

next week at colquitz

friday, november 29, 2024

THIS WEEK'S REFLECTIONS

Hello Colquitz Families,

I cannot believe it is the last week of November! Where has the time gone?!?! We will be into December on Monday, and then it will be end of term before we know it.

This time of year brings a shift in the weather (I had frost on my car yesterday!), learning updates, and often field trips to celebrate a successful term. Please remind students to dress for the elements so that they can be comfortable outside at recess, during PE or other learning activities outside, and going to and from school outings. Teachers are writing their learning updates, so all work should be complete and in for them to assess. Students should be communicating directly with teachers if they have late assignments they are still needing to submit.

There have been lots of enjoyable learning activities this week inside the school and out. First off is the performances of the play, *Adventures of the Starship Neophyte*. I will be going to see the performance tonight; everyone I have spoken to has been raving about it! We are so grateful to the unstoppable Ms. Mackenzie who creates original productions and supports students to greatness every year!

Other fun learning activities included a visit from Ms. Goldman's parrot, Winston, in Division 3 (grade 6), the Bus Ambassador program from BC Transit working with Grade 6s and our Lifeskills class, and Ms. Spies' Division 23 (grade 7s) who visited Seniors at Flipside at Pearkes. These amazing opportunities enrich and support social-emotional learning as well as highlight the importance of making real-world connections for students. Many thanks to all of our staff who create these kinds of opportunities for our students throughout the year.

Have a wonderful weekend with your family and friends.

Carrie Schlappner
- Principal



next week at a glance

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| Monday, Dec 2 | • Fire Drill |
| Tuesday, Dec 3 | • <i>International Day for Persons with Disabilities</i> |
| Wednesday, Dec 4 | • |
| Thursday, Dec 5 | • |
| Friday, Dec 6 | • <i>National Day of Remembrance & Action on Violence Against Women</i>
• Indigenous Student Lunch |

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upcoming important dates—*mark your calendars!*

Monday, December 9	CPAPA Meeting @ 6.30pm
Tuesday, December 10	Human Rights Day
Thursday, December 12	Cram the Cruiser
Wednesday, December 18	Winter Concert @ 7pm
Friday, December 20	Last Day of School before Winter Break (until January 5th) Learning Updates go home digitally through Parent Connect
Saturday, December 21	Winter Break Starts
Sunday, January 5	Winter Break Ends
Monday, January 6	School re-opens CPAPA Meeting @ 6.30pm

Yearbooks are on sale now!

Yearbooks cost \$25.

To order your child a copy of the yearbook, please go to **ybpay.ca** and use the order ID **13717625**.

Deadline to order yearbook is May 20th, 2025



Yearbooks include:

- 64 colour pages of individual photos, class photos, clubs, teams and fun memories from throughout the year.
- Sturdy soft cover featuring a custom design from a Colquitz student.
- Zoom insert that features current events and world news from the past year.

If you have any questions please contact Megan Schuring at mschuring@sd61.bc.ca

Reporting

Absences



Please email colquitz@sd61.bc.ca AND your child's teacher if your child will be late or absent, or call the Attendance Line at 250-479-4313.

This is the best way to ensure we get the message and a call-out does not go out to you in error.

Thank you

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SPORTS @ COLQUITZ

Here is the schedule for Sports practices and games.

Please check in with your students around information from coaches.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ii_RjwQmRWcUiQaguArHIQ6Mj882QdROC2rNWcV1Q5k/edit?usp=sharing

Dec2-6	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Before school		Gr 7/8 girls volleyball 7:30		Gr 7/8 girls volleyball 7:30	
Lunch practice					
After school practice		Boys 7/8 comp volleyball	Boys 7/8 comp volleyball	Boys 7/8 comp volleyball	Boys 6/7 basketball
Competition					

A huge thank you to all coaches, staff and parents who helped to begin our sports season so successfully.

Please email questions to Christine Crljenkovic at ccrljenkovic@sd61.bc.ca

Cram the Cruiser

- This is a school-wide event where each Division is challenged to collect non-perishable food donations and new, unwrapped toys to donate to Burnside Gorge Community Association - now until Dec.12th.
- On Dec 12th the Saanich Police and Burnside Gorge will set up outside the main doors of the school with a police van to 'Cram' full of donations that will be distributed to families in need. This is a fun and friendly atmosphere, with music playing and the police wearing festive hats.
- This event is a HUGE fundraiser for Burnside Gorge and one that is IMMENSELY appreciated in supporting a significant amount of families in our community during the holiday season.

The Division that brings the most donations will win a pizza party on the day of their choice!

Thank you for your support!



11TH ANNUAL FOOD DRIVE

Cram
THE CRUISER

THURSDAY
DECEMBER 12, 2024

DROP OFF AT
505 DUMERESQ ST

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:
SAANICH POLICE
BURNSIDE GORGE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
COLQUITZ MIDDLE SCHOOL

NOW TAKING DONATIONS!
NON-PERISHABLE ITEMS
NEW TOYS
GIFT CARDS

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MUSIC

- Term Check ins are now **overdue**.
- Emails have been sent out to those whose students have not completed this assignment.
- Tour information (Band/Strings/Choir 7/8 Only). The \$157 deposit and form reserving your student's spot is **very overdue**. If you wish to come on the trip, please get the form and payment in ASAP.
- The deposits will close **December 3rd**.
- First Concert is Wednesday, December 18th, call time for band students will be 6:00pm.



BAND SCHEDULE

- **Tuesday:** Jazz Band 7:40 am
- **Wednesday:** Band 6 **COMBINED** (All instruments, amber and green pod) at 7:40 am. Please arrive a bit early to have time to set everyone up! It will be busy.
- **Thursday:** Band 7/8 **Combined** 7:40 am

All other information about Fine Arts can be found at our website: <https://www.colquitzfinearts.weebly.com/>

CPAPA

Colquitz Performing Arts Parents Association (CPAPA)

*CPAPA is an organization of parents of performing arts students.
We help support the performing arts at our school throughout the school year.*

Join us in the art room for our next meeting at **6:30 to 7:30pm on Monday Dec. 2**.
The door will be open at the front of the school to the right of the main entrance.

Contact CPAPA at: cpapainfo@gmail.com

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Looking for host families for middle school students from Brazil (Jan 6 – Feb 28)

For more information on this group or other short term hosting opportunities

Please contact us
250-592-6871 or

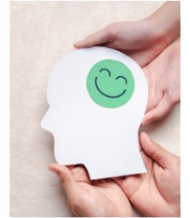
homestay@sd61.bc.ca

\$1260 per month provided for student support.



Nov/Dec 2024 Snapshots

The Nov/Dec snapshots focus on **connection to family and community**. Helping your child find a positive community both within the family and in the wider network of relatives, sports, clubs, or cultural groups can be invaluable for their mental health. Engaging in community-centered activities provides a sense of belonging and helps reduce feelings of loneliness or anxiety. Supported by others who respect and share their values, children are better equipped to manage challenges and more inclined to make healthy choices.



[Family Ties and Community Bonds](#)

04

DECEMBER
6PM-8:30PM

SD61
THE GREATER VICTORIA SCHOOL DISTRICT
LOCATION: 556 BOLESKINE RD, VICTORIA BC

PARENTS AS CAREER INFLUENCERS

Pathways & Partnerships



Bonnie Alexander



Lindsay Johnson

Learn how you can support your student on their future career journey.

Click here to register.
Space is limited.



This interactive workshop is being hosted by Lindsay Johnson, Principal of SD61 Student Services and Bonnie Alexander, SD61 District Career Education Coordinator

Questions? Contact Bonnie Alexander, balexander@sd61.bc.ca

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SUBWAY AND PIZZA LUNCHES

Tuesdays - Subway

We are pleased to offer Subway as a lunch option to order on Tuesdays

Thursdays -- Pizza Day



We are pleased to offer pizza as a lunch option to order on Thursdays. If you are interested, you may order through **School Cash Online (NOT through the Lunch Box section)**. Please note that you need to order pizza WEEK TO WEEK, thus giving you the option to skip weeks if you so choose.

Please note that there are no refunds for unclaimed pizza or Subway.

Parents – you can arrange to pick up your order the same day or transfer it to another student if you inform us by 11am on Tuesdays and Thursdays at colquitz@sd61.bc.ca or call 250-479-1678.

The weekly deadline to place orders for Subway and Pizza for the upcoming week is Monday at noon

Here is the link to School Cash Online to make your order:

<https://sd61.schoolcashonline.com/>


PARKS, RECREATION & COMMUNITY SERVICES

STORIES & SLIME YOUTH BOOK CLUB

AGES 11 - 15



Thursdays - 6:00 - 8:00pm
Sept 19th - Dec 19th

@ The Flipside Youth Centre
G.R. Pearkes Recreation Centre

REGISTER HERE 

Calling all book readers and slime makers! Join us at the Flipside youth center for our youth book club, where we meet weekly to make all types of slime and discuss the books we read.

Tyler.smith2@saanich.ca saanich.ca/youth 250 475 5462


PARKS, RECREATION & COMMUNITY SERVICES

FRIDAY NIGHTS PIZZA SKATING & MOVIE

AGES 11 - 16
\$5



Sept 20th - Dec 20th
Fridays - 5:45 - 9:00pm

@ The Flipside Youth Centre
G.R. Pearkes Recreation Centre

REGISTER HERE 

Bring your friends and hang out on a Fridays at the Flipside. Enjoy pizza, themed skates & a movie in our awesome youth centre.

Tyler.smith2@saanich.ca saanich.ca/youth 250 475 5462

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Connect and Learn

December Parent Education focuses on Experimenting with Substance :

Now What? A beginning conversation for families when our kids begin experimenting with substances.

Learning that our kids are trying substances can be scary. As families, we are a valuable resource to help them navigate the choices they are making, but it can be hard to know how to respond. This video introduces parents and caregivers to some ways that can help us move from reacting to our fears about substance use and towards a more thoughtful response that supports connection with our kids.

Join us to watch a conversation between Victoria Keddiss, a parent with lived experience and Douglas Hardie, Registered Clinical Counsellor and Program Coordinator at YSTAR Cowichan and Nanaimo Discovery Youth and Family Substance Use Services.

Times and Dates:

Tuesday December 3rd - 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm
Wednesday December 4th - 12:00 noon - 1:30 pm
Thursday December 5th - 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm
Tuesday December 10th - 6:30 pm - 8:00pm
Wednesday December 11th - 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Register: <https://familysmart.ca/monthly-events/>

Watch video now: https://youtu.be/Ohqrbrw62Tg?si=Hpl_QjJBu2ph6-1D

‘intheknow’
Connect and Learn

For families and caring adults who are parenting a child or youth with mental health and/or substance use challenges.

EVERY MONTH, WE HOST EVENTS FOR FAMILIES CALLED ‘IN THE KNOW’. WE WATCH A VIDEO AND SHARE EXPERIENCES AND STRATEGIES THAT HELP IN THE HARD MOMENTS. WE HELP FOCUS ON STRENGTHENING OUR UNDERSTANDING AND CONNECTION WITH OUR KIDS.

Now What? A beginning conversation to support families moving from reacting to responding when our kids begin experimenting with substances.

Cost: Free of Charge
Date(s):
Tuesday, December 3rd, 6:30pm-8:00pm (PST)
Wednesday, December 4th, 12:00pm-1:30pm (PST)
Thursday, December 5th, 6:30pm-8:00pm (PST)
Tuesday, December 10th, 6:30pm-8:00pm (PST)
Wednesday, December 11th, 6:30pm-8:00pm (PST)

Learning that our kids are trying substances can be scary. This video introduces some ways that can help us move from reacting to our fears about substance use to thoughtful responses that support connection with our kids.

Come together with other families to watch this video presentation followed by a facilitated discussion by a FamilySmart Family Peer Support Worker

Registration required:
www.familysmart.ca/events

FamilySmart
Together-Centred

here to help
EDUCATION EVENTS

YSTAR
COWICHAN
DISCOVERY

Just a reminder that everyone who works for FamilySmart, has lived experience with our own children and we offer **parent support** and we can also help you **navigate the Mental Health System** and recommend **resources in the community**.

If you would like to set up a phone or video chat meeting please let me know. or here is a link to my calendar to book a time: <https://lisatate.youcanbook.me/>

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HIGHWAY 1 COLQUITZ BRIDGES PROJECT INFORMATION & UPDATES November 18, 2024



Ministry of
Transportation
and Infrastructure



PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Highway 1-Colquitz River Bridges Widening project will widen and seismically retrofit both existing two-lane bridges over Burnside Road on Highway 1 in Victoria, as well as establish a dedicated bus-on-shoulder lane. Widening the Colquitz River bridges will make for a more reliable, efficient commute for south Islanders while protecting local waterways and ecosystems. The Project will provide environmental enhancements by planting native trees, removing invasive species and treating highway runoff via a rain garden before discharging into the Colquitz River. Pomerleau Inc was awarded the construction contract in March 2024 for the project. Distribution of Newsletters have now resumed.

PROJECT UPDATES

Construction activities continue to progress onsite, including ongoing widening work on the South and North Colquitz Bridges. Approach works for the East side of the South Bridge have been formed and will commence concrete pouring in late November. The new South Bridge deck support installation is ongoing. Pile installation has been completed for the North Bridge and concrete pouring will commence in late November. North Bridge column installation started in late October and will include concrete pouring throughout November. Lane closures along Burnside Road will continue to accommodate the South Bridge structural support installation.

1 MONTH LOOKAHEAD

The following construction activities are anticipated to begin/continue over the next month:

- South Bridge structural improvements fabrication and installation.
- South Bridge approach works (including concrete and curing).
- North Bridge pile installation and concrete pouring.
- North Bridge column installation and concrete pouring.
- Lane closures, traffic control and temporary crosswalk along Burnside Road West.
- Civil work along South side of Highway 1 (including road base preparation and paving).

PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) conducted a visit of the site in late October along with MOTI environmental representatives to review the current rain garden installation and construction progress to date. DFO has no concerns on the project. The invasive plant removal and restoration plan was also discussed with DFO, but is still in development and planned for initiation Summer 2025. Regular third-party environmental audits are being conducted throughout construction. The latest audit conducted on October 30th, 2024, included in-situ water quality monitoring and noted the project was in compliance with turbidity levels.

The Project site survived the October 2024 atmospheric river event that resulted in flash flooding throughout Vancouver Island. Water level and turbidity were perceivably higher during the event.



Figure 1: Colquitz River During Atmospheric River Event

For more information about this project, please contact:
Mike Boissonneault, Project Manager, MOTI - 778-974-2632
Krista Englund, Regional Manager of Environmental Services, MOTI - 236-468-1959

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HIGHWAY 1 COLQUITZ BRIDGES PROJECT INFORMATION & UPDATES November 18, 2024



Ministry of
Transportation
and Infrastructure

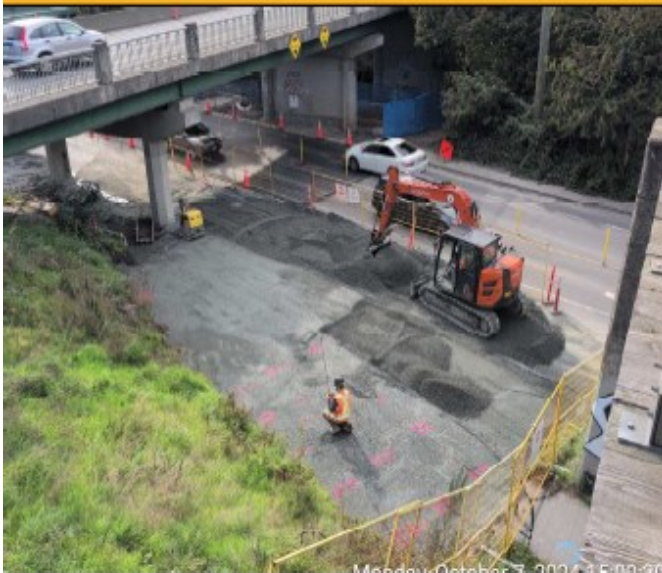


Figure 2: Preparation of North Bridge Pile Installation



Figure 3: North Bridge Structural Works



Figure 4: North Bridge Pile Installation



Figure 5: North Bridge Pile Installation

For more information about this project, please contact:
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