

next week at colquitz

friday, october 24, 2025

THIS WEEK'S REFLECTIONS

Hello Colquitz Families,

This was a busy week with lots of highlights. It was photo retakes Tuesday, the Book Fair most of the week, and of course Parent-Teacher Conferences on Wednesday. Many thanks to all of the family members who came to meet with us. Having strong connections and communication between home and school are the best way to ensure that we are working as a team to support student success.



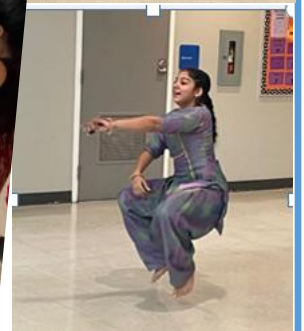
We also celebrated Diwali, Festival of Lights, on Monday. Diwali, or Dipawali, is a major Hindu celebration symbolizing the triumph of light over darkness and good over evil. It's also observed by Jains, Sikhs, and some Buddhists, each with unique traditions. The festival features vibrant decorations, fireworks, feasts, and prayers to deities like Lakshmi and Ganesha.

Students who are part of our "Culture Club" decorated the foyer, and some students wore their traditional dress. One student, Mehreen from division 12, performed traditional dancing, and even got fellow students up and trying it! It was fun to watch and take part in!

Next week is Hallowe'en on Friday. Students can wear costumes, and we look forward to seeing their choices! Please remember costumes should be culturally respectful and not mocking of groups, including people's gender or gender expression, in any way. Costumes with a face mask will be permitted in the classroom or during the costume parade, but not walking around the school or outside in general due to safety concerns.

Have a wonderful weekend with your friends and family.

- Carrie Schlappner, Principal



next week at a glance

Monday, Oct 27

Tuesday, Oct 28

Wednesday, Oct 29

Thursday, Oct 30

- Indigenous drumming @8.20am in foyer (everyone welcome, no experience required)

Friday, Oct 31

- Hallowe'en! (School appropriate costumes, please :))

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upcoming important dates—*mark your calendars!*

Monday, Nov 3	CPAPA Meeting @6.30pm
Friday, Nov 7	International Inuit Day Indigenous Student Lunch
Saturday, Nov 8	Indigenous Veterans Day
Monday, Nov 10	Remembrance Day Assembly @ 10.45am
Tuesday, Nov 11	Remembrance Day (No School today)
Monday, Nov 17	CC Day #1 (Early Dismissal @11.45am)
Tuesday, Nov 18	PAC Meeting @ 6.30pm
Thursday, Nov 20	Transgender Day of Remembrance World Children's Day

Hallowe'en costumes considerations for Families

At Colquitz, we want all students to be mindful of their choices throughout the year in terms of how they might make other people feel.



With Halowe'en coming soon, and in keeping with the Colquitz values of advocating for respect, equity, and appreciation of diversity and inclusion of all (which includes cultural and gender diversity) we wanted to support you in supporting your children in making appropriate choices for their costumes.

Here are some tips in the form of questions to assist you in choosing a costume.

Ask yourself:

- Is my /my child's costume depicting and perpetuating a stereotype or stigma associated with a particular race, culture, religion or gender?
- Does my /my child's costume include a replication of a garment that is a significant component of a particular religion or culture of which I /we do not identify with?
- Is my /my child's costume depicting a historical time-period where that look/costume is now considered offensive and discriminatory?
- Does my /my child's costume represent elements of a culture or cultural practice that is being commoditized for consumption?
- Can I look in the mirror and confidently say that my /my child's costume choice would not be considered offensive to a particular race, ethnic origin, gender or religion?

Thank you for your help in supporting positive costume choices.

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

Oct 27-31	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Before school	Girls 8 bball with Patrick. 7:30			Grade 7½ Boys Basketball Practice 715am	Gr 7 boys basketball practice 7:30
Lunch practice	Grade 6 Boys Intramurals	Grade 7/8 Boys Comp. Practice	Grade 6 Girls Intramurals	Gr 7½ girls Rec b-ball practice	
After school practice		Possible gr 7 comp practice			
Competition	Girls 7½ Comp @ home 3:45 Boys 7½ Comp @ home 5:00 Boys Rec @ Rockheights 3:45-5:15		7½ Boys Comp @ Cedar Hill 3:45 7½ Girls Comp @ ROMS 5:00 7½ Rec girls jamboree @ Home 3:45-6:00	GR 7 COMP @ HOME 3:45	

COLQUITZ SWIM TEAM

The Colquitz Swim Team is starting up again on November 7th. The team practices at Commonwealth Pool, Fridays 3:15-4:00pm. This is a fun, skill building opportunity for swimmers who can already swim 25m unassisted. Spots are still available!



Please register at <https://pcs.poolq.net/program-info/f-a-s-t-schools-program>

or

email msteffens@sd61.bc.ca for more information."

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MUSIC TOUR



This year for the grade 7/8 tour, we will be traveling to Port Alberni, BC for the Vancouver Island Concert Band, Orchestra, and Choir Festival! The dates will be Wednesday- Thursday April 8 + 9, 2026. Students who are in Band 7/8, Sr. Choir, and Intermediate/Advanced Strings are all invited to go.



Going to a festival is a wonderful opportunity for our students to perform for peers from the mainland and all over the island. We will also get to work with and learn from some wonderful adjudicators, including past and current conductors of the University of Victoria Wind Symphony, and several other excellent educators.

We will have opportunities to listen to other groups who attend as well! We are also hoping to see a show and do an activity while we in Port Alberni!

More information should be available very soon; we are just waiting for enough information and quotes to give a solid estimate. The timings are subject to change depending on the times we perform at the festival.

The registration for the festival has been submitted via mail, and we will release the times as soon as we learn what they are.

Payments will be spread out as much as possible to reduce the strain. Here is the plan as of right now:

1. Payment 1 Non refundable deposit due late november (1-2 weeks after initial forms are out)
2. Payment 2 due Jan 14
3. Payment 3 due Feb 11
4. Students who have fundraised into their account will have that amount taken from their third payment, or if they have enough, split between their 2nd and 3rd payment.

Cont....

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MUSIC

- * There will also be an information night once the forms are out, ideally between the forms going out and payment one being due.
 - * Information will always be included in these weekly emails, on Next Week at Colquitz (NWAC) and on the Tour Google classroom, once students are signed up.
 - * Katherine Forster is the person to contact with any tour related questions.
 - * There is financial support available from CPAPA, please contact Katherine Forster!
- Music Shirt Orders: Due October 30th**
- * Band 6 students who have NOT turned in their order have been given another form with their name on it, please fill the form out and return by this Thursday, October 30th.
 - * Students were given a music shirt order form today. They all need a shirt for part of their music uniform. This uniform is exactly the same for band, choir and strings. The shirts are \$12, and if your student grows, they can be sized exchanged later, given that they are still in good condition.



As a reminder, students are expected to be in class for their early morning each week (with grade 6 students who are rotating before schools do not need to attend the opposite week still) and ALL pullout classes during the school day. Even if they do not have their instrument or music, they must attend classes. Students should not be missing band for anything except a field trip during the day, or if they are absent from school.

Poinsettia Fundraiser:

Today students were given a package (also attached to this email!) for the annual poinsettia fundraiser! This one has a fast turnaround and is due November 5th. This fundraiser provides students to sell poinsettias and winter plants to help raise money to reduce the cost of tour in grade 7 and 8. All the documentation has been sent home with the students and is available on google classroom. Please see email from Katherine Forster or band google classrooms for the documents.

Extra help/practice space is available:

Tuesday: Nut break

Wednesday: Nut break and lunch recess

Thursday: Nut break



Please make sure your student has their instrument and folder for all classes from now on!

Tuesday:

BAND 7/8 at 7:40 am

8:54 am: Band 6 Green

9:36 am: Band 6 Orange

Lunch: Jazz Band

Wednesday:

Band 6 Woodwinds (Flute, Clarinet, Alto, and Tenor Sax) at 7:40 am. (If your student does NOT play one of these instruments, they do NOT need to attend this class)

10:33 am: Band 7

11:15 am: Band 8

Thursday:

JAZZ BAND at 7:40 am

8:54 am: Band 8

9:36 am: Band 6 Green

10:33 am: Band 7

11:15 am: Band 6 Orange

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CPAPA NEWS



CPAPA News

Meeting Info

Please join us for our next meeting in person or online

Monday, November 3rd

6:30pm – 7:30pm

In person: join us in the Art Room at 6:30p

Online:

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/kfk-wfws-uig>

Purdy's Fundraiser

Follow the link below to join this year's Purdy's fundraiser! The more your student sells the higher the profit share!

<https://fundraising.purdys.com/2018469-129596>

Questions? Please feel free to contact CPAPAinfo@gmail.com

Information regarding this year's Annual Poinsettia Fundraiser in support of the spring music tour has been sent home with your child. This fundraiser supports contributions to your child's student account which in turn can be applied toward the Colquitz music tour. **All orders MUST be returned to Ms. Mackenzie by Wednesday November 5.** No late orders will be accepted. Questions? Please contact Amie Shepherd at wrestle_amie@yahoo.com.

Senior Music Tour Fundraiser



Purdys allows us to create individual student accounts, in which the profits raised by each student are deposited into a personalized account. These funds can be used towards the Senior Music Tour, or banked for a sibling's future tour. Due to Greater Victoria School District rules, should the tour not take place, funds raised will not be reimbursed; they will go to future students in need, or CPAPA student-benefited purchases. Profit on all sales is 25%!

Instructions for Parents of Music Students

Create an account for your student:

Go to: <https://fundraising.purdys.com/2018469-129596>

Click on **JOIN A CAMPAIGN**

Login as a new member

If you have an existing account:

Enter **30524** (this is the Colquitz Customer Number) or email used for previous fundraising

Use your CHILD'S NAME as the account name to ensure the names of supporters and the dollars they are raising is showing beneath their name

*****Parents will be responsible for picking up and distribution of their own child's orders**

Deadline for orders: Tuesday, November 25th

Order pickup: TBD please check the newsletter for updated pickup location and time)**NEW PROFIT STRUCTURE:**

15% PROFIT FROM \$100 - \$1249.99
25% PROFIT FROM \$1250 - \$4999.99
27% PROFIT FROM \$5000 - \$9999.99
30% PROFIT FROM \$10,000 and above



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OCTOBER

This month, FamilySmart is here with spaces for you to connect, learn, and feel supported:

[Free Online Events](#): Join our Fall Series as we discuss ADHD and OCD.

[In-Person Events](#): Opportunities to come together with other parents and caregivers in Richmond and Cowichan Valley.

[Family Peer Support](#): Free, no-waitlist support from people who have been there too.

ADHD – The Real Deal

Obsessive Compulsive Disorder: It's more than overwashing your hands



[Join us online. It's free](#)

Hamper Application Guidelines Christmas 2025

Clients who are or have been connected to BGCA programs and services during this calendar year (January to December 2025) are eligible for referral.



Hamper application forms need to be returned to Karen Bahrey by Friday November 3, 2025. Please put your application forms in my mail box, email them to: karen@burnsidegorge.ca or fax to 250-388-5269. **Please submit application forms as soon as possible to ensure that your referral is sponsored by BGCA. If you have any questions or need an extension to hand in an application please contact me.**

It is essential to inform the family, when you are referring them that they **are only allowed to apply with one agency for a Christmas Hamper.** The referred youth or family will be contacted by email to confirm BGCA's sponsorship. Every effort will be made to distribute hampers between December 15th and 23rd.

Families will receive an email or phone call to inform them their hamper is ready. We encourage families to pick up their hamper (without their children present). In the event pick up is not possible, it is the responsibility of the referring staff to organize delivery.

Please contact Karen at:
karen@burnsidegorge.ca or call:
250-388-5251 if you have any questions or concerns.

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A colorful poster for 'Burnside Gorge Drop-In Youth Night'. It features illustrations of a Nintendo Switch, playing cards, a group of four youth sitting around a table, and a cupcake. The text is in a playful, bold font. The event is on Thursday, October 23rd, from 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM at the Burnside Gorge Community Centre. It is open to all youth aged 9-14. Contact information is provided at the bottom.

Burnside Gorge

DROP-IN YOUTH NIGHT

Games & Cupcake Decorating!

Come join us at the youth centre either to just play games with friends or come enjoy a delicious cupcake

This Event is at the same time as our community dinner
To attend community dinner you must register!
PLEASE CALL : 250 388 5251

THURSDAY OCTOBER 23RD
5:30PM - 7:00PM

Burnside Gorge Community Centre

All youth welcome!
Ages 9 - 14

More Information:
250 388 5251 anabelle@burnsidegorge.ca burnsidegorge.ca

DROP IN YOUTH NIGHT

Starting Thursday, October 23, Anabelle will be hosting a Youth Drop In Program for ages 9 - 14. The program will take place in the Youth Centre from 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm on every third Thursday of the month!

Please note that the Community Dinner will be happening at the same time. Participation in the Youth Drop-In does not require attending the Community Dinner, however, if families choose to attend Community Dinner, they must register at the front desk before 4 pm the day before. For those youth attending dinner, once they have finished, they are welcome to join the activities in the Youth Centre for some fun and engagement!

Feel free to share this information with your clients, friends and families!

For more details, visit our website - <https://burnsidegorge.ca/youth-drop-in/>

TEEN LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

Fall 2025 Teen Cohort Dates (Ages 13-18)

- Session 3: **Sunday, October 26, 2025** – The Moment You Stop Blaming, You Take Back Your Power
- Session 4: **Sunday, November 2, 2025** – Take Action! With Small Steps
- Session 5: **Sunday, November 9, 2025** – Fail Forward to Success
- Session 6: **Sunday, November 16, 2025** – Drive Your Life with Powerful Habits
- Session 7: **Sunday, November 23, 2025** – Be A

Student of Life

- Session 8: **Sunday, November 30, 2025** – Momentum is Your Responsibility
- Session 9 (Graduation): **Sunday, December 7, 2025**

Volunteer Hours

Each student who participates in the program receives **15 volunteer hours** that can be applied toward graduation requirements.

Registration

Students can register directly here: <https://linktr.ee/youthempoweringyouth>

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NAVY CANADAIEN ROYAL CANADIENNE

Sailor for a Day

Experience what it is like to be part of our Navy Team!



Try a day in the life of a sailor with the Royal Canadian Navy

SCAN ME

OUR U13B VIPERS TEAM IS STILL LOOKING FOR A FEW MORE PLAYERS



Never played or curious about our club and wanna check it out?
We'd love to meet you!
Let us know:
viewroyalfastball@outlook.com

COMMUNITY EVENTS FOR ALL!

COME RUN AND CHEER ON THE VIKES!



CANADA WEST CHAMPIONSHIPS
CROSS COUNTRY 2025

OCTOBER 25TH, 2025
@ ROYAL ROADS UNIVERSITY
HOSTED BY:
THE UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA VIKES

WEST SHORE PARKS & RECREATION
RUNSPORT
HOKA

COMMUNITY RUNS:
10:00AM - 1KM KIDS SUPER HERO RUN
Sponsored by Westshore Parks & Recreation
10:30 AM - COMMUNITY 8KM & MIXED 4 x 2KM RELAY
Sponsored by RUNSPORT



SCAN or VISIT:
govikesgo.com/crosscountry

UVIC VIKES RACES:
12:00 PM - CANADA WEST WOMEN'S 8KM
1:00 PM - CANADA WEST MEN'S 8KM



USCU LEGACY
FOUNDATION

Island Savings
COMMUNITY KNOWLEDGE

Greater VICTORIA School District

BRITISH COLUMBIA
Gaming Commission

HOMEWORK CLUB



Homework Club is a fun and welcoming environment for newcomer, immigrant and refugee students grades 1-7. There will be volunteers to help with homework and fun activities.



STARTING OCTOBER 7TH, 2025

TUESDAYS 3:30-5:00 PM
VICTORIA IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE CENTRE SOCIETY
1004 NORTH PARK STREET

TO REGISTER, EMAIL:
[KIMIA@VIRCS.BC.CA](mailto:kimia@vircs.bc.ca)

VICTORIA FOUNDATION

United Way
Southern Vancouver Island

TELUS

TELUS Friendly Future Foundation

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Youth Night

Youth Night will be starting October 2nd from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM every Thursday at the NLC.



Come Join Us!

Mark your calendars! We have a lineup of events planned for everyone. All newcomer immigrant and refugee students in grades 8-12 registered in School District 61 are welcome to join us at the NLC (located at Victoria High School).



If you enjoy arts and crafts, games, and other fun activities planned by VIRCS staff and volunteers please contact enable@vircs.bc.ca for any questions.












PEARKES YOUTH CENTRE (FLIPSIDE)

WEEKLY CALENDER

10-17yrs

Sept-Dec 2025

Monday After School Drop-in 3:30-5:30PM (FREE) Girls on the Go - Girls Group 6:00 - 8:00 PM (FREE)	Tuesday After School Drop-in 3:30-5:30PM (FREE) Magic: The Gathering Club 6:00 - 8:00 PM (FREE)	Wednesday After School Drop-in 3:15-5:15PM (FREE) Pearkes Youth Art Hive 6:30 - 8:30 PM (FREE)	Thursday Homeschool Social Drop-in 12:00 - 2:00 PM (FREE) After School Drop-in 3:15-5:15PM (FREE) 2SLGBTQIA+ Dinner + Social Drop-in 6:00-8:00PM (FREE)
Friday After School Drop-in 3:15-5:15PM (FREE) Pizza, Skating & Movie 5:45-9:00PM (\$5)	Saturday BIRTHDAY PARTY RENTALS 11:00AM - 1:00PM OR 2:00-4:00PM \$170	SCAN TO REGISTER 	

HOW TO REGISTER:

- Online via Saanich RecOnline site, through the above QR code, or through this direct LINK
- Phone: 250-475-5462
- In person at G.R. Pearkes Recreation Centre Reception

G.R. Pearkes Recreation Centre
3100 Tillicum Road Victoria, BC V8A 6T2, 250-475-5400

The Youth Centre entrance is located beside the 5 minute loading zone parking at the front of the building

Program Info

Closed on STAT Holidays and some Pro-D days

All programs are free or low cost for the community

- Drop-in Programs include snack
- Registered Program



SAANICH YOUTH SERVICES

2SLGBTQIA+ DINNER + SOCIAL

Ages 11 - 17

FLIPSIDE YOUTH CENTRE @ PEARKES REC CENTER
THURSDAYS 6:00 - 8:00PM
DINNER INCLUDED, DROP IN OR REGISTER ONLINE

CLICK TO SIGN UP




WWW.SAANICH.CA 250 475 5462 TYLERA.SMITH@SAANICH.CA



No cost to participate!

Learn to Cope with Stress
Y Mind

Everyone experiences worries and stress. Y Mind is here to help young people learn how to cope with stress so they can live their best lives.

Our FREE FALL Y Mind groups are:

- Teens-Tuesday evenings @ 6 pm, Oct 7- Nov 25, 202-1314 Lakepoint Way.
- Teens-Wednesday evenings @ 6 pm, Oct 15- Nov 26 at Oaklands Comm. Centre

For more info please contact: mindfulness@vancouverisland.ca or call 778-584-7360

Please contact us if you are interested in a Youth (18-30) group, we can build it.

This free program is run by caring, trained staff, in a safe supportive environment.



*Use the QR code to register for required info session

<https://vancouverisland.ca/program-services/community-health/mental-wellness/>

