



RANDERSON RIDGE SCHOOL

Mar. 7 - Newsletter #7

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PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Dear Parents,

There is a lot going on at Randerson Ridge right now, please do take some time to come to the school and walk through the halls before or after school to see all of the wonderful work the children are producing. Thought I would send out a short newsletter just to summarize some of the big events. I would like to thank our teachers, educational assistants and other support staff for their excellent work this school year.

I would like to extend a thank you to those staff, parents and volunteers for helping out with various activities either before school, on field trips, during long recess or after school. The activities further enhance the overall experience of the children.

Besides all of our "regular" activities- basketball, Reading Link Challenge, Games club, Tech club, Homework club, after school science and sports, and Yoga, we are starting a BIG push for Me to WE activities LED by our Grade 7's, and a new after school science opportunity coming after March break. We have a spring dance soon for our grades 6 and 7's. We also will offer a different after school Friday multi-sport event for grades 1-3. We even have Salmon hatching in the school! Finally, just like volleyball, we have more basketball teams participating in the school league than any other school in Nanaimo! Way to go, Randerson!

Thank you to members of our PAC for your continued contributions to the school. These members work tirelessly at the school to aid in your child's day to day school life. Your help and assistance is appreciated by the staff, students and Randerson Ridge Community. I know work has begun on planning for our Fun Fair in May.

Please look through the website calendar as some dates have changed and LOTS of activities have been added. It is going to be a busy spring. There are many staff members and parents involved in making these activities possible. Thank you to them.

As you have heard, we are also looking to update our logo. The emails have gone out and you have your chance for input (as do your children). Please take the 5 minutes to fill in the survey. After we compile all the feedback and finalize a logo, we will be looking at getting some new school clothing coming out shortly after spring break to get kids to have t-shirts and/or hoodies for track and field season and for just having this summer.

Keep your eyes peeled for that.
Have a wonderful spring break.

Mr. Brick

[NEW RANDERSON RIDGE LOGO](#)

With the Federal and Provincial government focus on Reconciliation, coupled with the impetus of the Ministry of Education and the Nanaimo Ladysmith Public School to work on Reconciliation, we have embarked to raise the FIRST NATIONS connection to our Randerson Ridge Raven logo.

The School District initiative is explained a little in this video: <https://www.sd68.bc.ca/board/syeyutsus-reconciliation-framework/>

Our initiative, briefly, is to raise the connection/profile by putting an Indigenous theme into our logo. The logo selected will inform what our letterheads, website, school spirit clothing and uniforms will look like in the future.

We started with presenting the idea to PAC and to our staff in September.

Then, we had our First Nations education assistant read books to all classes explaining what the meaning of the RAVEN is in Coast Salish culture.

We then hired First Nations artists to give us options to choose from (and explain the symbolism of their choices).

And now, we want to include the entire school community in the choice to be made.

With the co-operation of the school district, we have a survey for you, the parent/guardian community to look at and vote on.

At the school, students will also be getting class presentations explaining the process and the choices.

Staff will also be voting on-line similar to the parents.

We want to cut off voting by Mar. 11 for parents and staff/Mar. 12 for the students and unveil the winning choice by the start of spring break.

Hopefully, you will find this educational, and a little fun, and raising some school spirit.

Please take the time to look at the survey and make your choice!

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RandersonRidge>

[Reading Link Challenge](#)

The School Reading Link Challenge has now moved on to the City level! The TWELVE teams of participating grade four and five students (again, WAY more participation than any other school) came together in the gym on **March 5th** at 1:00 p.m. to take part in a quiz style competition involving three rounds of 10 questions. We had lots of spectators for this close competition. Congratulations to Ms. Needham's winning team consisting of: Hannah Wylie, Grace Webber, Nita Qui, Eva Hu, Hein Kim, Hayden Hunter, Casey Milne, and Grant Cornthwaite. This team tries to defend our title at the City Challenge on April 8th at the Harbourfront Library.

PURDY'S EASTER CHOCOLATE ORDER (FROM THE PAC)

That time of year when you can support the school by ordering chocolates through the PAC. Students are coming home with flyers over the next two days. Orders need to be placed and paid for on-line by April 1st. Pick up is at the school on April 12th 8:00-8:20 or 2:10-4:00 pm.

RANDERSON RAVENS SPORTS UPDATE

BASKETBALL

Basketball is well under way and Randerson is doing quite well.. The coaches and sponsors for this season are: Pee Wee Boys- Mr. Rogers/Ms. East Pee Wee Girls- Ms. Adelborg/Mr. Brick Bantam Girls- Ms. Kelly/Ms. Needham; Bantam Boys- Mr. Seaman and Ms. Rounis. Thank you to all the volunteers. All the teams have had quite successful starts.



SPLASH AND DASH

Randerson Ridge is one of 7 schools who participate in the White Rapids Splash and Dash. This is an introduction to the sport of Triathlon. Students swim two lengths of the pool (they can wear life jackets/use the side) and then run approximately 1 km (no bike portion- hence the name). No medals, no timing, just participation and a granola bar at the end. The event will happen on Friday April 12th after school at Beban Park. We practice a couple of times at school, but there is really no pressure. This event is open to grades 3-7 and Ms. Evans and Mr. Brick will coach. Cost is \$5 to enter, and all you need is a swimsuit, towel and runners. Watch for information coming out in early April. Hope to get lots of kids out!

SAFE TRAVEL (FROM HASTE BC)

The Top Five Benefits of Active Travel for Students

The connections between physical activity and overall health are well known. For children, the connection touches them in the present and reaches into their future: they need regular physical activity for healthy growth and development.

As parents, building opportunities to be physically active into our children's day can often seem like just one more task on an ever-growing list. Combining exercise and time outdoors with other parts of the daily routine can help lighten the load.

Walking or cycling to and from school - even part of the way - can contribute to the 60 minutes of physical activity children need every day. Active trips to school have a number of other benefits for children, including:

- Reduced stress and improve mental health
- Increased attention and improved classroom performance
- Increased connection with their community
- More fresh air and time spent outdoors -- not to mention together as a family!

Check out our school's Best Routes to School map ([see attached](#)) to find your family's walking or cycling route to school, or a Park-and-Walk location that works for you.

PARKING

Parking continues to be an issue at Randerson Ridge and I'm sure we will continue to grow in student population, so it isn't going away.

The only way it will get better is if we all do our best to treat each other as we wish to be treated.

People can't block through lanes in the parking lot. If you aren't early enough to park (and we know there aren't enough spots), you need to circle around.

People need to avoid the bus lanes and the wheelchair parking spot.

If you plan to park and stay and chat with other parents for awhile, please park on the street, so that people that are here to pick up and leave can clear the area quickly.

Finally, as the good weather approaches, take advantage of walking and biking to school and all these initiatives the school district and city are putting into place.

We are all in this together, so please treat each other with kindness. Thank you.

IMPORTANT DATES/TIMES FOR MARCH/APRIL

The **Randerson Ridge** on-line calendar of events is always up-to-date and is easily accessible by logging in to our school website at: <http://schoolsweb.sd68.bc.ca/randerson/>

March 7	Pre-School Pizza Party 5pm-7pm at Frank J. Ney
March 11	PAC meeting in the library – 7:00 pm
March 11	Voting closes for on-line new logo survey
March 12	Voting closes for student voting on new logo
March 12-15	Badminton classes for grades 3-7 in the gym
March 15	Hot lunch – Subway
March 15	Last Day of Classes before Spring Break
April 1	First day of School for students after Spring Break
April 1	Purdy's Chocolate orders completed on-line
April 5	Spring Dance 2:30-4:00
April 8	Reading Link City Challenge at Harbourfront Library (9:30am-11:00am)
April 12	Purdy's Easter chocolate order pick up in foyer (8:00-8:20 & 2:10 – 4:00)
April 12	Splash and Dash Competition at Beban Park 3:00-5:00 pm
April 17	Grand Wazoo Community Evening for grade 6 & 7 students and families at Dover Bay from 5-7
April 18	Grade 7 course selection sheets due
April 19	Good Friday (no school)
April 22	Easter Monday (no school)