

Westview Elementary School

Ta na wa nsílyxnit Tl'a Teltiwet

641 17th Street West
North Vancouver, B.C. V7M 0A1
Phone: 604-903-3840 Fax: 604-903-3841
Website: westviewelementary.ca



NEWSLETTER #4 – December 2011

Dear Parents:

As we approach the end of the first term, it's nice to see how strong the Westview community continues to be. September presented us with many changes and while we miss those who left, our newest members have become an important, welcome, and integral part of this community. Our new contingent of upper intermediate students rise to the challenges of being leaders in the school, our PAC continues to provide fantastic social events such as the Halloween Howl and the Movie Night and our teachers work collaboratively to provide consistent and challenging opportunities for your children.

Safety of our students and community is of upmost priority. It has come to my attention that there is a pick up and drop off concern on West 17th street. Please be respectful of the residents on 17th street and drive safely. Remember there is no stopping or blocking of the fire lane. Try not to disturb the neighbours. Please refrain from honking your horns, blocking driveways, driving onto lawns or double parking on the street. If your child is getting out of a car and crossing the road, the crosswalk is on Larson Road. There is no pedestrian crosswalk on 17th street. Crossing in the middle of the road is very unsafe. We understand that there are only very limited stop and drop off spots on the school side of 17th street. We are meeting with our district personnel and will be addressing this problem with them. Your patience and understanding is important to us. Please be responsible and safe when driving, parking and walking to school. Thanks.

Report cards go home on Friday December 2. Due to BCTF strike action, the contents of the report card to parents may not be complete. Please contact your child's teacher(s) for further assessment information and to set up an interview. Early dismissal days are scheduled for Tuesday December 6 and Wednesday December 7. The teachers' e-mail addresses have been posted on our website. Thank you for your understanding and patience as we continue to work through job action.

Dance week takes place next week: November 28-December 2. Everyone is invited to see the dance performances in the gym starting at 2:00 pm on Friday December 2. Thanks again to the PAC and the parents who have donated to make this possible. It should be a great event. Hope you are able to join us.

Book Fair takes place next week with a special evening opportunity on Tuesday November 29 from 6-7 pm in the library. Please come on Tuesday and stay for the PAC social/meeting starting at 7:00 pm. Child minding is available. Hope you can join us.

We have started a Westview Blog. Please check it out. You can find the link on our website or <http://blog44.ca/westviewelementary/>.

With the holidays fast approaching we would like to take a moment to wish everyone a happy and safe holiday. We hope that you will join us for our Family Skate on December 8th and for Carols in the gym at 9am during the last week of December.

Barbara Leigh
Principal

Tracey Todd
Vice Principal

WEATHER INFORMATION 2011/12

<http://www.nvsg44.bc.ca/~media/D81A00954E464736BCA87B6B206C2B67.ashx>



Announcements about District-wide Closures and/or Delayed Openings of Schools

As winter weather approaches, we want to remind parents/guardians, students, and staff about the North Vancouver School District's winter weather procedures and announcements.

All schools in the North Vancouver School District will remain OPEN, if at all possible during winter weather, including snowfalls. Any district-wide closure will be decided by 6:00 a.m. at the latest and will be announced through the media. If weather conditions are questionable, announcements will also be made to say that schools are open.

Information about any district-wide closures will be sent to Metro Vancouver radio and television stations. Please check the following stations for school closure information:

CBC AM 690 radio	BCTV
CHQM FM 103.5 radio	CBC TV
CKNW AM 980 radio	City TV
Fairchild AM 1470 radio	CTV BC
News AM 1130 radio	

Announcements of school closures or delayed openings will be posted on the School District's website at <http://www.nvsg44.bc.ca>. The North Vancouver School District will use the SchoolConnects system to contact parents in the event of an Emergency Release of students during the school day.

Student safety is our first priority and a shared responsibility. Parents/guardians are responsible for their child's safe travel to school. If for any reason, a parent/guardian feels that a child cannot travel safely to school, then they should make other arrangements for their child. The decision to attend school is the responsibility of each family.

Parents are encouraged to establish an emergency plan for their children in the event that schools are closed, the school's start time is delayed, or students are dismissed early. This is a reminder that all students need to dress warmly and appropriately for winter weather conditions.

At this time, we encourage you to review your own preparations for winter weather and ensure that you are familiar with your municipality's snow and ice response procedures. We request that you strictly adhere to parking restrictions in and around all North Vancouver schools. Your child's school will contact you about any changes to driving routes (one way) that may be put into effect on streets adjacent to the school.

With your cooperation and adherence to winter weather procedures, we can help achieve safe conditions for students travelling to and from school. Please put safety first.

John Lewis
Superintendent of Schools
North Vancouver School District (No. 44)
Superintendent@nvsg44.bc.ca

Links:

Metro Vancouver Weather Forecast – Environment Canada
http://www.weatheroffice.gc.ca/city/pages/bc-74_metric_e.html
City of North Vancouver – Snow Preparedness and Clearing
<http://www.cnv.org/?c=3&i=587>
District of North Vancouver – Snow and Ice Removal
<http://www.dnv.org/article.asp?c=288#links>
North Shore Emergency Management Office
<http://www.nsemo.org/>

Student of the Week



Students for the Week of November 7, 2011

Calvin L	William L	Tyler G	Quenton P
Eva N	Shygaan K	Cyrus E	Korbin G

Students for the Week of November 14, 2011:

Harrison S	Noah B	Nikki M	Kirthiga S
Soha H	Antonio Carlo E	Kiyana S	Nathan R
Nafeesa L	Ethan S	Anika H	

Students for the Week of November 21, 2011:

Michael S	Joseph S	Agnes Y	Mason C
Kyle A	Ayla C	Denzel L	Arlen E
Kai-Yu She	Benjamin E	Michaela F	Zach M

Hot Lunch

We are happy to provide a hot lunch program for the students at Westview. For January the students who requested a lunch in December will automatically receive a letter and envelope outlining the program. If you are interested in participating in the lunch program please pick up an envelope at the school office.



Lunch Envelopes for January are due on December 14th.

Emergency Forms

Emergency Forms should be returned to the school as soon as possible. They give us the important information that we need to release your child in case of an emergency.

Westview Student Planners (Agendas) are still available at the office at a cost of \$9.00.

Newsletter by E-mail

The newsletter is being delivered through our "Schools Connect" System (e-mail).



StrongStart

Welcome new and returning families to **Westview StrongStart**. StrongStart is a free early learning program for pre-school children accompanied by their parent/caregiver.

We are looking forward to another great year of learning together.

Sessions: Monday to Friday 9:00 to 12:00 am. Also Tuesday and Thursday 12:30 – 3:00 pm

Facilitator: Carol Lundrigan

PAC Meeting

The next Parent Advisory Council meeting will be held in room 124 across from the library.

Tuesday, November 29, 2011 at 7:00 pm.

Child care will be available

Dear Parents:

Westview's PAC has a long standing history of outstanding support for our children. It's through their efforts that things like our great playground equipment are made possible. They have run the Halloween Howl successfully for a number of years, they have helped fund our fun day, provide special hot lunch meals and have held an outstanding spring fair for our families.

Without a PAC we would not receive the yearly gaming grant which supplements so many classroom needs. This money has purchased cameras, paid for fieldtrips, brought in special presenters such as the drumming workshops, authors and storytellers.

In the last few years, with dwindling budgets, the PAC's fundraising has made sure that our children didn't have to go without.

Unfortunately, the membership of the PAC has diminished considerably over the years and while the few members that remain, are passionate about their work, they are unable to sustain the level of support they have been providing.

Due to this, some things have already fallen by the wayside. We have no one who is able to continue the tradition of special hot lunches. Without your support we may not be able to hold a spring fair or support special events. Should the PAC fold entirely, we will have no one to apply for the gaming grant and this too will be forfeited.

Please consider participating in the PAC. Every hour you offer to support the school pays huge dividends to support your child and their education as well as all the other children here at Westview.



Santa Shop



Once again the Westview PAC will be holding the Santa Shop. The Santa Shop will be held in the Multi-Purpose Room.

Tuesday, December 6	12:00 – 1:00
Wednesday, December 7	8:30 – 9:00
	12:00 – 1:00
Thursday, December 8	12:00 – 1:00



Come and buy some gifts for your family and friends while raising money for the school!

WESTVIEW FAMILY SKATE

Thursday, **December 8, 2011**
5:00 – 7:00 pm
Harry Jerome Recreation Center
123 East 23rd Street



Winter Break

School will close at 3:00 pm on Friday, December 16, 2010 and will **reopen** at 8:55 am, on Tuesday, January 3, 2012.



Singalong at Westview

Please come and join us in our school gym for a festive sing along taking place in the morning from December 12-16 from 9:00 – 9:30 am in the gym.

Winter Weather

A reminder that winter weather is here! The children go outside for recess and lunch all year long so it is important they are dressed for the elements. Coats, hats, boots, and gloves should all be worn. You may also want to send a spare set of inside clothing for your child to have in their classroom just in case they need to change.

Canadian Red Cross First Aid

Emergency First Aid offers instruction on how to think, react and improvise when dealing with life threatening emergencies. The course covers initial assessment, preventing disease transmission, rescue breathing, choking, CPR, bleeding, unconsciousness, shock and secondary assessment. Course: **Saturday, December 3**, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm @ *St. Stephen's United Church*, 7025 Granville Street and 54th Avenue in Vancouver. Cost: \$95 (includes manual and certification). Information/registration: Susan Cowan, Registrar, at susancowan@telus.net

Red Cross goes On the Road in 2012! If you have 10 or more people who want to learn either Emergency Child Care or Emergency First Aid, we'll teach the course at your facility. And if you have 15 or more youth who want to become a Babysitter, we'll teach the Babysitting course on-site. For more information or to book your group, please contact Susan Cowan at susancowan@telus.net

Calendar At A Glance 2011-2012



- **November 29** – Book Fair 6 -7 pm
- **November 29** - PAC social 7:00 to 7:30 meeting at 7:30 to 8:30 pm
- **December 1** – Child ID Program 12:45 to 3:00 pm (new date)
- **December 2** – Report Cards Home
- **December 6** – Early Dismissal for all students at 12:10 pm
- **December 7** – Early Dismissal for all students 2:00 pm
- **December 6-8** – Santa Shop
- **December 8** – Family Skate 5:00 to 7:00 pm Harry Jerome Centre
- **December 13**- Kindergarten VCH Hearing/Vision Screening 1:00pm
- **December 12-16** - Carol singing in gym from 9-9:30 am
- **December 14** – Hot Lunch Envelopes
- **December 16** – Last day of school before Winter Break
- **January 3** – School Reopens after Winter Break
- **January 18** – Hot Lunch Envelopes Due
- **January 31** – PAC Meeting 7:00 pm

November 24, 2011

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Further to my SchoolConnects message on October 25th, I would like to provide you with an update on reporting your child's progress.

In British Columbia, provincial legislation requires that parents/guardians are provided with a minimum of three formal written report cards and two informal reports each school year. During the current job action, the BC Teachers' Federation has directed teachers not to produce formal written report cards. On October 26, 2011, the BC Public School Employers' Association filed an application to request that the Labour Relations Board vary the Essential Services Order to require teachers to prepare and distribute report cards.

To remain in compliance with provincial legislation and the School Act, formal written report cards are currently being prepared and issued to parents/guardians of all students enrolled in North Vancouver School District. Your child's first-term formal written report card will be prepared by the school administrators.

All report cards will contain basic information regarding the student's enrolment and attendance. Students who attend classes taught by principals or vice-principals will receive a report card that provides marks for those classes. For most report cards, information on student progress will vary and be dependent on what information is provided by the student's teacher. Some report cards may include the evaluation teachers routinely supply, while others will not. As a result, you may see blanks where commentary would normally have been provided.

If you have not been given the information you need to understand your child's progress, I encourage you to contact your child's teacher, or teachers. Teachers are assessing and evaluating their students on a regular basis and can provide you with your child's progress through a meeting, e-mail, or telephone conversation. To provide you with contact information, all schools in North Vancouver are listing staff e-mail addresses on their website. If you are unable to access the website, please contact the school and request assistance.

If any concern arises regarding communications between you and your child's teacher(s) during this phase of job action, you may wish to contact the North Vancouver Teachers' Association at 604.988.3224, or the school principal or vice-principal.

I appreciate your understanding and support as we continue to work through job action.

Yours sincerely,

John Lewis
Superintendent of Schools
North Vancouver School District
Superintendent@nvds44.bc.ca

A print copy of this letter is available at:
<http://www.nvds44.bc.ca/~media/F42A04BA6F11485D86D5BF0656BF78FF.ashx>

**FREE FAMILY
CHRISTMAS
CONCERT!!**

Sunday December 18th

2:00 pm ~ St. David's United Church
Taylor Way & Hwy 1, West Vancouver

4:00 pm ~ St. Andrew's United Church
10th & St. Georges, North Vancouver

A unique afternoon concert, especially tailored for children, by the North Shore's acclaimed chamber choir,

LAUDATE SINGERS

Joyous Christmas music, both old and very new!

Laudate Singers showcase their exuberant, humorous side with an interactive program for young families.

Free - No tickets required. More info: 604.729.6814 www.laudatesingers.com

For a more "grownup" concert of joyous music by candlelight, plan on "**Luminous Voices**" December 10, 8:00 pm at St Andrew's, North Vancouver.

We gratefully acknowledge the financial support of the City of North Vancouver and the District of North Vancouver through the Arts Office, the District of West Vancouver through their 2011 Assistance Grant Program, and the Canada Council for the Arts.

Laudate Singers

Lars Kaario, Conductor

CHARITY REG #891127599RR00011



Community and P.A.C. event at Norgate
Everyone welcome!

**Saturday,
December 3rd, 2011**

Pancakes served
from 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

11:00 a.m. Hip Hop Presentations
Grade 7 Fundraisers
Gift Wrapping, Cookie Decorating,
Hot Chocolate sales and more!
Community Office Raffle
Vendors including Jewellery by Sharon
all items \$5 - \$10
(Presents for Mom and Dad)



Breakfast with Santa

Norgate Elementary School
1295 Sowden St
North Vancouver BC