



GLENEAGLES CH'AXAY & LIONS BAY E-BULLETIN

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January 8, 2026

West Vancouver Schools Admissions Information

K-12 admission applications for both in-district and out-of-district students opens on January 15! If you have students in your family or network who are looking to join our district, please help spread the word about this important date.

West Vancouver Schools offer a wonderful opportunity to be part of a community that values excellence in education. Our schools take pride in creating meaningful learning experiences and providing opportunities that support the growth, well-being, and success of every student.

To learn more about registration expectations and processes, please visit our admissions page: [West Vancouver Schools Admissions](#) We look forward to welcoming new students and families to our vibrant and supportive school community!

West Vancouver Schools Parent Text Alerts

For parents/guardians who would like to be notified of a school emergency such as power outages, severe weather or safety alerts via SMS, please text a "Y" or "Yes" to 978338 to ensure you are on the list.

Use of Personal Devices in School

As we begin the new year, we are asking all students and families to recommit to reducing cell phone use and to the school district's Personal Digital Device expectations. Consistent routines after the break help students re-engage quickly, keep instruction on track, and reduce distractions in shared spaces.

Expectations at a glance:

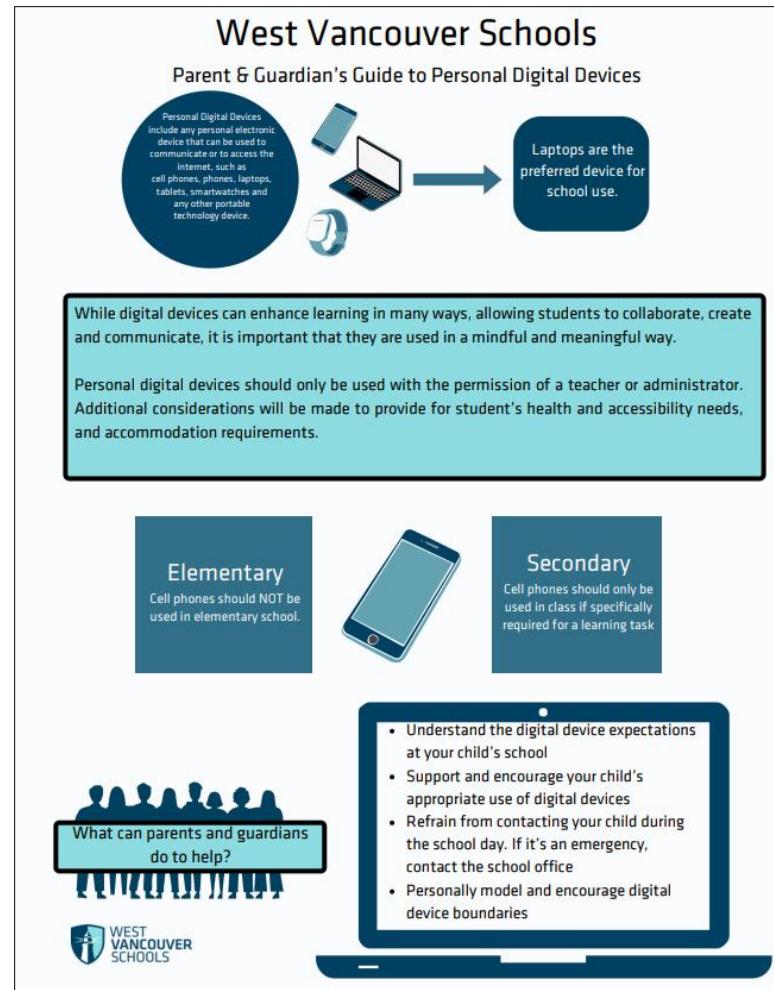
Elementary (K-7): Cell phones are not used during the school day, including before and after school and at recess and lunch times. Laptops may be used to support learning during instructional time, only with explicit staff permission.

Secondary (8-12): Cell phones and other digital devices should only be used during instructional time with explicit staff permission. Device use should be intentional, supervised, and tied to learning.

Family actions that make a difference:

- Minimize adult cell phone use in and around school
- Refrain from sending your child texts or calls during the school day; contact the office for urgent needs only.
- Review the school district's guidelines for personal digital device expectations.
- Help your child understand that when schoolwork requires technology that they need to choose a laptop over a phone as it helps to reduce distractions and support learning

Thank you for working with us to uphold these important expectations.



The graphic is titled "West Vancouver Schools Parent & Guardian's Guide to Personal Digital Devices". It features a central text box with a circular icon on the left containing a list of personal digital devices. To the right is a blue arrow pointing to a box stating "Laptops are the preferred device for school use." Below this is a light blue box with a statement about mindful use. At the bottom are two boxes: one for "Elementary" (cell phones not used) and one for "Secondary" (cell phones used for learning tasks). A large smartphone icon is on the right, and a "WEST VANCOUVER SCHOOLS" logo is at the bottom left.

Personal Digital Devices
include any personal electronic device that can be used to communicate or to access the cell phones, phones, laptops, tablets, smartwatches and any other portable technology device.

Laptops are the preferred device for school use.

While digital devices can enhance learning in many ways, allowing students to collaborate, create and communicate, it is important that they are used in a mindful and meaningful way.

Personal digital devices should only be used with the permission of a teacher or administrator. Additional considerations will be made to provide for student's health and accessibility needs, and accommodation requirements.

Elementary
Cell phones should NOT be used in elementary school.

Secondary
Cell phones should only be used in class if specifically required for a learning task

What can parents and guardians do to help?

- Understand the digital device expectations at your child's school
- Support and encourage your child's appropriate use of digital devices
- Refrain from contacting your child during the school day. If it's an emergency, contact the school office
- Personally model and encourage digital device boundaries

WEST VANCOUVER SCHOOLS

Student Illness

As we move into the winter months and cold and flu season, this is a reminder for parents to keep sick kids at home when they are not feeling well. Students should be able to actively participate in school activities and sit in class through a long day of learning.

Please keep your child at home if they:

- Have a fever
- Are too sick to take part in all normal school activities
- Have a suspected or known communicable disease
- Is vomiting or has diarrhea
- Students should be symptom free for 24 hours before returning to school.

Thank you for your consideration and cooperation with these guidelines. Help us to keep everyone healthy at school! Some more information can be found through the links below:

Health Link BC: by calling 811, you can speak to a health service professional, more info is here:
<https://www.healthlinkbc.ca/>

Sneezes & Diseases Quick Guide:

https://www.bccdc.ca/schools/Documents/EN_Guide_Childhood_Diseases.pdf

School Closures due to Weather

West Vancouver Schools endeavours to keep schools open on regular instructional days, including those with accumulating snowfall ([Weather Closures and Procedures](#)). Any decision to close schools will be made by the Superintendent and will be based on the safety of students and staff. The school district aims to communicate any decision to close schools by 6:00 am.

Please check the [school district website](#) for the most current information on school closures.

GLENEAGLES NEWS

Basketball

Our grade 7 basketball season is now underway with the first game scheduled for **January 20th**. Games will be held on Tuesdays after school with a tournament scheduled at the end of February at WVSS. The boys' team will be coached by Ms. McIntyre and the girls' team by Mrs. Staples, detailed permission forms have been sent home with all interested students. We are looking forward to a fun season!

Rocks & Rings

We are looking forward to Rocks & Rings, a program presented by Curling Canada, who will visit Gleneagles next week on **January 12 and 13**. All students will have an opportunity to participate in some drills, relays and activities that introduce students to the sport of curling with a focus on FUN. There is no cost for this activity due to the generosity of the GEC PAC - thank you for supporting enriching programs for our students.

Ice Skating at WV Arena

We have some skating sessions booked at the West Van Ice Arena and all students will have an opportunity to enjoy one skating session with their classmates. **January 29, February 5 and February 12th** are the scheduled dates, students will travel via school bus for skating, and there will be an activity fee of \$10 per student. The cost is the same regardless if students bring their own skates or require rentals. Permission forms will be sent home on Monday and parents are asked to check their [School Cash Online](#) account for payment.

Students will be divided into grade groups for skating (not by division/classroom). Please read the permission form for specific details regarding dates, times and required clothing items such as helmets, warm pants, mitts, etc.

Here is a breakdown of the anticipated schedule:

Thursday, January 29th	9:15-10:15 am, Divs. 8, 9 & 10 All K, Grade 1 and Grade 2's	10:30-11:30 am, Div 6 & 7 All Grade 3's only
Thursday, February 5th	9:30-10:45 am, Div 5, 6 & 7 All Grade 4's only	10:45-11:30 am, Div 3, 4 and 5 All Grade 5's only
Thursday, February 12th	9:30-10:45 am, Div 1, 2, 3, & 4 All Grade 6's only	10:45-11:30 am, Div 1 and 2 All Grade 7's only

Hot Lunch for Term 2

Please note that the Munch-A-Lunch is constantly open now as we have **removed the open and close windows**. Parents have access to login and place or change orders at any time! You are encouraged to order for the full term ahead, however you will now be able to go back in and make changes up to two weeks before each delivery date.

Orders will automatically close at 8pm, 14 days before each lunch delivery, giving families greater flexibility to adjust their orders. When making changes, **please double check the new start date** for your child's lunch and remember that any changes will take effect after two weeks.

For example: parents go into Munch-A-Lunch and place an order for the entire term, your child comes home and says "I don't want mac and cheese anymore". You can now go back to Munch-A-Lunch, go to the mac & cheese days, change the order, and then tell your child "you will have to eat your mac & cheese for 2 more weeks until it changes to the new order".

If you have any inquiries after your child has received their meal, please contact the Hot Lunch coordinators at gechotlunch@gmail.com. Thank you for your support and we hope that the new system will make it easier to accommodate changes and preferences for kids and parents!

Place your orders here: [GEC Munch-A-Lunch](#) - Please remember to provide your own cutlery!

GEC PAC Meeting

Please see the minutes from out last PAC Meeting held on November 19th here: [Minutes](#)

The next PAC meeting will be held online on **Wednesday, January 14th at 6:30 pm on Microsoft Teams**.

Please use the following link to join the meeting: [Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 294 336 178 820 83 Passcode: 5Jz6L64m

Remembrance Day Contest

Congratulations to our Gleneagles students who submitted an entry for the West Vancouver Legion's Remembrance Day Contest last November. Entries have been returned to school with the following students being recognized for their amazing artwork and poems – well done!



Chloe T, grade 6	Junior Literary Poem, 1st Place District Winner
Pavilina H, grade 6	Junior Literary Poem, 2 nd Place School Winner
Hannah R, grade 5	Junior Literary Poem, 3 rd Place School Winner
Chloe T, grade 6	Junior Poster, 2nd Place District Winner
Theodore A, grade 7	Intermediate Poster, 1 st Place School Winner
Evangeline G, grade 7	Intermediate Literary Poem, 1 st Place School Winner
Theodore A, grade 7	Intermediate Literary Poem, 2 nd Place School Winner
Penelope, grade 7	Intermediate Literary Poem, 3 rd Place School Winner
Issy D, grade 6	Junior Literary Poem Honorable Mention

News From our School Library

Thank You! A huge thank you to the PAC and parent volunteers for facilitating our annual Scholastic Book Fair! Our total sales exceed \$6700 which raised for us \$3392 in Scholastic Dollars. These funds are used to purchase educational items such as books, manipulatives and consumables for our classrooms and library. These resources provide valuable support for all students – thank you for making this possible!

Ms. Yorke is looking for **parent volunteers** to assist in the library with a variety of tasks. Volunteers are asked to commit weekly for 30 to 90 minutes. Times can be scheduled on Wednesdays or Fridays between 8:35 am and 2:35 pm, or on other days between 10:40 and 11:55 am. Training will be provided by Ms. Yorke during recess times or before/after school. If you are available, please email Ms. Yorke at kyorke@wvschools.ca. Thank you for your consideration!

After School Clubs

The following clubs will begin next week and space is still available in both programs.

Mixed Media Art with Tracey

Join Tracey for a fun art studio experience where we will explore various techniques and materials through both guided and self-directed projects! This club runs on Mondays, 2:35 to 4:15 pm in the Flex Room. Please register by [filling in this form](#) and submitting payment as listed on the form.



Act Create & Play

In this program kids explore theatre through acting games, puppetry, storytelling and hands-on crafts. Classes run on Tuesdays from 2:35 to 3:45 pm. Please [follow this link](#) to register and see more information.

LIONS BAY NEWS

Pretend Animal Clinic

Students in Kindergarten and Grade 1 have been learning about money, measurement and veterinarian skills.



SpacesEDU

Don't forget to look at SpacesEDU to see the digital portfolio of your child's most recent learning.



SpacesEDU
by myBlueprint

Planetarium Visit

We are looking forward to having a guest visitor from the Canadian Planetarium at Lions Bay on **Tuesday, January 27th**. We will be learning about the sun rising and setting, and the patterns of the moon from both scientific and Indigenous perspectives.

Grade 3 Field trip

Our grade 3 students are going on a field trip to go ice skating at the West Van Arena on **Thursday, January 29th** along with grade 3 students from Gleneagles Ch'axay. Detailed permission form will be sent home on Monday and we are looking for parent volunteers to help transport students to the arena and assist with lacing skates, etc. An activity fee of \$10 will be posted to [School Cash Online](#) next week.



PAC Meeting

Please view the PAC Meeting Minutes from our November meeting here: [PAC Meeting Minutes](#)

Our next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, January 29th at 6:00 pm**, it's a two-event night with a movie night too! Movie night starts at 5:30 pm and families are invited to join us in the big ideas area for an in-person PAC meeting once our students are settled and enjoying the movie.

We will be sharing and discussing our new school wide "sorting things out" framework created by our staff. And as always, we'll celebrate the good things happening in our school and the ways that the PAC contributes to all the good. Please join us!

DATES TO REMEMBER

Thursday, January 8 th	Rockridge Info Night for new grade 8 families, 6:30 pm
January 12 & 13	Rocks & Rings curling program at GEC for all classes
Tuesday, January 13 th	Science Presentation on Teeth in Div. 5
Wednesday, January 14 th	GEC PAC Meeting, at 6:30 pm on TEAMS
Thursday, January 15 th	Black Excellence Day
Tuesday, January 20 th	Rockridge Vice Principal visits the grade 7s at GEC, 9:00 am Basketball game #1, 3:30 pm
Tuesday, January 27 th	Planetarium visit at LB

	Basketball game #2, 3:30 pm
Wednesday, January 28 th	GEC Field trip to MacMillan Space Center, Divs. 6 & 7
Thursday, January 29 th	Skating for grades K to 3 at West Van Arena (GEC) Skating for grade 3s at Lions Bay School LB PAC Meeting & Movie Night, 5:30 pm
Friday, January 30 th	Professional Development Day

COMMUNITY NEWS

Please visit our [District Community Connections page](#) to see upcoming community news and events.

West Vancouver Schools Parent/Caregiver Digital Guides

[Parents Guide to Social Media and Digital Devices](#)

DPAC Parent Evening with Sarah Ward Please register and purchase your ticket [here](#).

DPAC parent evening with
Sarah Ward on Executive Functioning

Wednesday, January 28th
\$20 per ticket

Sarah Ward is an internationally recognized expert in executive function. Her practical, research-informed strategies are widely regarded as groundbreaking in supporting student learning and independence.

Drawing from executive function coaching approaches used with elementary, secondary, post-secondary students and adults, this session will help build academic success by exploring time management, task prioritization, long-term project planning and the development of independent learning habits.

REGISTER HERE

KAY MEEK THEATRE **6:30 - 8:30 PM**
1700 MATHERS AVE
WEST VANCOUVER

What Parents will Gain From This Evening

Understand

Parents will gain a clear, reassuring understanding of how executive function skills develop over time, why children may struggle with organization and time management, and what is developmentally typical at different ages.

Learn

Parents will learn practical, easy-to-use strategies they can apply at home to strengthen their child's time awareness, organization, study routines and follow-through for academic success.

WEST VANCOUVER DPAC

