

HIGHLANDER HAPPENINGS

GRADE 8 NEWSLETTER



JANUARY - VOLUME 6



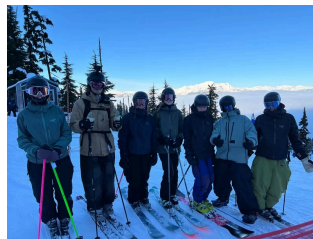
GRADE 8s!



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

2025 is in full swing!

Students have re-established routines at WVSS and discovering new interests in their Explorations rotations.



FEBRUARY DATES



14: READING BREAK (SCHOOL NOT IN SESSION)

14: HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY

17: FAMILY DAY (SCHOOL NOT IN SESSION)

26: PINK SHIRT DAY

27: COLLABORATION DAY - 9:30AM START

Follow us on **Instagram @wearewvss**

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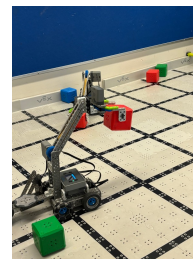
JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS!

Explorations rotation

Mr. Herrington's Woodworking class making cell phone holders



Mr. Kirkland's Robotics class working on their block stacking robotics challenge



Ms. Boulton's Textile Arts class learning to weave their own patterns.



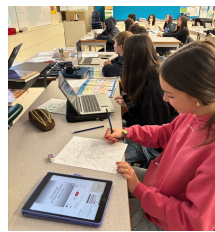
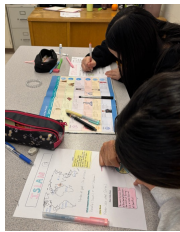
Ms. Hoyak's Drama 8 class performing skits



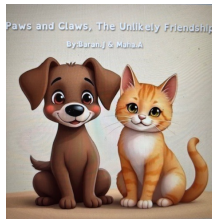
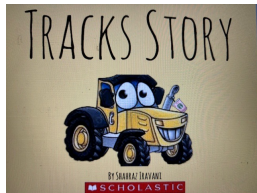


Classroom highlights

Ms. Larway's SS 8 class studying world religions



Ms. Lee's English 8 class created picture books, learned about the writing process, a story's structure, and used AI to create images.



Ms. Ocejo's Art 8 class created various art pieces



Collage portraits.



Pins and miniature food sculptures made out of dry clay



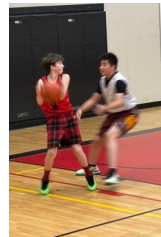
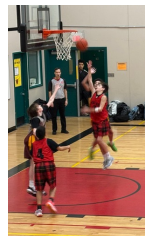
Abstract cardboard sculptures.

ATHLETICS!

Girls Basketball



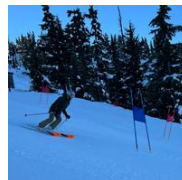
Boys Basketball



Wrestling



Ski/Snowboard Team



Staff SPOTLIGHT

Ms. Reemeyer

Born and raised: I was born in Vancouver and grew up in North Vancouver.

Post secondary education route:

I loved learning French in high school, which led me to continue studying it at SFU, where I also discovered a passion for languages through Spanish courses.

I pursued summer French programs at l'Université Laval and l'Université Ste. Anne, spent a semester in Chicoutimi, and later transferred to Concordia to immerse myself in a French-speaking environment. I earned my BEd at UBC and recently completed a Certificate in Inclusive Education from Queen's University.

Teaching assignment this year:

French 8, 9, 10 and 10 PDP.

Favourite genre of music:

I never get to choose the music I listen to since my kids always seem to control the speakers. As a result, I listen to a lot of Taylor Swift and Travis Scott.



Favourite genre of books:

I enjoy reading historical fiction.

Most adventurous things done:

My husband and I moved to Japan to teach English before we had kids. We planned to stay for 1 year but stayed for 3! Our first child was born while we were still living there, so it was a pretty cool adventure to have a baby at a small-town hospital in Hokkaido, Japan!

Dream travel destination: My dream is to do a cycling tour (probably e-bike if I'm being realistic 😊) of the Loire Valley in France.

Favourite sports/activities: I play soccer with my husband and son in a co-ed rec league, I also like hiking, skiing and just this year I've started going to a weekly spin class with my daughter.

Staff SPOTLIGHT

Mr. Kozak

Born and raised:

Born and raised in North Vancouver. 5 generations of my family has swam in Lynn Canyon.

Post secondary education route:

UBC Sciences and Education with side focused on Math, Music and any class that took me as far away from Chemistry and Biology.

Teaching assignment this year:

Math 8 Enriched (my favourite!)
IB Math Standard Level
Workplace and Foundations Math
I am the Creativity, Activity and Service Coordinator for IB.

Favourite food:

Anything unhealthy is good but sushi, popcorn, really good chips and salsa, candy and caramel apples are the top of the list.



Dream travel destination: I love tropical having travelled to Costa Rico, Fuji, Mexico and Australia in the past 2 years but I think I would go back to my favourite place....New York in a heartbeat.

Most adventurous thing done: I have done a lot of crazy stuff. I have been scuba diving to over 150 ft down in Belize, camped in the desert in Jordan with the locals, and even driven an ice cream truck on the mean streets of Vancouver....but the scariest???? Probably teaching Grade 8 at WVSS!!

Favourite genre of music: People that know me best, know the truth.....I am a musical theatre junkie and I used to be a boy in the 90s.

Favourite activities: I spend way too much time focusing on all aspects of football (coaching, playing, watching, gaming, fantasy, etc) but I have been getting into Ultimate lately.

Fun facts: I think I have given you enough....but I am thankful that YouTube and social media didnt exist when I was doing all my crazy stuff.