



# ROCKRIDGE

ESSE QUAM VIDERI



Dec 8, 2022

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<b>CALENDAR UPDATE - See <i>Holiday Initiatives Calendar</i> below</b>	
<b>Linear Math/PE 8 - WEEK 1</b>	
Thurs, 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> <li>● Grad Movie Night - 6pm - Home Alone</li> </ul>
Mon, Dec. 12	
Tue, Dec. 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 3:30-9:00 pm Grad Portrait Retakes</li> </ul>
Wed, Dec. 14	
Thu, Dec. 15	
Fri, Dec. 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Scroll down for Friday Calendar below</li> <li>● 12:10 Early Dismissal - Happy Holidays!</li> </ul>
<b>ROCKRIDGE WEBSITE <a href="#">CALENDAR</a></b>	
WV Youth Services click <a href="#">here</a>	

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

The good news . . . we are just over a week away from the winter break of 2022 . . . The, not bad, but important news . . . we are well past the midpoint of semester number one. What this means is that, firstly, I hope our Rockridge families have been able to plan some family time together for the upcoming holidays and that our students will return feeling rested and recharged for January 2023. On the other hand, we want our Rockridge scholars to give some thought to planning for a strong semester one finish. Our students will have a variety of assessments, assignments and opportunities to demonstrate their learning before their courses conclude at the end of January. Planning ahead for their January schedules and preparing mentally to be busy with end of semester curricular requirements are important proactive steps for student success. I share this leadership message with you because I was inspired while attending a field trip to Gambier Island this week with our Mentorship and Leadership students. While engaging in a variety of activities and discussions creating deeper connections to the skills of effective leaders and mentors, I was struck with how skilled our students are in their awareness of the skills and attributes of effective leaders. During one session with the students, I was personally challenged to communicate the history of my leadership experiences and style. Through my own reflection, I enjoyed thinking about my career in educational leadership and what things are important to me in my quest to be the best principal I can be. Once again in the presence of Rockridge students I

was deeply impressed by the maturity and dedication they apply to their learning and life. With this in mind, I hope all our students will dedicate themselves to being the best learner they can be and focus on finishing their first semester successfully.

There are two additions to the E-Bulletin this week that help share some of the learning journey for some of our students this week.

1. For a look around Rockridge this week be sure to check out this week's Raven Life attached. There are some great photos from some of the special trips and events at the Rock this week.
2. Below is a special contribution from Mr. Kim and his students from our computer programming class.

### **COMPUTER PROGRAMMING SHOWCASE**

The transition of students from being users of technology to creators of technology begins by learning the language that the computer can understand. Just as learning any new language requires understanding of syntax, recognizing patterns, testing the patterns, and making meaning of the feedback, learning programming language is no different. Being resilient in troubleshooting bugs and using computational thinking problem solving skills to break down big problems into smaller pieces are some of the skills that students pick up as they learn the many algorithmic frameworks that make up the innovations that surround us. The examples below are some of the proud creations that the students in Mr. Kim's class selected to showcase to our school community.

[Computer Programming Showcase Semester 1](#)

### **2023-24 Secondary Timetable**

The current "Transitional Secondary Timetable" was designed to provide flexibility and support for students, schools, and programs as we navigated COVID 19 restrictions, guidelines and uncertainty. As part of the 2023-24 timetable planning process, the school district used feedback from the Spring 2022 Student, Parent and Staff timetable surveys, and conducted a series of timetable focus group conversations. These focus groups have included conversations with the teachers, staff, students, parents, as well as representatives from our district programs, courses and departments.

After careful consideration, to best meet the needs of our students, schools, and diverse programs, West Vancouver Schools will be transitioning to a Linear Secondary Schedule that includes flexible instructional time for the 2023-2024 school year. In a linear timetable students will take eight courses for the entire school year instead of the current two semester timetable, where students take four courses at a time for half the year. Flexible instructional time provides students with time and flexibility to engage in personalized learning. This may include additional support, guidance with specific curriculum and interests, the opportunity to collaborate with others, and time to complete assignments, assessments and projects.

Over the next few months, the school district will work closely with schools to design a linear timetable that is responsive to the needs of our diverse programs, and enhances student choice, experiences, and opportunities. Final timetable details will be communicated before Spring Break.

### **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. For assistance with preparing for this assessment, students 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 Ski and Snowboard team held a meeting this week for grade 9-12 students: Team Class code: a27uyug

Juvenile Girls play in the Raven's Nest after school today. Rockridge is hosting a Junior Boys basketball tournament this Friday and Saturday. Our Senior Boys are playing in a tournament this weekend at Van Tech. Good luck to all our teams this week and weekend.

### **Stay up to date on Raven Athletics:**

- **Basketball Home Games:** check the website calendar for schedules [HERE](#). Our 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.

### **TEACHER COOKIE EXCHANGE - Time to get on your oven mitts!**

- Cookies Needed!
- Deliver to RR during DROP OFF - Thursday, Dec 15th
- Details and Sign up [here!](#)

### **HOLIDAY INITIATIVES**

You can find special holiday events for the rest of the month on our special December Holiday Calendar covering up to December 16th [HERE](#). For further details regarding donation items - see attached.

- **GRAD MOVIE NIGHT – TONIGHT - Dec 8th - Admission by donation of canned goods supporting the Harvest Project**
- **COVENANT HOUSE - BACKPACKS - November 29th to December 9th**
- **The Helping Hands Club winter clothing drive - December 5-9**
- **FASHION CLUB BLANKET DRIVE - December 12-16th**
- **BOOK CLUB DONATIONS – Dec 14<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>**
- **GSA - Jumble Sale - Dec 12<sup>th</sup>**

### **BLOCK 5 UPDATES THIS WEEK**

Our Tuesday and Thursday schedule provides ongoing opportunities for students to use their time to focus on their individual curricular needs.

On Tuesday this week, Grade 8 & 9 students participated in another Careers class. This was a special Careers class where Gr. 8 & 9 students were together in Players Hall where Mr. Ahmelich guided our students toward their next assignment. Please ask your Rockridge scholar to share the details of their assignment with you from their Google Classroom. This will help support each student complete their required work this week.

**Grade 8 Advisory - Dec 13th**

Homeroom Advisory sessions will take place for all Gr. 8 students in Block 5 Dec 13th with our Gr. 10 student Mentors and Gr. 12 Leadership students. They will be doing icebreakers, team building activities, competitions and other activities that will help them address their academic, social and emotional concerns.

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

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

**LAST DAY BEFORE THE BREAK**

<b>DEC. 16 SCHEDULE</b> <b>PJ DAY FOR ALL :)</b>	
7:45-8:45	Breakfast with the Band (\$5 per plate)
8:45-9:05	Sing-Along
<b>9:05-9:15 BREAK</b> Move to your period 1-2 class	
9:15-9:45	<b>Period 1-2</b> School-Wide Rockridge Trivia
<b>9:45-9:55 BREAK</b> Move to Player's Hall	

9:55-10:30	Video Showcase
<b>10:30-10:40 BREAK</b> Move to Period 1-3 Classes	
10:40-11:10	<b>Period 1-3</b> School-Wide Holiday trivia
<b>11:10-11:20 BREAK</b> Move to Gym	
11:20-12:10	Dancing
<b>11:55am - Bus taking students dismissed</b> <b>12:05pm - Buses Depart Rockridge</b>	

### 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.

### RECURRING ITEMS

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

### 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

Our traffic and safety committee will be meeting again in the new year to review action items and messages to improve traffic flow and safety around our school.

### **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.

### **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.