

next week at colquitz

friday, oct 16, 2026

THIS WEEK'S REFLECTIONS

Hello Colquitz families,

Hooray for another sunny week at Colquitz!

Students continue to enjoy their learning in the library—many thanks to Ms Spies for creating a fun and welcoming space for students!

Some important reminders for the next couple of weeks: Next Thursday is PHOTO RETAKES, and Friday is a ProD Day, so no school for students. Advisory teachers should have emailed you a link to sign up for Parent-Teacher Interviews, which will take place on October 28th. Please reach out to them if you have any questions prior to meeting.



We will be celebrating Hallowe'en on Friday the 30th. 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 long weekend with your friends and family.

- Carrie Schlappner, Principal



next week at a glance

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| Monday, Oct 19 | • PAC Meeting @6.30pm |
| Tuesday, Oct 20 | • |
| Wednesday, Oct 21 | • |
| Thursday, Oct 22 | • Photo Retakes |
| Friday, Oct 23 | • Pro D Day (NO SCHOOL) |

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upcoming important dates—*mark your calendars!*

Monday, Oct 26	Intersex Awareness Day
Tuesday, Oct 27	Book Fair
Wednesday, Oct 28	Parent-Teacher Interviews (2.30-7pm) <i>Staff unavailable from 5.30-6pm</i> Early Dismissal @ 1.49pm Apple Fundraiser pick-ups (between 2:30 and 7:00 PM) Book Fair
Thursday, Oct 29	Book Fair
Friday, Oct 30	Hallowe'en observed—wear costumes!
Monday, Nov 02	CPAPA Meeting @ 6.30pm
Wednesday, Nov 04	Theatre Pull Out Starts
Friday, Nov 06	Indigenous Student Lunch
Tuesday, Nov 10	Wreath Bearer Practice @ 10am

Colquitz Middle School Spirit Wear is here!

- The store will be open until **October 18th** after which we will produce the order all at once and then send the individual orders back to the school for distribution.
- This process takes about three weeks.
- Please note that these are custom orders and all sales are final.

Proceeds will go towards a donation to the [Victoria Native Friendship Centre](#)

[Click Here – Please visit the Colquitz Middle School – Spirit Wear Online Store**](#)**



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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SAFETY TIPS

FOR GETTING TO SCHOOL:



BE SEEN

Wear reflective clothing, carry a flashlight, and stick to well-lit areas so all road users can see you.



FOLLOW ROAD RULES

Use sidewalks and crosswalks, looking both ways and making eye contact with drivers before leaving the curb.



STAY ALERT

Be aware of your surroundings and avoid using your phone or wearing both earbuds while walking.



WALK IN GROUPS

Walk with a friend and let an adult know your route and expected arrival time.

www.sd61.bc.ca

[@sd61schools](https://www.instagram.com/sd61schools)

BOOK FAIR

Join us on

Tues, Oct 27th - 2:50 to 3:30

Wed, Oct 28th - 9:00 to 6:30

Thurs, Oct 29th - 9:00 to 3:30

Cash/Debit/Visa/MC accepted

★ WHY VISIT THE BOOK FAIR?



- A wide selection of books for all reading levels
- Activity books & fun fidget toys
- Perfect for building home libraries and encouraging a love of reading

♥ SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL

Every purchase gives back! School House Teaching Supplies will donate **HALF of the profit** (equivalent to 20% of total sales) in the form of gift certificates to purchase new books and learning resources for school.

ORGANIZED BY:



SCHOOL HOUSE TEACHING SUPPLIES & BOOKSTORE

250-385-9030 | schoolhouseteachingsupplies@shaw.ca

Tillicum Mall | 103-3170 Tillicum Road, Victoria, BC



November 6, 2026

During this dark time of the year, dress up in your lightest, brightest, most sparkly, reflective, or light up clothing - or all of the above!

Let's Get Visible Day, celebrates and practices the importance of being safe on roads and trails during darker morning commutes.

Everyone plays a part in the dark!



Students Make Professional Art... ...School Makes Money!



Every item is personalized!



Our school is participating in this great fundraiser, where our students become professionally published artists, and every order raises funds for our school!

Be sure to get your artwork done, and check the order form on the back for details.



www.CREATEDBYKIDS.ca



Available products: Greeting cards | Face masks | Mugs (several types) | Coasters | Canvas prints | Metal prints | File downloads | Calendars | Stickers | Ridge magnets | Blankets | Christmas ornaments | Bookmarks | Keychains | Wall portraits | Puzzles | Lunch kits | Water bottles | Pillow cases & more!

Bundles also available

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COLQUITZ SWIM CLUB REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

Does your child love swimming? FAST Swim Club is back! This school-based program is designed to be a fun, active, and welcoming to swimmers of a range of abilities. The FAST program is intended for students who are comfortable participating in a group swimming environment.

Interested students will receive a notice from Ms. Schuring this week. Parents will need to complete the notice AND register their child on the [Pacific Swim Club website](#).

Starts: October 16, 2026

Location: Saanich Commonwealth Place

Practices: Fridays, 3:15–4:00 p.m.

 Tentative Swim Meet Dates at Commonwealth Place

Sunday November 15, 2026 9:30-12:00

Sunday, December 13, 2026 10:30-1:30

Sunday, February 14, 2027 9:00 - 12:00

Sunday March 7, 2027 12:00- 4:00

Registration deadline: October 25, 2026 **Register here:** [FAST Program](#)

\$ Cost: \$160.00 per swimmer. Payment will be taken after the first practice via School Cash Online

Swimmers must:

Be comfortable in the water without an instructor in the pool

Be able to swim 25 metres unassisted

Be able to get to and from Commonwealth Pool for practices and meets



If you have any questions, please DO NOT respond to this email. Please email Ms. Schuring at mschuring@sd61.bc.ca



Student and Parent Sessions

Student Sessions: Establishing Safe, Caring, & Respectful Digital Communities

(Grades 5-8 and Grades 9-12) Variety of dates for remote/virtual sessions. [Registration information](#)

These sessions for students cover all things digital, from how to be a good digital citizen, the criminal consequences of cyberbullying, and how to report and receive support in cases of sexting/ sextortion. Some of the most prominent concerns currently surrounding students' use of social media platforms, smartphones, and artificial intelligence will be discussed.

Student Sessions: Establishing Respectful Relationships and Consent in our Communities

(Grades 5-8 and Grades 9-12) [Registration Information](#)

In this session, we will expand on the conversation of consent. Additionally, we will define and explore the dynamics of gender-based violence. We will discuss how gender-based violence is manifesting in both the physical and digital landscape, as well as the potential for exploitation within relationships.

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COLQUITZ SPORTS AT A GLANCE

***Please see your specific schedule handed out by coaches. This is just a week's glance.**

October 19-23	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Before school		Girls 7/8 Comp Basketball Practice		Grade 7/8 girls Basketball Open Gym	
Lunch practice	Soccer - meeting at recess by the gym Girls 7/8 Comp Basketball Practice		Intramural Basketball		PRO-D Boys 7/8 comp practice 11-2
After school practice		Rec 7/8 boys basketball practice Comp 7/8 boys basketball practice		Rec 7/8 boys basketball practice	
Competition	Girls 7/8 Comp basketball game @home Boys 7/8 Comp basketball game @Gordon Head Soccer jamboree @CML		Boys 7/8 Comp game @home 3:45 Girl 7/8 Comp basketball game @home 5:00		

*** Colquitz will be running an intramural basketball program for grade 6/7 players. Some grade 7 players may have joined a 7/8 recreational or competitive team.



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MUSIC UPDATE

Updates

- Google classrooms are up for band 6, 7, 8 and jazz band. Students have been invited!
- o Practice records, recordings, and other resources are all available!

Tour: Tentative dates are Friday April 16, Saturday April 17th 2027.

Practice Records:

Practice records will be posted weekly on Sunday mornings and due weekly on Saturday evenings on google classroom. If students do not have reliable access to google classroom at home, paper copies are always available in the band room for students to grab if they would rather complete a paper practice record. They are welcome to grab multiple at once!

Establishing a consistent practice schedule is the best way to maintain progress. Have your student choose days and times that work consistently around their schedule. Make it a habit to fill out the practice record as soon as your student is done practicing. Many students practice but forget to fill the record in.

The goal is at least 45 minutes of practice throughout each week.

For percussionists, the program has small mallet percussion instruments and practice pads for snare drum. These are available to borrow free of charge, but students will need a ride on the day they bring them home, as the mallet instruments are bulky and without a case. Reply to this email for these materials!

Extra Help/Practice Space is available the following days:

Tuesday: Nut Break

Wednesday: Nut break and Lunch Recess

Thursday: Nut break and Lunch Recess

Friday: Nut break

Tour 2027:

Grade 7/8 band, strings and choir students are all invited on tour in April. We will do one night and will try to send out a draft itinerary soon. **Tentative dates are Friday April 16, Saturday April 17th 2027.**

MUSIC Schedule: If students don't have their instrument, they are still expected to attend classes.

Monday:

9:36-10:18: Choir 6

10:33- 11:15: Choir 8

11:15-11:57: Choir 7

1:02: Beginner Strings

1:44: Intermediate/ Advanced strings

Tuesday:

Before School 7:40-8:35: Band 7/8 Combined, Choir 6

8:54-9:36: Band 6 Orange (With instruments, please!)

9:36-10:18: Band 6 Green

11:57-12:42: JAZZ BAND (right at 11:57) Grade 7/8

Wednesday:

Before School 7:40-8:35: Band 6 BRASS AND PERCUSSION. (students in both pods who play: trumpet, trombone, euphonium, AND percussion are called. All other students do not need to attend this week.) Choir 7/8

10:33-11:15: Band 7

11:15-11:57: Band 8

Thursday:

Before School 7:40-8:35: Jazz Band

9:36-10:18: Band 6 Orange

10:33-11:15: Band 7

11:15-11:57: Band 6 Green

Friday: NONE. PRO-D Day!

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Parents Association Committee (PAC)

We are launching an **online auction** next month to help support student activities at Colquitz! We have already secured many **amazing prizes**, but are hoping to **add more items for the auction!** Families who have businesses, services, and are able to **donate prizes** are asked to please **contact us so we can add your contributions!** We will publicize this auction widely - this is a great way to **show your support** for our school!

Apple Fundraiser pick-ups will be happening on **Wednesday October 28th between 2:30 and 7:00 PM** during Parent Teacher Interviews. We need a few **volunteers to help hand out the boxes of apples** - please see our Signup Genius to help out for a shift or two! <https://tinyurl.com/ApplesPickUp2026>

Our **next fundraiser** is starting up at the school - we are doing another **art project with students** where parents can order **greeting cards, bags, mugs, and more** with **your child's art printed on these items** (what great presents these would make!) Please have a **look at the art during the Parent Teacher Interviews** - ordering information is on the **back of the art**. The deadline for ordering will be **November 12th**. Orders will come back to the school between **November 30 and December 4**. Our PAC receives 30% of all sales, which we use to support student activities.

We also want you to mark your calendars for the **Tillicum Elementary Winter Market on Saturday November 21st!** Our PAC will be hosting a **bake sale table** - more details to come!

We hope that you will join our **PAC meeting on Monday October 19th at 6:30 PM** - we had such a great turn out in September! Our agenda will be posted on the school website here: <https://colquitz.sd61.bc.ca/parent-info/colquitz-pac/> **Your ideas and input are incredibly valued!**



THEATRE

Wrath of the Buried King

rehearsals Week of October 19-23 (After school 3:00 - 4:15)

Monday: Aetheric, Goblins, Baza

Tuesday: Quest Cast including Turi, Nor, Airmid, Elves

Wednesday: Scene 22: Kita, Varden, Pip, Baza, Kestrel, Airmid, Father Conal, Father Manus, Maccus, Nor, Daella, Eghan, Gannix, Ace, Erhoon

