

next week at colquitz

friday, january 09, 2026

THIS WEEK'S REFLECTIONS

Hello Colquitz Families,

Happy New Year and welcome back to school, everyone!

Term 2 has started smoothly, with staff and students sharing stories about their breaks and settling back into routines, including neighbourhood walks (below is Div 15 who were accompanied by our liaison, Cst Birtwhistle!).

Please note that the weather is shifting to be quite cold some days, so please make sure your child(ren) are wearing winter coats. If you need assistance with purchasing winter items, please just email me at cschlappner@sd61.bc.ca.



Please note that Term 2 is our shortest term, and so it is important for students to stay on top of their assignments, and ask for help if they need it, so that they don't fall too far behind before Learning Updates in March. As always, please reach out to your child(ren)'s teachers if you have any questions or concerns. We're here to help.



In case you hadn't noticed, we are holding our **First Annual Family Game Night** next **FRIDAY from 5:30-7:30pm** as a Leadership fundraiser. There is no cost to come and enjoy games from the Boardgame Café; if you would like to have pizza for dinner, it will be for sale at \$4/slice, along with chips, Bubbly waters, and candy bags for \$2/each. This is meant to be an opportunity to come together as a community and get to know families from across the school. We hope to see you there!

Have a wonderful weekend with your friends and family.

- Carrie Schlappner, Principal

next week at a glance

Monday, Jan 12	•
Tuesday, Jan 13	•
Wednesday, Jan 14	• Spirit Day: Jersey Day
Thursday, Jan 15	• <i>Black Excellence Day</i>
Friday, Jan 16	• Family Game Night 5.30-7.30 pm

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upcoming important dates—mark your calendars!

Monday, Jan 19	Indigenous Student Lunch
Tuesday, Jan 20	PAC Meeting @6.30 pm
Monday, Jan 26	Pro D Day (No School Today)
Tuesday, Jan 27	International Day of Commemoration of Honour the Victims of the Holocaust
Thursday, Jan 29	National Day of Remembrance of the Quebec City Mosque Attack and Action Against Islamophobia
Friday, Jan 30	Grade 8's—Deadline for programs of Choice and Career program applications
Monday, Feb 2	Black Heritage Month Assembly

Yearbooks are on sale now!

Yearbooks cost \$26.

To order your child a copy of the yearbook, please [click here](#).

- Yearbooks are delivered to students at the end of June



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



Pizza Update!

We are now offering a **gluten-free pizza option** for pizza day. The price per slice will still be \$4.00 but the slice size is slightly smaller than the regular



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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.**

Jan 12-16	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Before school	Girls $\frac{1}{2}$ Comp practice w Kiet 7:00am			Girls $\frac{1}{2}$ Comp practice w Kiet 7:00am	$\frac{1}{2}$ girls Rec Practice 7:15am
Lunch practice		Lohri se-up	$\frac{1}{2}$ girls rec volleyball practice	Grade 6 Boys rec	Grade 6 girls volleyball
After school practice	Boys $\frac{1}{2}$ comp practice with Mr Robillard 3:00-5:00	Boys $\frac{1}{2}$ comp practice with Mr Robillard 3:00-5:00	Grade 6 girls volleyball	Boys $\frac{1}{2}$ comp practice with Mr Robillard 3:00-5:00	Swim Club GYM UNAVAILABLE Set up for Games Night in the Gym
Competition					

Please email Christine Crljenkovic ccrljenkovic@sd61.bc.ca if you are interested.



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MUSIC UPDATE

Schedule:

Tour Update:

Reminder: There will be a **MANDATORY** Parent/Guardian meeting on Wednesday, January 14th to go through the tour forms and to ask questions about the trip! Please make sure one parent or guardian can attend per student. If no one is able to attend, please email Katherine Forster to set an alternate time.

Tour payment #2 will be up ASAP. It is due on the 14th, If the payment is a bit late due to the delay, that is okay. Apologies for the delay!

Information will always be included in Next Week at Colquitz (NWAC), Ms. Forster's weekly emails (for band students) and on the Tour Google classroom, once students are signed up and accept their invitation.

Extra help/practice space is available:

Tuesday: Nut break

Wednesday: Nut break and lunch recess

Thursday: Nut break

Thursday: Lunch recess

7:40 am: BAND 7/8

8:54 am: Band 6 Green

9:36 am: Band 6 Orange

Lunch: Jazz Band (Please come right at lunch EATING time.)

Wednesday:

7:40 am: BAND 6 COMBINED

10:33 am: Band 7

11:15 am: Band 8

Thursday:

7:40 am: JAZZ BAND

8:54 am: Band 8

9:36 am: Band 6 Green

10:33 am: Band 7

11:15 am: Band 6 Orange

Reminder: If students do not have their instrument/music, they are still expected to show up to class.

Dates To Note:

Wednesday, January 14th: MANDATORY TOUR MEETING for parents/guardians **@6:30pm in the band room.**

Wednesday, January 14th: Tour payment #2 due

Wednesday, January 2st: Music Discoveries Registration ends

Wednesday, February 11th: Tour Payment 3 Due

Wednesday, February 25th: Band 8 to Spectrum (Time to be confirmed, in the AM)

Musical Theatre

Musical Theatre Auditions continue this week with Solo Singing Auditions at lunch times and three more speaking audition opportunities after school on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Callbacks (by invitation for specific characters) will occur on Friday. Cast list up the following Monday (Jan 19) after school!

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FamilySmart

Together-Centred

[Get to know the FamilySmart team](#)



[Find Support Here](#)

Help
for
the
Hard
Times

[Support for Your Family
After a Mental Health Crisis](#)

[Join Us Online](#)

Connect and Learn
Online Events for Parents and Caregivers

If you are a parent or caregiver who would like to know more about crisis support and safety at home, but your child has not had an emergency room or inpatient experience, we can still help! We created this video for you: [Supporting Safety At Home When Your Child Has A Mental Health Crisis](#)

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PEARKES YOUTH CENTRE (FLIPSIDE)
WEEKLY CALENDAR

10-17yrs

Jan-May 2026

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)
Flipside Fridays (Jan-Mar)
4:00-7:00PM (\$30)
Teen 2 Chef (Apr-May)
5:00-7:30PM (\$15)


Saturday
BIRTHDAY PARTY RENTALS
11:00AM - 1:00PM
OR
2:00-4:00PM
\$170


SCAN TO REGISTER


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


HOW TO REGISTER:
1. Online via [Saanich RecOnline](#) site, through the above QR code, or through this direct [LINK](#)
2. Phone: 250-475-5462
3. In person at G.R. Pearkes Recreation Centre Reception

G.R. Pearkes Recreation Centre
3100 Tillicum Road Victoria, BC V9A 6T2, 250-475-5400

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

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](tel:2504755462) TYLERA.SMITH@SAANICH.CA

FREE ADMISSION

FAMILY GAME NIGHT
Fun • Laughter • Teamwork •

Hosted by Colquitz Leadership Club and Interactivity Board Game Cafe

January 16th
5:30-7:30 pm
in the Colquitz gym

Concession Available: Pizza Candy bags, Chips, and Drinks

Available while supplies last!
CASH ONLY



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HIGHWAY 1 COLQUITZ BRIDGES PROJECT INFORMATION & UPDATES

January 9, 2026



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.

PROJECT UPDATES

Construction activity continued throughout December with consistent progress. Crews focused on work at the South Colquitz Bridge, including site cleanup, preparation of the north deck extension, and concrete work on the bridge structure. Concrete placement and curing were completed for wingwall improvements. Traffic management and lane closures remained in place throughout the month to support safe construction activities.

1 MONTH LOOKAHEAD

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

- Continued deck extension work on the South Bridge, including installation of formwork and reinforcement.
- Continued approach slab work on the South Bridge, including rebar installation, concrete placement and curing.
- Ongoing lane closures and traffic control along Highway 1 and Burnside Road West to support construction activities.

PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Environmental protection measures remained in place throughout December, with regular monitoring continuing along the Colquitz River. A third-party environmental audit was completed on December 18, 2025 and included in-stream water-quality checks upstream, downstream, and adjacent to the Project area. Results showed no signs of elevated turbidity beyond natural background levels, with measured conditions consistent across all monitoring locations. The Project continues to meet turbidity requirements, and construction activities have not affected river water quality.

Rain garden construction below the South Colquitz Bridge (Figure 1) was completed in December, including placement of growing medium and planting. In addition, stormwater infrastructure installed throughout the Project (Figure 2) helps manage drainage by safely collecting and directing roadway runoff into the treatment system, improving overall water management in the area.



Figure 1: Rain garden completed below the South Colquitz Bridge to support stormwater management.

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January 9, 2026



Figure 2: Stormwater drainage system along the east median, looking west.



Figure 3: Completed access stairs connecting the Galloping Goose Regional Trail to the future bus stop area.



Figure 4: Crews installing rebar for the north deck extension of the South Colquitz Bridge.



Figure 5: Bridge Excavation Fill (BEF) material placement and compaction at the west approach slab of the South Colquitz Bridge.

For more information about this project, please contact:
Mike Boissoineault, Project Manager, MOTT - 778-974-2632
Krista Englund, Regional Manager of Environmental Services, MOTT