



WVSS Information Bulletin

A Weekly Update of School Information for Parents and Guardian

April 6th, 2023

This information bulletin includes several updates for families:

1. PAC Welcome Back Coffee Morning – 9:00 am
2. Summer Learning with West Vancouver Schools
3. Graduation Assessments: Literacy 10 - April 24-28
4. Dissolve Performance – Rockridge – 7:00 pm
5. PAC Spring Fundraisers – Ordering Now!
6. DPAC Event: Hayley Watson Learning Opportunity
7. Grade 10 & 12 Parents – Student Learning Surveys
8. Counselling Corner
9. WVS Premier Sports Academies
10. New Course Offering- Computer Information Systems 12: Cybersecurity & Artificial Intelligence
11. Student Workers
12. Homestay Families Needed
13. Community Reminders

Important Calendar Reminders

Friday April 7: Good Friday -SCHOOL CLOSED

Monday, April 10: Easter Monday - SCHOOL CLOSED

Thursday, April 13: PAC Welcome Back Coffee Morning 9am

Wednesday April 19: Dissolve Performance @Rockridge 7pm

Thursday, April 20: Semester 2 Mid-Term Reports Posted

Monday April 24: Dr. Hayley Watson – Parent Session, 7 - 8:30pm at Kay Meek

Monday, April 24 – 28: Grad Assessments (Literacy 10 – all grade 10s)

Tuesday, April 25: Last day for PAC plant orders

Thursday, April 27: Do 1 Give day

Monday, May 1 – 19: I.B. Exams

Thursday, May 4: Last day for PAC Verdant skincare orders

1. Parent Advisory Council (PAC) – Welcome Back Coffee, April 13

WELCOME BACK FROM SPRING BREAK - COFFEE MORNING - OPEN TO ALL PARENTS

THURSDAY, 13TH APRIL 2023 - TIME: 9.00 AM

AT: WVSS SCHOOL CAFETERIA (NORTH CAMPUS – MIDDLE FLOOR – CENTRAL)

We hope you all enjoyed Spring Break and that your children are excited about the last few months of the school year. Please join us for a casual meet and greet coffee morning held in the school cafeteria for all parents. The Welcome Back Coffee gives parents from all years, the opportunity to hear from our School Principal, Mr. Steve Rauh. He will update you on what your children will experience during the last few months of school for each of the respective years and upcoming events, activities, and volunteering. It is also a great opportunity to meet other parents and feel connected to the school. We look forward to you joining us for coffee as we all build our school community.

2. 2023 Summer Learning with West Vancouver Schools

Are you interested in learning during the summer? West Vancouver Schools will be offering a robust Summer Learning Program for both elementary and secondary students during July 2023.

Online registration for both the elementary and secondary Summer Learning programs is now open. More information about courses, locations, attendance etc. can be found on the Summer Learning information flyers ([elementary](#) or [secondary](#)) or on the [Summer Learning Website](#).

3. Graduation Assessments: Literacy 10: April 24 - 28

All WVSS Grade 10 students will write the **Literacy 10 Graduation Assessment** the week of April 24 – 28. This assessment is required for graduation purposes. **Students should prepare for this assessment** by trying the sample assessments. Grade 12 students who have not yet written Literacy 12, Literacy 10 or Numeracy 10 assessments will also write in April. Students and guardians will receive an email in the coming weeks indicating the exact time, date, and room for the exam. Please see or email Crystal Tanfara (ctanfara@wvschools.ca) with any questions.

Literacy 10 sample exams and info can be found here: <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/provincial/grade-10-literacy-assessment>

Literacy 12 sample exams and info can be found here <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/provincial/grade-12-literacy-assessment>.

Numeracy 10 sample exams and info can be found here: <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/provincial/grade-10-numeracy-assessment>

The following is an overview of our Graduation Assessment Schedule for 2022-2023. Subject to change if needed.

Week of Assessment	Assessment	Class by Semester
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April 24-28	Literacy 10	All Grade 10 students
April 24-28	Literacy 10, 12 Numeracy 10	Any Grade 12 students who missed a Graduation Assessment
June 19-23	Numeracy 10	Math 10 classes (Sem 2)
June 19-23	Literacy 10, Literacy 12 Numeracy 10	Grade 10s, 11s and 12s (missed and requested rewrites)

4. DISSOLVE PERFORMANCE: Wed April 19th, 2023 at Rockridge – 7:00 pm

Written By Meghan Gardiner, Directed By Renée Iaci, and Starring Emmelia Gordon. Presented by West Vancouver Schools, North Vancouver School District, and Family Services of the North Shore. Wednesday, April 19, 7pm - Doors open at 6:30 pm.

Dissolve addresses the serious issues of sexual consent, drink spiking and drug-facilitated sexual assault from a darkly humorous perspective. Following a college girl on a night out, moving back and forth from home to bar scenes, one actress plays 16 characters, both comic and dramatic. Night turns to morning, and “Anygirl” awakens from her ordeal, disoriented. The show is designed to provoke thought and dialogue around drink spiking and consent, and challenge our thinking and behaviour surrounding these topics. The show is 45 minutes long and a talkback will follow the performance with Family Services of the North Shore Sexual Assault Response team.

Dissolve is best suited for mature adolescents and their accompanying caregivers due to sensitive content, and strong language. While there is no graphic visuals or descriptions, Dissolve does include references to gender-based violence, victim blaming, and drug facilitated sexual assault which may be upsetting to some viewers.

If you or someone you know has been affected by sexual violence, support is available through the Family Services of the North Shore’s Sexual Assault Response Program by contacting 604-924-7676. <https://www.familyservices.bc.ca/>

5. PAC Spring Fundraisers: Growing Smiles Spring Plants & Verdant Skincare

Ordering now open! The PAC has two exciting spring fundraisers: Growing Smiles Spring Plants, and Verdant Skincare! Growing Smiles beautiful spring plants including hanging baskets, patio planters, veggies, petunias, marigolds and more! Verdant is an amazing local skincare company that is committed to nature, using only locally sourced, organic ingredients, to heal and maintain your skin. Our fundraisers are perfect for Mother’s Day, thank-you gifts, treating yourself and your loved ones! Funds raised will help the PAC to support: scholarships, curricular purchases in support of the school, staff appreciation lunch, meet the teacher nights, and more. Pick-up all items at the South Campus Cafeteria on Thursday May 11th from 12:30-3:00pm. WVSS PAC thanks you for your support.

Please see the following links for more information and to place your orders:

Growing Smiles: order until April 25th <https://westvansecondary.growingsmilesfundraising.com/home>

Verdant Skincare: order until May 4th. *Choose ‘Pick-up’ when placing order, to join fundraiser.*

<https://verdantskincare.ca> Please see [Mandarin translation](#) and [Farsi translations](#) .

CALENDAR DATES FOR PAC EVENTS:

Thursday 13th April: 9 am -10 am - Welcome Back Coffee Morning (at WVSS Cafeteria)

Tuesday 25th April: Last orders Spring Fundraiser

Thursday 11th May: 12.30 pm-3.00 pm - Pick up Spring Fundraiser

Thursday 11th May: 7 pm - SAVE THE DATE - Speaker Event/General Meeting - Ian Kennedy and Liz Hill, Directors of Instruction at the West Vancouver Schools District (WVSS Library).

6. DPAC Parent event: Hayley Watson Learning Opportunity – April 24

On Monday April 24 at 7pm at Kay Meek, Open Parachute founder, Hayley Watson is returning to West Vancouver to facilitate a parent session. Please see the following poster for the [DPAC parent session](#)

7. Ministry of Education 2023 Student Learning Survey – Gr 10 & 12 Parents

APRIL 30th deadline! Grade 10 and 12 parents /guardians are asked to complete the Student Learning Survey 2023 at the following link: <https://www.awinfosys.com/SurveyFull1/central/main/access.asp> The Student Learning Survey gathers information on topics related to school environment, safety, and achievement. The information is used for planning in individual schools and provides a district and provincial perspective. Please see [this attachment](#) showing the Parent Log on screen. Scroll down to the “parent section” and use the “Direct Access – No Logon number” on the right side. Feel free to call the school at 604-981-1100 if you need assistance! THANK YOU, Highlander Families!

8. Counselling Corner

Youth Train in Trades 2023/2024 The Carpentry program at our school, still has some spots available for the September 2023/2024 intake. If your child is currently in grade 10 or 11 and has an interest in obtaining a Level 1 Carpentry Certification, they can talk to their counsellor about including it in their course selections for next year. It would be offered on alternate days throughout the school year. For more information, contact Linda Caruth, Careers & Counselling Assistant, lcaruth@wvschools.ca

9. WVS Premier Sports Academies Registrations

2023-2024 ACADEMY REGISTRATION IS OPEN! The West Van Schools Baseball, Field Hockey, Rugby and Soccer Academies are open for registration! Please visit the below links for further information on these exciting programs: [Baseball](#), [Field Hockey](#), [Rugby](#), [Soccer](#)

10. NEW Course: Computer Information Systems 12: Cybersecurity & Artificial Intelligence

Open to students from all three secondary schools, while priority is given to students entering Grade 12 in September, Grade 11s may also apply. Cybersecurity and Artificial Intelligence is a hybrid (in-person and virtual) course being offered by West Vancouver Schools. These areas of study impact many aspects of our lives today and demand for trained professionals in these areas is growing exponentially. Cybersecurity: In Canada, the unemployment rate for Cybersecurity professionals is 0%. In this course, students will learn about Digital Citizenship, Cybersecurity, Cybercrimes, Viruses, DDoS, Phishing, Cryptography, the Internet, how to stay safe online, and will also get Cybersafe certified. Students will also compete in CyberTitan (<https://www.cybertitan.ca/>) – one of Canada’s

largest cyber defense competitions. Artificial Intelligence: We are impacted by AI every single day, as it includes self-driving cars that navigate roads independently, face filters in apps, healthcare for early detection and treatment, sports to maintain player fitness, agriculture for pest and disease control, and smart home assistants such as Alexa, Siri, and Cortana. Students will learn about Artificial Intelligence ethics, training data & bias, machine learning, neural networks, and computer vision. We will use some of Google's Artificial Intelligence software to gain a better understanding of how AI works and its applications. Apply Here: <https://westvancouver.schools.ca/programs/cybersecurity-ai>

11. Student Workers, International Programs

See [this poster](#) for all the details. Closing date is April 14th.

12. Host Families Needed – Exciting 2024 Fee Increase

Apply now and welcome a student for the upcoming 2023/2024 school year. Did you know? 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 below message from an actual student letter 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 to. 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"

Call Homestay Manager Martina Brazeau for more information at 604.341.0515 or visit our webpages

Learn more! Apply to host!



COMMUNITY UPDATES

Student Volunteers Needed: Highlands Challenger Baseball

The Highlands Little League Challenger Baseball Division is seeking volunteers over 13 years of age to help fill the role of "Buddy" for our upcoming 2023 season. This is a fantastic opportunity for anyone seeking a fun, rewarding experience working with youth and adults with disabilities, in an outdoor sports setting! One hour commitment on Saturdays (10-11 am) at Norgate Field starting April 15-June 17. Please see [this attachment](#) and [poster](#) . Contact Sophie Mariano at challengerbuddies@gmail.com for more information.

Camp Ignite Opportunity

Become a Camp Ignite Participant. Girls in Grades 11 & 12 are invited to apply for this unique opportunity to train at the Vancouver Fire Rescue Centre for 3 days - apply <https://campignite.com/join-us>

Capilano University Offering Summer Camps and Summer Sports Camps

Capilano University will be offering some amazing Summer Camp and Summer Intensive Series opportunities for Youth ages 7-17 years old. Please see the posters: [Summer Series](#) and [Blues Sport Camp](#).

Youth Climate Activism Award

This award honours students who are taking meaningful steps towards improving the outlook for our planet with respect to climate change. Prize of up to \$1,000. See [this Poster](#) for all the details

Public Health Resources for Families

Please see the following attachments from our public health nurse: [Vaccine Catch-Up Poster](#) - where families can receive immunizations in the community. Our Public Health Nurse is Sophia Knowles. She can be reached at sophia.knowles@vch.ca

GENERAL REMINDERS

Attendance Notice: Email wvss@wvschools.ca

We are asking that student absences be communicated through email where possible. This will allow for staff to enter absences into the system faster. Please email wvss@wvschools.ca. If this is not possible, please call the school office at 604-981-1100. All student absences must be excused by a parent or guardian. Students not feeling well must report to the office before leaving the school.

District Policies and Procedures Release Form: Please Complete 1 Per Child

All Parents (except for international students' families/ homestays) are required to complete a West Van District Policy and Procedures online release form for each of their children. For students to participate in field trips, and other activities, this form MUST be completed. **Parents and Guardians - Please [CLICK HERE](#) to access this form and complete as soon as possible.** Questions, please contact wvss@wvschools.ca or call 604-981-1100.

School Fees – Online as of October 24

WVSS school fees will be available for payment through School Cash Online. If you have any questions about school fees or using [School Cash Online](#) please reach out to Jenny Madill at jmadill@wvschools.ca or call 604-981-1100

Stay Informed: Keep Your Address & Contact Information Up to Date!

All Parents and Guardians will be emailed this e-bulletin weekly to keep you up to date with our school information and upcoming events. Our student absence system will make daily contact by telephone or email to alert parents of unexcused absences. Occasionally, we do send documents and information to homes by regular mail. To ensure that you stay informed in all these ways, please email the school office at wvss@wvschools.ca and let us know if you change your email, phone contact information or move to a new address.

Student Parking

Students wishing to park in the WVSS student parking lot must complete a registration form and obtain a parking decal both of which can be found in the main office. Please note that there is a cost of \$10.00. Please see Ms. Madill in the office or at Jmadill@wvschools.ca with any questions.

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