. Our thanks to Aimee LeSage and Deanna Tonini for their valuable input.

**2011/2012 STUDENT FEES** - The North Vancouver School District is dedicated to providing a wide range of educational opportunities for each student, including as many enriching activities as possible. In accordance with the School Act and with the School Board Fees Ministerial Order, we would like to advise all Ridgeway families of the possible school fees that could be charged for the 2011/2012 school year. A fee may be charged to recover some or all of the costs related to enriched or additional learning opportunities. In all cases, fees are kept to a minimum. The Board may charge a fee at cost for: transportation, entrance fees and equipment rental associated with field trips or special events.

The fees for 2011/2012 school year at Ridgeway are as follows:

**Agendas for Grades 1 to 7** – as a service, we offer a school specific student for \$7.00. These will be available for purchase early in September. The option remains, however, for students to provide their own generic planner.

**Special Projects** for K to 7 - If students have special projects requiring specific materials a maximum of \$20.00 may apply.

**Field Trips** – cost recovery

In order for families to plan ahead, please note the cost of these activities:

- Grade 6 Outdoor School (5 days) \$250.00
- Grade 4 Bighouse (2 days) \$95.00
- Primary - Grade 3 Outdoor School (3 days) \$140.00 \*\*\*

\*\*\* Please note that since we are consolidating the two schools grade 3 students will attend the primary Outdoor School in the future. Since the 2011/2012 grade 3 students attended in grade 2, they will not be going again next year. The grade 3 students in the 2012/2013 year will attend.

- Band Program - Grades 5 to 7 \$415.00 before July 16, 2011, after July 16, 2011 the fee is \$460.00

It is the school's policy to assist families, in a confidential manner, to ensure that no students are excluded from participation in an activity or program due to financial hardship.

The following amounts are collected for Primary grades to pre-purchase student supplies:

- The Kindergarten : \$35.00 per student
- Grades 1 to 3: \$42.00 per students

For those parents who choose not to purchase supplies in this manner, student supply lists for 2011/2012 will be available from the school office in June.

**VANCOUVER COASTAL HEALTH – Health Matters** – The following articles from VCH have been posted on the Ridgeway website [www.ridgewayschool.ca](http://www.ridgewayschool.ca). Please click on Parent Information and then Health Information.

- Health Matters – Skipping our way to school – May 2011

### **Stand By Me Workshops**

Over the past 22 years, Teresa Triggiano has spoken to over 38,000 BC students in elementary and high schools. Since 2002, she has been teaching *Stand By Me* workshops in elementary schools from Mission to Horseshoe Bay. She has also been the Youth Counsellor on a biweekly youth segment for *Global News* since 2002.

*Stand By Me* is a program that focuses on social responsibility and awareness regarding how our choices and actions affect those around us. In the program behaviours that students find hurtful will be identified as well as how those behaviours make some students feel and how to take responsibility for choices. Students are given an opportunity (if they choose) to speak about how they feel at school. In addition, students have an opportunity (if they choose) to offer apologies to classmates. The process is incredibly respectful as well as entirely voluntary. At times in the older grades, apologies can be quite powerful and occasionally students experience tears when the apology was especially meaningful to them. Please be assured that this program will be handled with the outmost sensitivity and support for all students. Students will also learn about how to respectfully stand up for themselves and demonstrate these skills with interactive role-plays. The purpose of all sessions is to proactively work towards maintaining an environment of respect for every student.

Each classroom teacher will be present during the entire workshop and able to answer questions regarding the workshop.

Teresa will be giving workshops to Ridgeway students from grade 4 to 6 over the first two weeks of May. She will also work with a group of senior students to put on an assembly for the primary students on May 16<sup>th</sup> in the morning.

For further information about the program please visit her website at [www.standbyme.ca](http://www.standbyme.ca).



**Paradise Valley Summer School of Visual Art** – Artists for Kids is now taking registrations for its summer camp at the North Vancouver Outdoor School featuring internationally recognized artist Patricia Johnston. If you love drawing, painting, sculpting and having loads of fun, then this is the summer camp for you!

- Any questions from parents or teachers regarding registration should be directed to Mavis in the Artists for Kids office at 604-903-3798.
- 50% bursaries are available to families in extreme financial need
- Registration fills quickly and is limited to 75 spaces each week.

Pick up a registration form in the office today.

## PAC News

Next Meeting: Monday, May 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 in the music room  
Everyone Welcome

For meeting minutes, please check the school website: [www.nvsg44.bc.ca/schools/schoolLinks/ridgeway](http://www.nvsg44.bc.ca/schools/schoolLinks/ridgeway)

### **“Ridgeway Spring Fair”**

**Saturday, May 14th, 11:00-2:00**

Please join us at our school's biggest family and community event of the year.  
Food, Bouncy Castle, Slide, Creativ Music, Mini golf, Silent Auction,  
the “Snake Man”, Cake Walk, “Whistles the Clown”.....community fun.

**Silent Auction baskets** – Each class will be assembling a basket with a “theme” to be auctioned off at the Fair. More information will be coming home with your child from your classroom teacher and/or Class Rep. All items need to be collected by **Thursday, May 5th**

Along with the classroom baskets, there will be many other items up for auction – gift certificates, wine, clothing, etc. etc. If you have something that you would like to donate, please contact Pam Roskell at [proskell@telus.net](mailto:proskell@telus.net).

### **“Raffle tickets”**

Prizes this year:

8GB ipod touch

One night for two at the “Pinnacle Hotel” and breakfast at “The District” restaurant

Gift basket from “Everything Wine” – donated by Grant and Jasmine Botto

Raffle tickets are coming home with your child before the Easter weekend with hopes of your child selling to family and friends. **Tickets are \$2 each and the book is worth \$20. Either the money and/or the unsold tickets **must** be returned to the classroom by Monday, May 9th.** There will be a prize for an intermediate student and a primary student who sells the most tickets.

The Raffle is our main fundraiser of the school year and we rely on these funds to provide all the “extras” that our students enjoy throughout the year – sports equipment, the gymnastics program, uniforms, computers, music equipment, classroom funds for the teachers, field trips, etc. etc.

Winning tickets will be drawn at 12:30 at the Spring Fair – winners do not have to be present, but will be phoned using the number on the ticket stub.

### **Next year.....**

We are already looking at the PAC Executive for next year, the Budget and melding Ridgeway Annex with Ridgeway Main. If you have questions/ideas for myself or the PAC, please don't hesitate to make contact.

See you at the Fair!! Christie Sacré, PAC Chair, ([clsacre@gmail.com](mailto:clsacre@gmail.com))

# May

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> PAC Cookie sale lunch Jessie Millar 7pm	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> <b>DISTRICT WIDE PRO D NO CLASSES</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> PAC Sushi lunch	<b>14</b> Spring Fair  11am-2pm
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> PAC Mtg – 7:00 pm	<b>17</b> Handsworth Qualification Meet – 12:00 – 4:00 pm	<b>18</b> PAC Bagel sale Hot lunch envelopes back	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Geography Challenge  Booster Juice	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>  Victoria Day	<b>24</b> Grade 4/5 field qualifier at Brooksbank Grade 6/7 at Queensbury	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Jump Rope pledge Sheets due Ridgeway Annex Closing Celebration 4:00-6:30 p.m.	<b>27</b> Jump Rope for Heart  PAC Pizza lunch	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> <b>CURRICULUM IMPLEMENTATION DAY NO CLASSES</b>	<b>31</b> Newsletter Home				

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