

Skwo:wech Newsletter

From the Office of
Skwo:wech Elementary
November 27 - December 22



**Please return all library books
by December 8**

We appreciate your help in giving
our librarian time to account for
all of our books before winter
break (and to prepare for the
move into the new building)!



**Fuel Up! School
Lunch Program**

Please submit orders at
least 2 business days
ahead of time.
order.lunchlady.ca

Student Information Updates

Please login to the [MyEdBC Family Portal](#) to check current student and
contact information on file. If there is
information that needs to be updated,
please contact the office.

2023	NOVEMBER/DECEMBER				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
27	28	29	30	Dec. 1	
4	5	6	7	8	
11	12	13	14	15	
		Winter Concert (afternoon)	Winter Concert (afternoon) Term 1 Report Cards Published	Community/Family Reading	
18	19	20	21	22	
				Last Day before Winter Break	

Mark Your Calendar



December 13

Winter Concert (afternoon)

December 14

Winter Concert (afternoon)
Report Cards Available on
MyEdBC Family Portal – 4pm

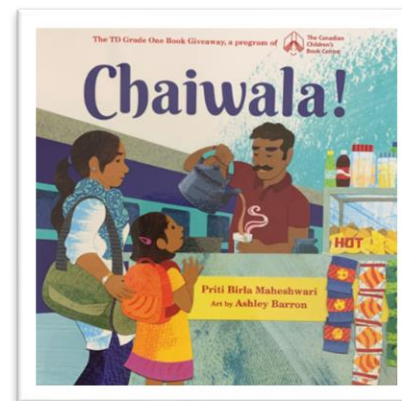
December 15

Community/Family Reading

December 25 to

January 5

Winter Break
(School Closed)



We would like to express our gratitude to the TD Grade One Book Giveaway, a program of The Canadian Children's Book Centre who provided a copy of the story "Chaiwala!" for each of our grade one students.

THANK YOU!

We also extend our gratitude for the wonderful support of our parents! Our students built their running endurance and most importantly had a lot of fun! Thank you so much to our head coach Mr. Wong for leading the running club this year.

Many thanks to the amazing team of coaches, Mrs. Whyte, Ms. Stewart, Mr. Stevens, and Ms. Stephanie.





Thank to our families for joining us on Family Reading Friday and sharing your love of reading with our students!

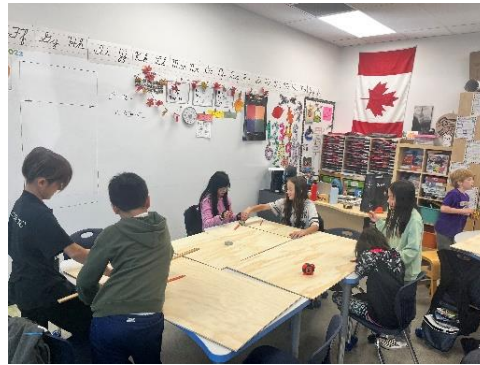


ERASE FAMILY SESSIONS ON ESTABLISHING SAFE, CARING, AND RESPECTFUL DIGITAL COMMUNITIES

In partnership with The Ministry of Education and Childcare's *erase* strategy, "Social Media Awareness" a Family Session will be held virtually on December 5th at 6:30pm. This 60-minute session will be held virtually via zoom.

To register for this session please click on the link below.

[Family Session: Establishing Safe, Caring, & Respectful Digital Communities Tickets, Tue, Dec 5, 2023 at 6:30 PM | Eventbrite](#)



Division 4 students are thrilled to be designing and making trees out of wood for the upcoming music concert in December. They had to use their measuring and marking skills to bring the trees to life. Students are excited at the opportunity to be hands on using tape measures, carpenter pencils, squares, and straightedges. Over the next week or so the trees will begin to take shape with design and paint.

Fuel Up! Lunch Program Survey

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

In 2019, New Westminster Schools launched our “Fuel Up!” school lunch program with full subsidies available for families in need. This program is open to all kindergarten to Grade 8 families and also delivers to RCAP and POWER. The “Fuel Up!” lunch program, run by our partners at The Lunch Lady, removes the stress of packing lunches every day and provides kids with healthy and affordable meals. By ensuring we draw no distinction between children who receive a subsidy and those who don’t, we take away stigma that can accompany some lunch programs.

We’re continuing to see a lot of growth in interest and need for “Fuel Up!”, which is why we’d like to invite you to share your thoughts on how we can improve the program. Maybe you order every day, maybe only on occasion, or maybe you’ve never considered it. We’re looking for feedback from everyone!

Please take two to three minutes to complete the following quick and confidential survey to help us better understand how this program does or does not support your family’s needs:

- [Take our survey now](#)

This survey closes on Friday, December 1, 2023.

Thank you for sharing your time and thoughts with us!

- The New Westminster Schools team

PAC Purdy's Holiday Fundraiser



Purdys Fundraising - Christmas 2023 Season

fundraising.purdys.com

Please click the link above and enter your email address and create a password to start shopping!



SAVE THE DATE

Circle the date for our Winter concert! Similar to last year, our concert will be held in the afternoon over two days. This will be on December 13th and 14th. The performance will begin at 1:30pm. The front doors to the gym and the courtyard doors will be open at 1:15pm for seating. Families with last names which begin with letter A-M will be invited to join us Wednesday, December the 13th and Families with last names beginning with letters N-Z will be invited to join us on Thursday, December 14th.



2024-2025 Registration

It's time to register new students for the 2024-2025 school year! Please read the following information carefully.

NOTE: You only need to register your child if they are not already attending school in the district. You can safely ignore this message if your child is a student in a district school or if they are transitioning between elementary, middle, or high school.

New registrations for the 2024-2025 school year will open on **November 6, 2024** and close on **January 26, 2024**. As long as you register before **January 26, 2024**, the day you register will not affect your chances of getting into your catchment school.

1. Although we do our best to place new students at their preferred schools, it is regrettably not always possible. Our district has significant capacity challenges because of limited space in schools and a growing student population.
2. If the number of requests for a catchment exceeds the number of available spots, the district reserves the right to use a lottery system to determine placements.
3. The district will confirm all enrollment requests by the end of **March 2024**.

For more information, [learn more about capacity status at our schools](#).

How to Register a New Student as a Parent or Legal Guardian

1. Book a 10-minute appointment with our Registration Team.
2. If you need a translator for your registration appointment, please let us know in advance and we will do our best to accommodate your request.
3. [BOOK YOUR APPOINTMENT ONLINE](#)

NOTE: We do not accept bookings before November 6. Please ensure you choose appointments on days and times from November 6, 2023 until January 26, 2024.

For more information on registration, including the forms and guides, [visit the district website's Registration section](#).

What to do on the Day of Your Appointment

1. Visit our Registration Team at the Welcome Centre located in New Westminster Secondary School (enter through the south side of the building at **820 6th Street, New Westminster**).
2. Bring a completed [registration form](#) and copies of the documents outlined in the [Document Guide for Parents and Caregivers](#). **OR** Bring original versions of the documents outlined in the [Document Guide for Parents and Caregivers](#) and our team will help you print, photocopy and complete the required paperwork.
3. If you do not have the suggested documents outlined in the Document Guide, our team will be happy to speak with you confidentially to find a solution.

Key Dates

1. **November 6** – Registration opens.
2. **January 26, 2024** – Registration closes.
3. Looking for a list of other important registration dates, including Programs of Choice enrollment info? [Download a list of key dates for the 2024-2025 school year](#).

We look forward to connecting with your family.

- The New Westminster Schools team

We are always excited to welcome new families to the District. Here are the things you need to know to ensure your student is enrolled with the best placement to support their needs.

Key dates for regular registration:

	In-catchment applications	Transfer requests & Out-of-district applications
Regular registration opens	November 6, 2023	February 5, 2024
Regular registration closes	January 26, 2024	February 23, 2024
Placement offers	March 29, 2024	June 14, 2024

Please note: our District is facing significant capacity challenges, due to growing enrollment. Decisions about the 2024-25 school year are based on enrollment demands identified within the regular registration window. Enrollment applications received outside of this window will be placed within the district but may not be possible at the catchment or preferred school requested, as some schools may be deemed as being at full capacity at certain grades, or in some limited cases, for the full school. All placements follow the rules outlined in [Administrative Procedure 300](#).

Questions can be sent to: registrations@sd40.bc.ca

How to enrol:

Our Central Registration team works out of the Welcome Centre (south side of New Westminster Secondary School, via the external entrance). Information on documents required, process, how to book an appointment and more can be found on our website: <https://newwestschools.ca/our-schools/registration/registration-information-forms/>

Programs of Choice:

Applications for our Programs of Choice are accepted from Monday January 8th to Friday February 2nd, via links that will be posted on the District website. Parent information sessions are hosted online in early January. **Students applying for a Program of Choice must first be enrolled at their regular catchment school, following the above process.**

Program	Grade of intake	Location(s)
Early French Immersion	Kindergarten or Grade 1	Herbert Spencer, Qayqayt and Lord Tweedsmuir elementary schools
Late French Immersion	Grade 6	Glenbrook Middle
French Immersion	Grade 9	New Westminster Secondary
Montessori	Kindergarten or Grade 1	Skwo:wech and Connaught Heights
Home Learners Program	Kindergarten to Grade 8	Hume Park Learning Centre

Questions can be sent to: programsofchoice@sd40.bc.ca

All forms, Administrative Procedures, and information about capacity status can be found on our website.

NewWestSchools.ca