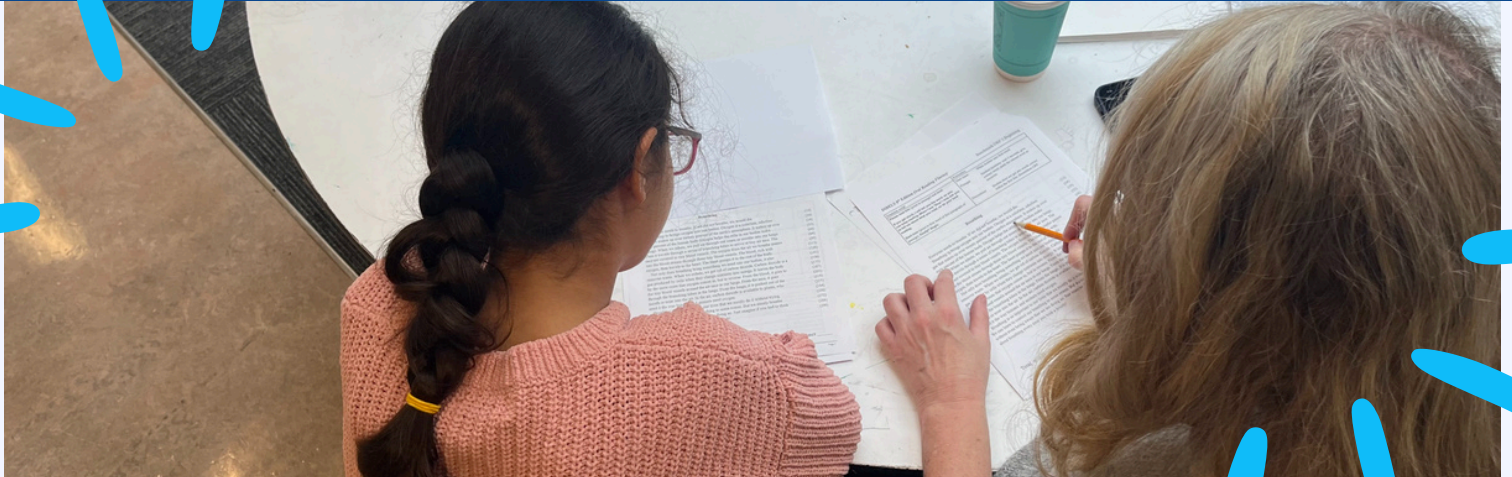


Hollyburn This Week

Highlights, Happenings, and What's Ahead



Principal's Message

Dear Hollyburn Families,

We've had another wonderful week at Hollyburn! A huge thank you to all of our families who met with classroom teachers over the past two days. We are so grateful for your time, your partnership, and your commitment to supporting your child's learning. Strong school-home connections are at the heart of student success, and it's always a privilege to come together around that shared goal. This week, we also had a PAC meeting where we discussed all things Halloween—from costume competitions to our upcoming Halloween Howl Dance. 🎃 Please look ahead in this Weekly for important details about how we'll be celebrating this festive time of year.

I've also included some information about DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills), a literacy screening tool used across the district. All students have now completed their DIBELS assessments, which help teachers better understand each child's early reading skills. These assessments give us valuable data that guide classroom instruction and targeted supports to help every learner thrive.

Finally, as we head into the long weekend, I want to wish you and your loved ones the happiest of Thanksgivings, if you choose to celebrate. I am deeply grateful to work in such a vibrant and inclusive community, where our students' learning and well-being are truly at the heart of everything we do.

Warmly,

Breanna Lloyd

Principal, Hollyburn Elementary

WEST VANCOUVER SCHOOLS ADMISSIONS

Admissions for the 2026/2027 school year begins on Wednesday October 15th at 8:00 am for all Kindergarten students and all Grade 1 -12 In-catchment students.

Admissions for Out-of-Catchment and Out-of-District students opens on at 8:00am on Thursday, January 15th, 2025.

For more information about admissions processes, dates, guidelines, and information, please visit <https://westvancouver.schools.ca/admissions/>

Please carefully read the information regarding documentation procedures before starting the application process.



IMPORTANT

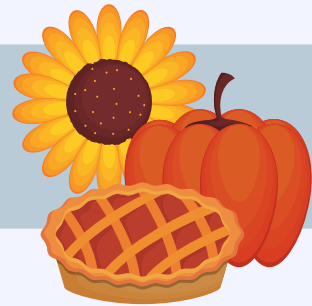
Current students do not need to re-apply unless they intend to transfer schools.

THIS WEEK

OCTOBER

13

HAPPY
Thanksgiving
DAY



14

HARRY POTTER CLUB

Cross Country Meet #3
rescheduled from last week's cancellation

15

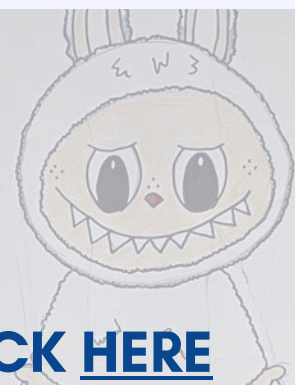
BASKETBALL CLUB

16

WEAR HOLLYBURN BLUE DAY
NEWSPAPER CLUB

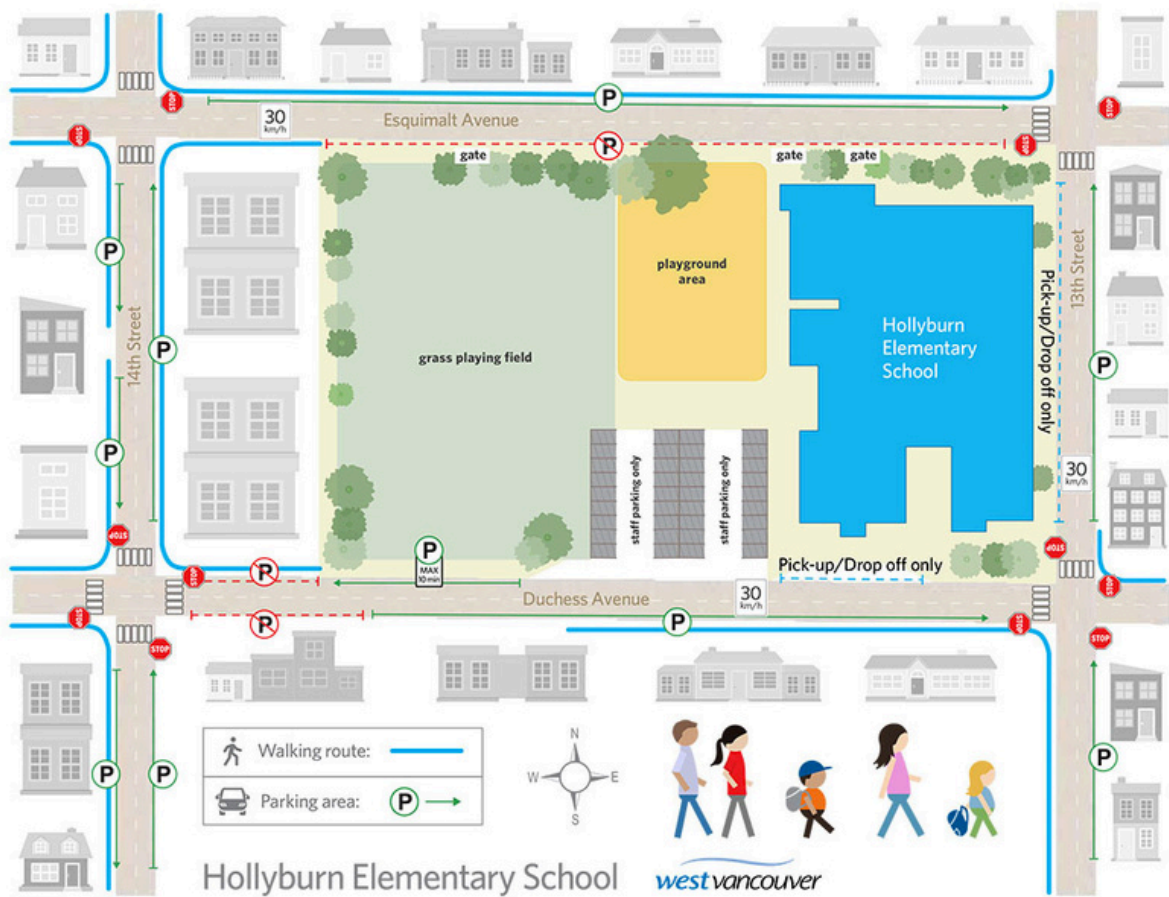
17

ACTING CLUB
CHESS CLUB



FOR COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS [CLICK HERE](#)

IMPORTANT: TRAFFIC SAFETY AT HOLLYBURN



Traffic & Drop-Off Safety Reminder

We've noticed a dramatic increase in unsafe and dangerous driving during student drop-off and pick-up times. Despite additional supervision and traffic patrols, we continue to see cars stopping in unsafe areas and students exiting vehicles mid-road.

For everyone's safety, we rely on our families to model safe and respectful driving habits around the school. Please review the map above and help us keep all students safe by following the reminders below.

Drop-Off & Pick-Up Guidelines:

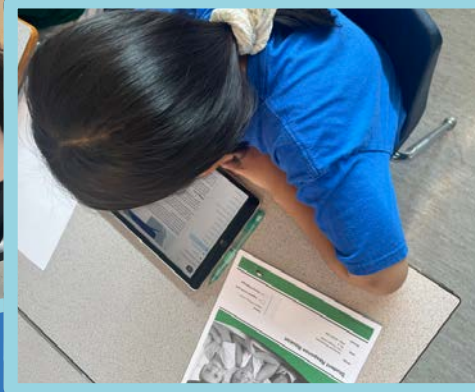
- Drop-off is permitted along Duchess and 13th ONLY.
- If you're dropping off on Esquimalt, please park and walk your child onto the school site, always using designated crosswalks.
- Do not stop in the middle of the road or let your child jump out of the car. This is extremely dangerous and puts both your child and others at risk.
- Avoid blocking driveways or double-parking. It creates congestion and unsafe conditions for pedestrians.
- Consider parking a block away and walking in. It reduces congestion and gives your child a calm, safe start to their day.
- Arrive a few minutes early. A calm drop-off is a safe one – rushing increases risk.

We appreciate your cooperation and commitment to student safety. Together, we can ensure that every child arrives and leaves Hollyburn safely each day.



DIBELS

(Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills)



At Hollyburn, all students, K to 7, complete DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills) assessments three times a year — in the fall, winter, and spring. These short, one-minute assessments help teachers understand how students are progressing in key areas of early reading development.

DIBELS measures skills such as phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and reading comprehension — often referred to as the Big Ideas of reading. The goal is to identify where each student is thriving and where additional support might be needed to strengthen foundational literacy skills.

The information gathered allows teachers to tailor instruction, monitor growth, and provide targeted support so every student continues to develop as a confident, fluent reader. Each assessment is quick, taking only a few minutes, and does not require any preparation from families — it simply provides a snapshot of your child's reading progress, much like a thermometer gives a quick measure of overall health.



As part of Hollyburn's Year 1 Framework for Enhancing Student Learning (FESL), we will be sharing more throughout the year about our literacy practices, what we are doing school-wide to support student growth in reading and writing, and ways families can help foster literacy development at home.

HALLOWEEN

at Hollyburn



IMPORTANT INFO:

We know it may seem early, but Halloween is just around the corner – and many of our students are already getting excited about costumes, decorations, and treats!

Below, you'll find some important reminders about costume guidelines should your child wish to participate (dressing up is completely optional).

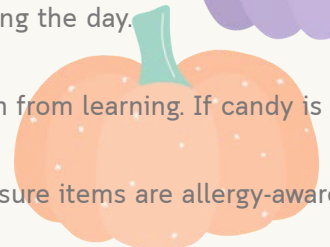
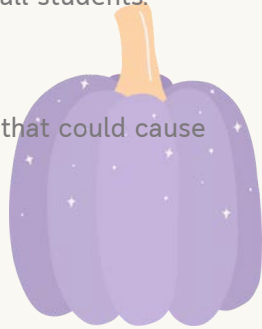
You'll also find more information from our HPAC about this year's Halloween Howl Dance!



HALLOWEEN COSTUME REMINDERS

As we prepare to celebrate Halloween at Hollyburn, we ask that students and families keep the following guidelines in mind to ensure the day is fun, inclusive, and safe for everyone:

- Costumes are optional. Students are welcome to wear a costume, Halloween colours, or regular clothing – whatever makes them feel comfortable.
- Halloween is still a learning day. Please make sure costumes allow students to participate comfortably in classroom and physical activities throughout the day.
- Avoid cultural stereotypes. Please do not wear costumes that appropriate or misrepresent other cultures.
 - [Click here](#) for a short CBC video explaining cultural appropriation vs. appreciation.
 - [Click here](#) for thoughtful questions from UBC's Equity & Inclusion Office to help decide if a costume is appropriate.
- Be kind and inclusive. Halloween is meant to be fun for everyone. Please remind students to be respectful of others' costumes and choices – including those who choose not to dress up.
- No masks that cover the face. Students must be able to see clearly, and staff need to be able to identify all students.
- No weapons or weapon-like accessories.
- Wear comfortable, weather-appropriate clothing that can be worn all day, including outdoors.
- Choose safe footwear suitable for recess and regular activities – no high heels, oversized shoes, or items that could cause tripping.
- Keep costumes school-appropriate for a community with students aged 4 to 13.
- Avoid scented products (e.g., hair sprays or colouring) that may cause allergic reactions or sensitivities.
- Arrive in costume. Students should not use washrooms to change or update costumes during the day.
- Think green! Whenever possible, reuse or repurpose costume pieces to help reduce waste.
- Leave Halloween candy at home. Candy (and the excitement around it!) can be a distraction from learning. If candy is brought, it may be held until the end of the day.
- If classes plan to celebrate with treats, please confirm with teachers ahead of time and ensure items are allergy-aware and inclusive of all students.



HPAC Connect

Hollyburn Parent Advisory Council



Family Portrait Fundraiser

- Sarah Jane M Photography is offering discounted 20 min family photo sessions at Ambleside Beach, October 25th.
- Limited Sessions! - book now on <https://munchalunch.com/schools/hollyburn/>



What exactly is Munch-a-Lunch?

- It's your one stop shop for all things HPAC Fundraising! Register here : <https://munchalunch.com/schools/hollyburn/> to participate in Hot Lunch, Spirit Wear and more!

New School Spirit Wear!

- Our newly designed hoodies are now available for pre-order and will be delivered in November.
<https://munchalunch.com/schools/hollyburn/>
- New design, same Old price: \$35 for youth & \$40 for adult sizes.
- Classic Hollyburn T-Shirts are also available for purchase at the office, or through Munch-a-Lunch. Restock in sizes coming very soon.



Halloween Howl Fundraiser

- Your HPAC is happy to announce the return of our Halloween Howl fundraiser!
- Students will get the chance to dance in costume in the school gym or, for those non-dancing Huskies, there will be a quiet lair lounge in the library.
- Save the date - Friday October 31st, more information to follow...



2025/26 PAC Fundraising Goal

- The main fundraising goal for the year will be the School Gym Audio Visual System.
- With your help, we can upgrade to a state-of-the-art system that enhances experiences and performances for all!



Monthly PAC Meeting

Thank you to everyone who attended the HPAC meeting on October 7th, 2025. The next HPAC meeting will be held on November 4th, 2025, 9am. All are Welcome!



FAMILY PORTRAIT FUNDRAISER

Capture precious moments with your loved ones!

Whether it be for holiday cards for loved ones far away, or for hanging on your own wall, HPAC is excited to offer Husky families an amazing opportunity to update your family portrait, or to start a new tradition. On **Saturday, October 25th** outdoors at beautiful Ambleside Beach, the talented [Sarah Jane M Photography](#) will be on hand, by appointment only, to capture the spirit of your family.

So gather the grandparents, the pets, or whomever make up your family— this is a great opportunity to create lasting memories while supporting our school.

Sessions are just \$50.00 for 20 minutes, and include one high resolution photo of your choice.*
Spots are limited, so be sure to sign up quickly!



All proceeds from the initial sitting fee are returned to our HPAC Fund. Thank you!

*A variety of extra photo packages are available through the photographer at additional fees.



NEW SCHOOL SPIRIT WEAR HOODIES!



HPAC is excited to announce that **new hoodies** for Hollyburn Elementary will be arriving in November! Get ready to wear your school colours and show off your school spirit. These cozy hoodies are perfect for chilly days and school events, so grab yours and join the fun!

NEW design, same OLD price! Pre-order yours today.

Funds raised go to our HPAC Fund. Thank you!



Pre-Order on
Munch-a-Lunch.





HOLLYBURN ELEMENTARY

HALLOWEEN HOWL DANCE & LAIR LOUNGE

*save the date!
more info to follow...*

A SPOOKTACULAR HPAC FUNDRAISER EVENT

OCTOBER 31, 2025

PRIMARY: 12:10-12:30 PM INTERMEDIATE: 12:30-12:50 PM

PRIZES FOR TOP FUNDRAISING CLASSES AND BEST COSTUMES!

HELP RAISE FUNDS FOR OUR NEW GYM A/V SYSTEM
& HAVE A HOWLING GOOD TIME.

DPAC *parent evening with* Dr. Molly Lawlor

Equipping the Whole Child for Life: Helping kids build strong friendships, manage big feelings and bounce back from challenges—using brain science and mindfulness to support learning and growth.

Monday, October 20th

Join us for an evening with Dr. Molly Lawlor—who helps children and teens learn how to understand their feelings, build confidence and form healthy relationships. She is the lead author and Principal Scientific Advisor for MindUP—an evidence-based program that teaches kids how their brains work and gives them tools to manage emotions and thrive in school and life.

REGISTER HERE

What You will Gain From This Evening



Understand

Parents will gain an encouraging new view of adolescence as a time of opportunity and growth, not just stress or risk



Learn

Parents will leave with simple, everyday strategies to help their child handle stress, big emotions, strengthen friendships and feel more ready to learn.

**KAY MEEK THEATRE
1700 MATHERS AVE
WEST VANCOUVER**

**6:30 -
8:00 PM**



**WEST
VANCOUVER
SCHOOLS**

DPAC

important reminders

FROM THE HOLLYBURN OFFICE



Running late? Sick child?

**Please remember to
contact the office by
phone or email at
hollyburn@wvschools.ca
by 9am**

**HAVE YOU PACKED CUTLERY
FOR YOUR CHILD'S
HOT LUNCH?**

**Please remember to pack a
fork/spoon/chopstick so your child
can enjoy their hot lunch meal**

