



# ROCKRIDGE

ESSE QUAM VIDERI



Dec 1, 2022

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CALENDAR UPDATE	
Linear Math/PE 8 - WEEK 2	
Thurs, Dec 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● TOQUE THURSDAY &amp; WORLD CUP SOCCER STREAMING AT 7AM!</li> <li>● Gr. 8 Advisory in Block 5</li> <li>● Sounds of the Season Winter Concert - 6:30 pm (entrance by donation)</li> </ul>
Mon, Dec. 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Law 12 to Law Courts</li> <li>● Fine Arts/Applied Skills Semester 1 - Rotation 3 starts today</li> </ul>
Tue, Dec. 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Flags @Half Mast to mark the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women</li> <li>● Student Mentor / Leadership Field Trip to Camp Fircum - Dec. 6-7</li> <li>● Gr. 8/9 In Person Careers Presentation</li> </ul>
Wed, Dec. 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Student Mentors / Leadership students return @ 3:30pm</li> </ul>
Thu, Dec. 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Block 5 Activity: PIVOT - the making of an animation short (View the trailer <a href="#">HERE</a>)</b></li> </ul>
Fri, Dec. 9	
ROCKRIDGE WEBSITE <a href="#">CALENDAR</a>	
WV Youth Services click <a href="#">here</a>	

**ANNUAL WINTER WEATHER REMINDER:** Use this link for information about the communication of weather closures and procedures: [SCHOOL DISTRICT WINTER WEATHER PROCEDURES](#)

### A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

December 1st is here and I hope everyone is looking forward to the excitement of the festive season. Our E-Bulletin and Raven Life (see link below) today help reflect the special events and opportunities happening in our final two weeks before the winter break. As I wrote last week, school spirit and a sense of belonging continue to shine throughout the day here at Rockridge. From classroom connections to participation in special events or cheering in the stands for our Ravens b-ball teams students and staff are making Rockridge feel like a great place to be. With this in mind, if you are joining us for the Sounds of the Season Winter Concert tonight at 6:30pm you will be amazed and filled with joy from the talents of our Rockridge artists.

While we think about the busy holiday season, our staff is also mindful that this can be a stressful time

for students and families. Keeping up with assignments while balancing other commitments requires planning and good communication. December is a month that can add additional challenges to keep up with responsibilities, so we ask that families carve out time regularly to talk about classes, learning, assignments, as well as, staying involved in the joyful events of the season (scroll below). Please continue to talk with your Rockridge scholar about their Google Classroom to help coordinate a strong finish to 2022.

For a look around Rockridge this week be sure to check out Raven Life attached

I would like to point out that our flags will be lowered to half mast on Tuesday, December 6th to mark the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women. This is an action that will be taken at all government buildings in Canada on this day.

We want to extend a special Block 5 invite for students to attend the **PIVOT presentation** next week. Details are included in the calendar above. This is a great opportunity for students to hear from and meet with industry leaders in Animation. The writer, producer, concept designer, animation director, and composer of PIVOT will all be present, so please encourage your student to attend this presentation if they are thinking of a future career in writing, producing, designing, music or animation.

#### **SAFETEEN**

On Tuesday, all grade 10s took part in a violence prevention workshop put on by Safeteen. The students broke into gender based groups (including a gender freedom group) and discussed topics which included health relationships, assertiveness, verbal & physical violence. These are super important topics for our youth to delve into and the Safeteen presenters expertly guided the students through interactive engaging activities. Thank you to Safeteen and to our PAC for supporting this important education opportunity for our grade 10s.

#### **GRADUATION LITERACY ASSESSMENT (GLA 10) - January 23-26**

All Grade 10 students must complete the Graduation Literacy Assessment (GLA) the week of January 23-26. The tests have been scheduled and students can find their exact time and location on a list shared through the **Grad class of 2025 google classroom**. In addition, gr 12s that did not complete the GLA 12 in November or gr 11s that did not do the GLA 10 last year will receive an email shortly with their test date and time. If students have a conflict or any questions, please contact Ms. Towers ASAP.

To assist students in preparing for this assessment they should refer to [this document](#) - with links to practice assessments. Ms. Towers will visit each CLE 10 class in early January to review the assessment and how to prepare for it. If a student wishes to rewrite the GLA10 or GNA10 assessment, they should contact Ms. Towers.

#### **RAVENS ATHLETICS:**

The Sr. Girls and Boys Basketball teams hosted Sentinel on Wednesday night. The Boys won this first home game 75-69 and will host Whistler on Friday after school. The Sr. Girls did not open with a win at home but are back in action next week.

*Coming soon:* The Ski and Snowboard team will be available to grade 9-12 students in early December.

### Stay up to date on Raven Athletics:

- **Basketball Home Games:** check the website calendar for schedules [HERE](#). Student athletes should be members of their team's Google Classroom for full team schedules and messages.
- Follow Rockridge Secondary on Twitter: [Rockridge Secondary Twitter](#)
- Follow Rockridge Secondary on Instagram: [@rockridgess](#)
- Contact Mr. Ian Armstrong [IArmstrong@wvschools.ca](mailto:IArmstrong@wvschools.ca) if you have questions regarding our winter Athletics program.

### HOLIDAY INITIATIVES

You can find special holiday events for the week ahead on our special December Holiday Calendar covering December 1st to 16th [HERE](#).

#### Environment Club Clothing Drive & Thrift Sale

We all have old clothes that sit in the back of our closets. Why not cut back on waste and donate your used items? From November 14-25 we will be gratefully accepting washed, gently worn clothing (size youth - adult) donations (shirts, jackets, pants, skirts/dresses). Please bring them to the large box outside of the office. The sale will take place on Dec 6 & 8 during block 5 in Player's Hall.

#### COVENANT HOUSE - BACKPACKS - November 29th to December 9th

This year we hope to give 200+ homeless youth, ages 16-24, backpacks full of gifts at the Covenant House Drop-In Centre's Annual Youth Christmas Party. Help us make a difference to these teens in need by donating a backpack or by contributing some of the items below.

Rockridge Back Pack Collection Box will be located in front of the office.

#### Special Items for Backpacks:

- Socks
- Boxer Shorts & Women's Briefs
- Hair Elastics
- Shaving Cream & Razors
- Deodorant
- Lip Balm
- Body Wash (300 ml)
- 2 in 1 Shampoo/Conditioner
- Nail Clippers
- Large Backpack – 17.5 inches x 12.5 in. x 6 in.
- Small Umbrella
- Small fleece blanket
- Hand warmers
- Chocolate bars/candy
- Journals

Gift Cards (Starbucks, Tim Hortons)

### The Helping Hands Club winter clothing drive - December 5-9

This club is collecting clothing and necessities for those in need in the Downtown Eastside. We are accepting unused and gently used winter clothing, gloves, toques, socks, etc. All clothing will be donated to WISH. Bring your donations by the bin at the front office.

### BLOCK 5 UPDATES THIS WEEK

Our Tuesday and Thursday schedule provides ongoing opportunities for students to use their time to focus on the individualized learning they need.

Today, Grade 8 students participated in another Advisory session in Block 5. Once again, our grade 10 Mentorship students provided the leadership for today's lesson. Students were engaged in communication themed activities this week. The points board outside the office will be updated to reflect the new totals for the homerooms soon. Currently the Valiant White Polar Bears are holding on to first place!

Last week, Grade 8s started their **service hour** proposals in their careers class (Thursday Nov 24). In grade 8 at Rockridge, students complete 5 hours of volunteer service before the end of the year, and clubs are often a great outlet for this. We encourage students to do service hours within the school or community. Mr. Pandher's presentation today shared with students how service hours need to be tracked (i.e. uploading to Careers 8 Google Classroom). Ask your Grade 8 student to show you this in their Google Classroom, if you did not do so yet.

A reminder for Grade 9 families - last week **attendance was quite low at Gr. 9 Careers**. Please remind your scholar that Careers 9 is one of their courses and attendance is mandatory unless they have academy/district program or pursuit. Please arrange your appointments/alternate activities around the careers dates - listed below:

SEMESTER ONE Gr. 8 & 9 Careers Dates for Block 5		SEMESTER ONE Gr. 8 Advisory Dates for Block 5	
Tuesday	Thursday	Grade 8 Advisory #5	Thurs. Dec. 1
December 6	January 5	Grade 8 Advisory #6	Tues. Dec. 13
January 17		Grade 8 Advisory #7	Thurs. Jan. 12
		Grade 8 Advisory #8	Tues. Jan. 24

Teacher locations during Block 5: [bit.ly/rrFITlocations22](https://bit.ly/rrFITlocations22)

Automated phone calls/emails are sent home when students are absent from a class. This includes Block 5 for grade 8 students and Careers for grade 8 and 9. The automated call system does not specifically explain which block a student missed, so we do ask that parents/guardians discuss any unexpected absence calls with your student first, then call our office if you have further questions or inquiries.

## DISTRICT AFFORDABILITY FUND

The Ministry of Education has provided West Vancouver Schools \$650,000, a one-time funding grant for us to make the 22/23 school year more affordable for students and families in need. We have now received the funding for our 18 schools and have allocated the money based on the specific needs of each of our school communities. Our allocation:

- Will allow schools to cover costs for school fees, school supplies or other school related costs for students in need
- Some funds will be used to benefit large groups of both elementary and secondary students

Families are encouraged to reach out to Mr. Kolkea if any financial support is needed for school-based supplies, fees or activities.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### Foundry Parent Ambassadors - see flyer [here](#)

The NS Foundry is looking for parent volunteers who are passionate about supporting youth and families on the North Shore. Currently, there are no parent ambassadors, and they need parents who can step up and share their experiences and provide some ideas to support parents on the North Shore.

### ToyDrive at Park Shore BMW Northshore Auto Mall - December 4th

Bring unwrapped gifts for teens and children to support the **North Shore Family Services ChristmasBureau** or make a donation [online](#) if you are unable to participate in person.

NorthshoreAutoMall has pledged an incredible donation match of \$10,000 to ensure vulnerable North Shore families have gifts under the tree.

### Dundarave Festival of Lights 2022 - click [here](#) for details

- Free Concerts
- Concession will be open with hot drinks and snacks
- Saturday, Dec 3rd @ 4pm - West Van Youth Band performs at the lighting ceremony.
- EVERYONE WELCOME!

### Volunteer Hours Opportunity - Fencing World Cup – December 2022

Come volunteer at the Epee Fencing World Cup, 2022 that will take place from December 8- December 11 at the Vancouver Trade & Convention Centre. Volunteers will meet and experience the world's best athletes in this sport. No experience is required and there is a variety of roles and responsibilities. Please complete this volunteer registration form: <https://forms.office.com/r/uhVr5bup57> . Any questions or for more information, please contact: Judit Blasko, Canadian Fencing Federation, [judit@fencing.ca](mailto:judit@fencing.ca). Phone: 604-809-4260

## RECURRING ITEMS

### Health & Safety

We want to ensure all our families know that the wellness of our Rockridge community is always top of mind. There are three simple reminders we continue to share with staff, students and caregivers:

1. Hand hygiene is an effective means to prevent illness.
2. Wearing a mask is always an option for members of our school community.
3. If you are not well, stay home, rest and return when you are better. Students can use Google Classroom, contact their teacher or classmates to keep up with assignments.\
4. **Cold & Flu Season** - When to keep your child home from school - click [here](#)

### **Traffic Safety at Rockridge**

Please take note of the new traffic signage in the upper RR parking lot when exiting the property onto Caulfeild Drive. The intention of the new signage is to clarify regulated directional flow during peak times. We have a new Traffic and Safety Committee that is working on reducing traffic hazards and this is a first step in that direction. Please be sure to heed the signage and directional arrows when driving on school property.

### **SchoolCash Online - Student Fees**

Rockridge uses School Cash Online for school items requiring payment. This system is utilized throughout the West Vancouver School District, and you and your child will continue to receive payment requests in this manner. If you are new to the WV School District and have not yet registered for SchoolCash Online, we can provide you with a temporary PIN number to be used the first time you log in, then you will be prompted to create a login and password for future access. Please email [rockridge@wvschools.ca](mailto:rockridge@wvschools.ca) with your student's name and grade to request this PIN if you are not yet set up with an account.

### **Excused Absences and Early Dismissals**

If a student will be late for school or missing a block, parents are requested to inform the school by sending an email to [rockridge@wvschools.ca](mailto:rockridge@wvschools.ca). Please include the student's full legal name and grade, time of Absence and Reason for Absence. Students arriving 'late' for class should proceed directly to their class and check in with the teacher who will modify the attendance to indicate 'late' rather than 'absent'.

### **Policies & Procedures Form 2022-2023** - <https://eforms.sd45.bc.ca/Form/PandP>

This online verification and consent form requires a parent login and must be completed for all students each year. If a parent previously created an account to complete the 21/22 form, the account is the same. If you have forgotten your password, you can follow the instructions to reset it. Once logged in, parents have the option to either update a P+P form created last year or start a new one.

Please be aware that a new P+P consent form **MUST** be completed for each student, each school year. Without a completed consent form, students are not permitted to access their Google classrooms, have their photos included in the yearbook etc. Permissions expire on August 31 each year.

### **Student Verification & Emergency Release Forms**

These forms were sent home with your child at the beginning of the school year. Please return as soon as possible so that we can complete our Emergency Preparedness Plan.

### **Student Drop Off and Pick Up**

A reminder to all parents regarding the student drop-off procedures before and after school. Your cooperation will ensure a safe and efficient process, allowing emergency vehicles access to our building at all times. Walking to school is a great alternative for students, to avoid traffic congestion and added stress. Thank you in advance! Please be aware of the following:

- All numbered spots in both the front and back parking lots are staff designated at all times; many of our staff work at multiple sites and need spots left open for their return. Please do not park in a numbered spot at any time.
- Visitor spaces at the front of school are not to be used from 7:30am to 9:00 am and 2:30pm to 3:30pm. If you need to park, during these times, please use the Upper North Lot or street parking.
- Please do not block the driveway at any time and do not stop in the circle directly in front of the main entrance.
- Student drivers are permitted to park in the North Lot only; all student drivers must purchase a Rockridge Parking Decal from the office and display it on their windshield, as periodic monitoring will be done.
- Carpooling or drop off locations outside of school property will alleviate congestion for all.

It is recommended that parents pull forward and pick up their child adjacent to the field whenever possible or in the North Lot. We appreciate your cooperation to help ensure the front of the school is kept clear and traffic flows efficiently.

### **MyEducation BC & BC Services Cards**

MyEducation BC has developed a new feature that provides BC students and parents with the choice to connect their BC services card to MyEducation BC and use the BC services card app, rather than the district issued username and password. Please see the [MyEducation BC Family Portal](#) on the West Vancouver Schools Website and select 'Student Portal Guides' or 'Family Portal Guides' as appropriate for further information.

### **2021-2022 Yearbooks Available (Last Year's Books)**

If you missed your chance to buy a yearbook last year, we have a limited number available! You can purchase them from the office for \$50 by credit or debit.