

HIGHLANDER HAPPENINGS

GRADE 8 NEWSLETTER



HOLIDAY EDITION - VOLUME 5



GRADE 8s!

Winter break has officially arrived!

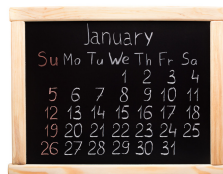
You made it this far and we look forward to welcoming you back in 2025!

This newsletter is a recap of all the festivities we enjoyed this month at WVSS!



JANUARY DATES

- 6: SCHOOL OPENS REGULAR SCHEDULE**
- 27: PROFESSIONAL DAY (SCHOOL NOT IN SESSION)**
- 29: PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES (VIRTUAL)**
1:00 - 3:00PM & 3:30 - 5:00PM
- 30: COLLABORATION DAY - 9:30AM START**



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DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS!

Grand Opening of West Vancouver Place for Sport

It was a great day for WVSS as our Mayor, Mark Sager, and distinguished guests were present at West Vancouver Place for Sport's ribbon cutting ceremony.



Our feeder elementary schools were there to celebrate and enjoyed leading the first official run around the new track.



The first match on the new turf was a friendly one between WVSS and Sentinel Senior Boys' Soccer Teams



DANCE EXTRAVAGANZA IN PHE!

Grade 8s spent a week learning various dance moves, including the Chicken Dance, Disco, Macarena, and Gangnam Style, while exploring the history and evolution of dance.



Mr. Meldrum led the class in his disco outfit, along with **Ms. Lambie, Ms. Baker and Mr. Ros!**
Way to show them how it's done!





JINGLE BELL RUN

The WVSS Jingle Bell Run/Walk was a school-wide event aimed at encouraging charitable giving during the holiday season.



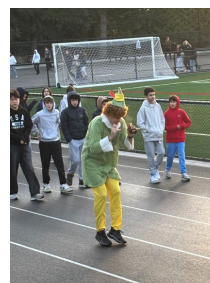
Many thanks to the PHE department for planning and organizing this fun, community building event!



Mr. Harvey as Santa



Mr. MacGillivray as Snowman



Mr. Meldrum as Elf

WONDERVILLE



Mr. Kozak as Santa



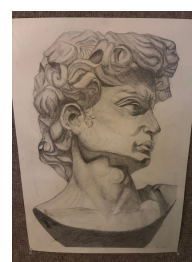
The dance, drama and film crews performed on stage with **Santa** as the guest of honour.





WONDERVILLE

Applied skills and visual arts work were showcased in the Kay Meek Theatre Lobby.



Thank you...

to the numerous teachers from the **Applied Skills** and **Fine & Performing Arts Departments** who worked very hard to plan and organize this festive celebration of our students' talents!

Staff SPOTLIGHT

Ms. Lee

Born and raised: Born in Burnaby, raised in Surrey, then moved to the Comox Valley high school.

Post secondary education route:

VIU: Diploma in Child and Youth Care

VIU: Bachelor's degree in education

UBC: Master's degree in educational leadership

Teaching assignment this year:

English 8, English 9, ELA 8/9 and French 8

Favourite food: Salad and chicken, chocolate covered jujubes, sushi, coffee

Favourite genre of music: Country Music and anything from the 80s/90s

Favourite genre of books: Fiction, Mysteries, Fun - anything by Emily Giffin, Sophie Kinsella, Lucy Foley



Most adventurous things done:

I moved to William's Lake and taught on a First Nations' reserve for my first year of teaching. I attended 'Midnight Madness' shopping events during Black Friday in the US. I got matching tattoos with my mom and my sis in Las Vegas.

Dream travel destination: Greece, Portugal, Spain

Favourite sports/activities:

Paddle boarding, fitness classes, a LOT of walking, reading, watching my sons' sports/games, watching TV & movies

Fun facts:

I may get my fitness instructor certification to teach step classes. I watch reruns of Friends when I'm cleaning my house or working. I once accidentally threw my engagement ring in the garbage and it got picked up by the collection truck. I was able to go to the city yard and, after 2 hours of rifling through 8 tons of garbage, I found it! My story spread across Canada and into the US! When I have a hard day I bake cookies.



Staff SPOTLIGHT

Mr. MacGillivray

Born and raised: North Vancouver

Post secondary education route:

Capilano Kinesiology Diploma

UBC Kinesiology degree

UBC Teacher Education

UBC Masters of Education



Dream travel destination: Greece

Teaching assignment this year:

Athletic Director

PHE 9/10

PHE Leadership 10-12

Foods 8 & 9

Basketball Academy

Most adventurous thing done: To be determined

Favourite genre of music: Country

Favourite food: A well cooked high quality steak

Favourite activities: Basketball



Fun facts: Second year at West Vancouver and currently coach the Langara College Women's Basketball Team