



# ROCKRIDGE

ESSE QUAM VIDERI



Dec 21, 2023

### ROCKRIDGE LINKS:

[Rockridge Secondary School website](#)

[WV School District Website](#)

[Follow Rockridge Secondary on X / Twitter](#)

[Follow Rockridge Secondary on Instagram](#)

[Morning Announcements](#): *Bookmark this link for daily updates*

| CALENDAR UPDATE  |   |
|--|---|
| Fri, Dec 22  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:45 Pajama Day &amp; Santa's Breakfast</li> <li>12 PM EARLY DISMISSAL - HAPPY HOLIDAYS!</li> <li>11:50 am - School Bus riders dismissed</li> <li>12:00 pm - Buses Depart Rockridge</li> </ul> |
| January 2024   |   |
| Mon, Jan 8   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First day back after the Winter Break</li> </ul>   |
| Jan 9 & 10   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gr. 8s - Cybersafe Sexual Exploitation Presentation</li> </ul>   |
| Wed, Jan 10  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ski &amp; Snowboard Team Event - Training</li> </ul>   |
| Thurs, Jan 11  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collaboration Day (9:30am start for students)</li> <li>Gr. 7 into 8 Parent Night 7:00 – 8:30 pm - see details in Raven Life</li> </ul>   |
| Upcoming Events  |   |
| Jan 15 - 19  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rockridge visits our feeder elementary schools</li> </ul>  |
| Jan 19 - 21  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Band Trip to Loon Lake</li> </ul>  |
| Jan 22- 26   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GLA 10 ASSESSMENTS</li> </ul>  |
| <a href="#">FULL ROCKRIDGE WEBSITE CALENDAR with BLOCK ROTATIONS</a> |   |
| <a href="#">2023-24 At A Glance Calendar</a>                         |   |
| WV Youth Services click <a href="#">here</a>                         |   |

### A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

It is the eve of Winter Break 2023! 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 2024. Personally, I have continued to be energized through the final days by the amazing cookies and treats our staff received from so many parents last week for the Cookie Extravaganza.

Planning ahead for January is not necessary for our students just yet, but preparing mentally for the return to routines, schedules and curricular requirements before January 8th are important proactive steps for student success. I share this leadership message with you because I continue to be inspired by student learning even in these final days of December. Rockridge students have impressed me this week by the maturity and dedication they apply to their learning and life even among the distractions and energy of this festive season.

With the previous comments in mind, I am also proud of the school spirit that we have enjoyed together over the past four months. One might say, we not only know how to learn together at Rockridge, we also know how to play together! Tomorrow's Last Day of 2023 = Pancake breakfast to start the day followed by a fun morning of school-wide trivia, carols, line dancing and an early dismissal at 12:00PM. We kindly ask that all students leave promptly at dismissal time so that our staff can enjoy our end of the year luncheon and holiday celebration.

*Be sure to check out this week's attached **Raven Life** PDF for a showcase of celebrations, as well as recent and upcoming events for 2024 at the Rock.*

### **THIS WEEK'S MYP MOMENT**

The end of the calendar year inherently brings about times of reflection. As we mark the passage of time, we look both back at what was, and look ahead to the potential of what will be.

Reflection is a key component of the Middle Years Program. As the MYP culminates in the Personal Project of Grade 10, students reflect on the goals they set, the process they went through and the product they developed. Reflection is a key component of the very project that is assessed!

You! You yourselves have set goals this year. You created and developed and produced too!

How did your processes and creations impact you? How did they impact others? What was in your control? What was not? What would you do differently if you started again?

May you take some time to reflect on your own continued learning, growing and dreaming as you close 2023 and look ahead to 2024.

As your MYP coordinators, we thank you for the ways you've continued to engage with your learners and in the wider MYP community. We hope you all have a wonderful Winter Break and we look forward to continuing to journey with you in the new year!

**INCOMING GRADE 8 2024 OPEN HOUSE** - January 11th, 2024 @ 7 pm - see details in Raven Life  
Please join us for an Information Night for incoming grade 8 students and families.

**TOUR OF THE ROCK DAY** - The next tour will be in the new year, Tuesday, Feb 20th. Do you know a family that may be interested in registering at Rockridge in the future? Please pass along this information to them so they can join us at our next school tour. **Inquiries and RSVP:**  
[rockridge@wvschools.ca](mailto:rockridge@wvschools.ca)

**PARENT TEACHER VIRTUAL CONFERENCES – January 24 FROM 12:30 - 4:00pm**

| Early Dismissal     | Times            |
|---------------------|------------------|
| Period 1            | 8:30 - 9:25 am   |
| Break               | 9:25 - 9:30 am   |
| Period 2            | 9:30 - 10:25 am  |
| Break               | 10:25 -10:35 am  |
| Period 3            | 10:35 - 11:30 am |
| School Bus Departs  | 11:30 am         |
| Lunch               | 11:30 - 12:30 am |
| PT Interviews Start | 12:30 - 4 pm     |

We are once again using an online Parent-Teacher Interview scheduling program (<http://rss.schoolappointments.com>). Access to the system opens at 6:00 pm on Thursday, January 11 and will close at 10:00pm on Monday, January 22. You will be able to create an account, enter your children and then schedule interview times for you to meet with their teachers virtually. Please review [these instructions](#) to set up your account and book appointments

Appointment scheduling will run in five-minute intervals. It is advisable to schedule your appointments with one five-minute block in between, to allow yourself time and not be rushed. There is a maximum of three appointments per student. Due to a limited number of timeslots, please prioritize your teacher selections accordingly. There is not an option for call backs this year.

The system is very easy to use, and it should take only a few minutes to set up your account, add your children and schedule your appointments. To get started, click on the "REGISTER" tab. See the attachment for detailed instructions. On the day of the appointments - please review [these instructions](#) for how to access the meetings through google meet.

**RAVEN ATHLETICS: #GoRavens**

Follow us on [Instagram @Rockridge.Athletics](#) Follow us on [X/Twitter @RockridgeAthlctc](#)  
Check out our daily announcements for schedules for all our Raven teams & see the gym schedule [here](#). Thank you for coming out to cheer on our athletes throughout the Fall Season!

If you are looking to keep up with our Winter Raven Athletics Events, just scroll through our [Morning Announcements](#). The second page of the announcements is dedicated to Raven Athletics teams, schedules, upcoming events and results.

**Rockridge Master Athletics Calendar:** For games, times and locations just follow this [link](#)

**Wrestling** - Google Classroom Code 4imnqny - Coach Stefanon E207

- Congratulations to Gio N for finishing 2nd in the 74 kg boys division at this past weekend's Discovery Cup hosted by the Royal Canadian Navy @ HMCS Discovery Stanley Park!
- Thursday Dec 21 West Van Schools Duel @ Sentinel Secondary (Early Dismissal 2:40 PM)

**Ski and Snowboard Race Team**

Google Classroom **tuvg3f**

- Completed their first race training day Wednesday Dec.20th - see photo in Raven Life

**Basketball - Senior Girls**

- Senior Girls lost to Collingwood and Sentinel this week but have shown huge improvements and continue to build.

**Basketball - Senior Boys**

- Senior boys also lost to Collingwood this week but are looking forward to the new year.

**Basketball - Juvenile Boys**

- Have been busy with tournaments and getting great results.

**Basketball - Junior Boys**

- Tough loss to Handsworth 46-28.

**Basketball - Bantam Girls**

- Congrats to the players of the games in the Capilano University tourney this past weekend - Norah, Coco, and Sophia T.
- The team got their first win this week in league play beating WVSS and are looking forward to more league and tournament play in January. (see the Raven Life for photos)

**Basketball - Bantam Boys**

- Had a busy tournament schedule these past few weeks.

**INTRAMURALS**

DodgeBall on now with Mr. Armstrong

**\* Scorekeepers Needed. See Mr. Armstrong for details.\***

## ROCKRIDGE SCHOOL NEWS

**SCHOOL FEES - SCHOOL CASH ONLINE:**

Thank you to those families who have already looked after paying this year's school fees for your student(s). As a reminder, the 2023/2024 School Course Fees are available for payment on School Cash Online now. All school fees and field trips are added to this site and can be paid easily [online](#). If you have not signed in before, you will need your child's Student Pupil number which can be

found on MyEd or on a previous report card. You can find Registration Instructions [here](#). Please contact Rockridge Accounting [rockridgeaccounting@wvschools.ca](mailto:rockridgeaccounting@wvschools.ca) in the main office if you have any questions or assistance with logging in.

**The 2024-2025 Premier Academies and West Vancouver District Programs are open for registration!** Please visit <https://westvancouver.schools.ca/programs/> for further information.

| Premier Academies | Premier Programs         |
|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Badminton         | Carpentry                |
| Baseball          | Cybersecurity and AI     |
| Basketball        | Fashion Industry         |
| Fencing           | FAST                     |
| Field Hockey      | Honour Choir             |
| Robotics          | Outdoor Recreation       |
| Rugby             | 200 Hour Yoga            |
| Soccer            | YELL Entrepreneurship 12 |
| Tennis            |                          |
| Volleyball        |                          |

### ROCKRIDGE PAC NEWS

Parents, thank you for all your valuable support by participating in PAC events, baking cookies for our amazing staff, sharing information on the P2P WhatsApp channel, attending PAC meetings and taking the time to read our messages. It has been a great term at Rockridge, and we look forward to more opportunities for parents to come together and support our exceptional school.

Save the Dates:

- PAC Meeting on Wed, Jan 17th, 6:00pm in the Learning Commons
- P2P Pub Night on Wed, Jan 31st, 7:00pm at The Orchard
- P2P Parent Coffee - date in January to be announced soon!
- 2nd Annual Rockridge Golf Tournament on Thu, June 13th at Gleneagles Golf Course

Wishing you and your families a joyful Winter break! We look forward to seeing you in 2024 🎉

Follow Rockridge PAC on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)! Join the Rockridge [P2P](#)!

### ACTION ITEMS FOR ROCKRIDGE PARENTS/GUARDIANS

## **STUDENT VERIFICATION & EMERGENCY RELEASE AND ONLINE POLICIES & PROCEDURES FORMS**

These are now long past due, and a significant number of parents/guardians have not yet completed them. We will be reaching out directly to these families.

## **CHANGE OF ADDRESS?**

If there are any changes to address, legal custody, or citizenship status, please upload documentation to support the changes using [this link](#). The changes will not be reflected until the documentation is submitted.

## **COUNSELLORS' CORNER**

**Cybersafe from Exploitation - Jan 23, 2024 @ 7 PM - Kay Meek Arts Centre - see flyer in Raven Life**

**New Federal Mental Health/Suicide Crisis helpline: 9-8-8 Call or Text**

You deserve to be heard. A safe space to talk, 24 hours a day, every day of the year. <https://988.ca/>

**Family Smart Monthly [Online Events](#) for Parents and Caregivers January 2024**

**[Supporting a Crisis at Home](#) - January 9th @ 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm PST**

Join us in watching a video by Dr. Duncan, who will dispel the many myths surrounding ADHD by presenting up to date scientific facts about cause, prevalence, diagnosis and treatment. He will explain how and why the ADHD brain works the way it does.

## **FEEDING FUTURES INITIATIVE**

As part of the Ministry of Education and Childcare [Feeding Futures initiative](#), the West Vancouver School District has established a food security structure to confidentially assist students and families. The West Vancouver School District Food Security Plan will help students and families by providing confidential financial support for families facing food insecurity. Families are encouraged to reach out directly to their school principal - Trevor Kolkea [tkolkea@wvschools.ca](mailto:tkolkea@wvschools.ca) if they need support with food-related costs. Please be assured that all requests will be addressed with sensitivity, respect and confidentiality.

## **ROCKRIDGE COMMUNITY NEWS**

**West Vancouver Rec Centre Happenings:**

**Winter Break camp registrations are now open:**

<https://westvancouver.ca/parks-recreation/recreation-programs-services/recreation-activities/camps>

**Browse your recreation activities and programs here:**

<https://westvancouver.ca/parks-recreation/recreation-programs-services/recreation-activities>

**Are you new in West Vancouver? Come, discover and join us:**

<https://westvancouver.ca/newcomers>

## FAQ & HELPFUL INFORMATION

### MYED BC Parent Portal

The **Grade 8 ADST & Fine Arts Learning Update for Rotation #1** was published, Thursday, Dec 14th. **First Learning Update reports were published December 1st.**

If you need assistance logging onto the parent portal, please access the [MyEd Parent Portal](#) for instructions on registering your MyEdBC account, or .

Each parent or guardian has their own separate account. If you are having difficulty accessing your account, please see the online video aid [here](#). If you have further questions, please email [Rockridge@wvschools.ca](mailto:Rockridge@wvschools.ca)

### WEATHER CLOSURES AND PROCEDURES

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. We aim to communicate any decision to close schools by 6:00 am via the district and school websites as well as through social media and local news.

### ATTENDANCE - Notifying the Office and Extended Absences

If you know your student will not be in attendance for all, or part of a school day, we ask that you please let our office know in advance - [rockridge@wvschools.ca](mailto:rockridge@wvschools.ca) Please include your child's first and last name in your email.

Daily attendance is critical to ensure student success here at Rockridge. **We do not recommend** absences during the school term but realize they may be unavoidable. Please keep in mind that certain classroom activities and assessments may not be able to be made up if missed.

Please notify the school a minimum of one week in advance using this [form](#) for an extended absence. Teachers are not required to provide extra classes, make-up tests or specific work to be completed.

### ART SUPPLIES - Donations Welcome

Do you have any art supplies you no longer need that are in new or gently used condition? The art department is always accepting donations of pencil crayons, pencils, canvas, paint brushes, acrylic paints, watercolour paints, papers, sketchbooks and art tools such as rulers or protractors.

### HOST FAMILIES NEEDED for International Students – 2024 Host Family Fee Increase

[Apply now](#) and welcome a student:

- Hosting fees of \$1,100 per student per month. Many families will host two students which can provide up to \$22,000 per year income subsidy.
- Effective February 1, 2024 the fees increase to \$1,400 per student per month!

Don't miss out, placing students starts now. See excerpt below from a new student joining our program this fall. Open your home for this amazing opportunity for all family members.

*"I genuinely believe that Canada is the place where I belong. It has everything I'm looking for: contact with nature, beautiful landscapes, friendly people, security, and excellent public schools. But the main reason why I chose Canada is the people; I will be welcome and feel at home"*

- Contact the Homestay Coordinators for more information at [homestay@wvschools.ca](mailto:homestay@wvschools.ca) or visit our [web pages](#)

### **Student Bus Transportation**

Each student must register (by completing the online registration request form:

<https://westvancouver.schools.ca/transportation-form/> to reserve a seat on the bus.

Please be sure to submit the online registration form via the link above, and that you have received confirmation from Transportation SD45.