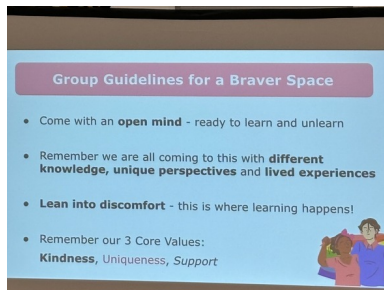


# HIGHLANDER HAPPENINGS

## GRADE 8 NEWSLETTER



DECEMBER, 2024 - VOLUME 4



### GRADE 8s!

**We are starting to see some snow on the mountains and winter break is on the horizon. How did this happen so quickly?**

**Here's a recap of what November was all about!**

### DECEMBER DATES



**4: ILLUMINATE CHORAL CONCERT: 7:00-8:30 PM**  
**18: PERFORMING ARTS CONCERT: 6PM**  
**19: WONDERVERVILLE AT WVSS**  
**20: SCHOOL CLOSURES FOR WINTER BREAK: EARLY DISMISSAL**  
**JAN. 6: SCHOOL OPENS, CLASSES IN SESSION**

Follow us on **Instagram @wearewvss**



## November Highlights!

### Remembrance Day Assembly

This was our first in person assembly since 2019. Students were respectful, solemn and understood the importance of honouring those who have served our country.

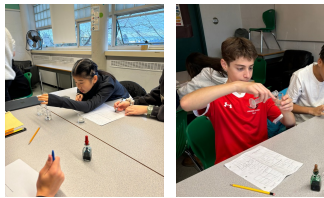




## IN THE CLASSROOM

There are many opportunities for Grade 8s to discover their interests and passions at WVSS.

### Science



### Social Studies



### Textiles



### Music (preparing for the Dec. 18 Winter Concert!)





## ATHLETICS

Fall sports wrapped up and a big thank you to all our coaches who worked so hard. Congratulations to our athletes!

### Cross Country



### Rugby



### NEW Student Athlete Registration Process

1. Register your student athlete at [LINK](#)
2. Go to School Cash On-Line [LINK](#)

Student Athletes need to complete both registrations in order to play. Any questions or concerns, please contact Jo-Anne McKee at [jmckee@wvschools.ca](mailto:jmckee@wvschools.ca)

Game schedules can still be found at [highlandersathletics.ca](http://highlandersathletics.ca)

### Winter teams are practicing and games begin next week!



-Girls and Boys Bantam Basketball

-Wrestling

-Ski/Snowboard Team (begins in January)





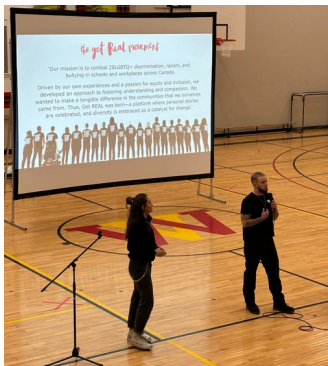
## Senior Mentorship

Senior Mentors spent their FIT time last week connecting with Grade 8s.



## Get Real Movement Assembly

Speakers Jonas and Monica led a workshop focused on personal storytelling, drawing from their own experiences and commitment to equity and inclusion. Their approach fosters understanding, compassion, and respect for all, regardless of race, religion, gender, or sexual identity.



# Staff SPOTLIGHT

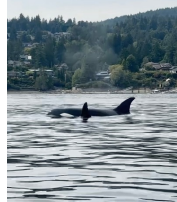
## Ms. Hewton

**Born and raised:** West Vancouver.  
Went to Ridgeview Elementary and  
West Vancouver Secondary.

**Post-Secondary Route:**  
SFU - Kinesiology (BSc) and Education  
(BEd)

**Teaching assignment this year:** Science  
8/9 and Math 8

**Favourite food:** Mexican or food with  
cheese.



**Favourite genre of music:** I like happy music.

**Dream travel destination:** Spain or somewhere  
with warm weather and sunshine

**Most adventurous thing you've done:** I'm not  
very adventurous, but I have been paddle  
boarding with orcas

**Favourite sports/activities:** Snowboard,  
paddle board, softball, volleyball, and walking  
my dog.

**Fun facts:** Ms. Hewton agrees that Mr. Huang is  
a good tandem biking partner.(re: last month's  
spotlight 'fun facts').

# Staff SPOTLIGHT

## Mr. Herrington

**Born and raised:** Deep Cove.

Spent most summers in the forest hiking with friends or on the ocean sailing/fishing.

**Post secondary education route:**

I first went to post secondary to become an Interior Designer, but quickly realized that I didn't enjoy sitting in front of a computer all day and missed working with my hands. Then, I became a carpenter, building and renovating homes in North/West Van. for over a decade. I then went back to university and became a Tech Ed Teacher.

**Teaching assignment this year:**

Woodworking: Gr 8-Gr 12.

**Favourite food:** A good Hawaiian pizza with bacon 😊



**Dream travel destination:** Japan: I had a chance to briefly visit Tokyo when I graduated high school, and fell in love with the culture and people.

**Most adventurous thing done:** Driving into the middle of the desert and camping atop a vista in Utah.

**Favourite genre of books:** Fantasy books are my favorite for sure. Anything by Brandon Sanderson gets a thumbs up from me.

**Favourite activities:** Badminton, pickle ball, videogames, making cool things

**Fun facts:** I once ate a couple of chocolates from pop star Katy Perry's dressing room... don't tell her!