



# *From the Raven's Nest...*

for Friday, October 22, 2021

Dear Families,

**Thank-you and we can use your help...** First of all thank you to all of the parents that made time for our Parent Communication sessions. I am sure you are getting tired of hearing it but we really appreciate your commitment to the team approach to supporting your child. To that extent, we do need your help reinforcing the expectations around personal electronic devices here at Rockheights. The expectation is that the **students should NOT have their personal devices out while at school** unless they have asked their teacher to use it for a specific learning activity. Often students have their devices out, and when asked the response *"I just got a text from my mom/dad"* is one that we often get. If you need to connect with your child during the day, please call the office and we are happy to pass on a message.

If devices are being used inappropriately, then on the first offence, teachers will hold onto them until the end of the day. For the second offence the device is sent to the office and I meet with the student at the end of the day and if there is a third offence, I will be calling home for parent/guardians to come and pick up the device. I know it is important for parents to be able to connect with students, but it is also important that these devices are not disrupting the class/school environment. Thank you for your support with this!

## **What's happening at Rockheights next week:**

### **Monday, Oct 25<sup>th</sup>**

- Photo Retake Day

### **Tuesday, Oct 26<sup>th</sup>**

### **Wednesday, Oct 27<sup>th</sup>**

- Noon - Music Pizza sales
- 2:15pm Last GOLF club session at Gorge Vale

### **Thursday, Oct 28<sup>th</sup> - Pre-ordered Subway Lunch**

### **Friday, Oct 29<sup>th</sup>**

- Halloween Dress Up Day
- Anime/Manga Club at Noon

### **Looking Further Ahead:**

**Thursday November 4** – School Lockdown Drill

**Friday November 5** – No Stone Left Alone

**Tuesday November 9**- RMS PAC meeting

**Thursday November 11** – Remembrance Day Holiday

**Healthy lunches and snacks**— As you know proper nutrition is crucial for adolescents as they going through this age if incredible development and change. One of the trends that we are seeing more and more of is students bringing snacks and drinks that are incredibly high in sugar or caffeine (such as candy, pop or energy drinks). These types of foods are very detrimental to students especially if they are trying to concentrate on academic tasks and we ask that they not come to the school. We realize with Halloween just around the corner there is likely to be an abundance of these treats but ask that they not come to school. If students do have these items we will be holding onto them until the end of the day for students or parents to pick up.

# School District 61 Partnerships and Pathways information

We hope you can join us for two special events. (separate registration required for each event)

## 1. Parents As Education & Career Coaches Workshop

Are you:

- a parent of a middle or high school student?
- looking for some practical tips to help your child explore their educational and career choices?
- wondering about the supports available from post-secondary institution and/or tips on scholarships and financial aid

This free interactive workshop for parents, facilitated by Ed Planner BC, is designed to support you in guiding your student after high school as well as help you understand the BC post-secondary environment.

Parents are the greatest influence on their child's education and career decision.

**Tuesday, November 16, 2021**

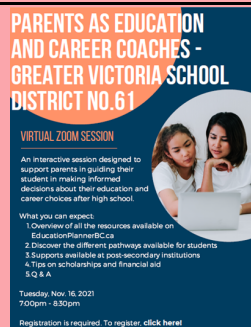
**7:00 - 8:30 pm**

**ZOOM**

Registration is required for this FREE workshop.

To register, [click here](#)

<https://sfu.zoom.us/meeting/register/u5Yud-2ppjoG9eyWySWCIS10SI7GD6EB08q>



## 2. Careers, Trades, & Transitions Information Evening

Are you:

- curious to find out what opportunities are available to your child to enable them to explore and experience future career paths?
- looking for more information on dual credit courses and programs that can allow your child to get a head start on their post-secondary path while they are still in high school?

We hope you can join us for an information evening hosted by the Pathways and Partnerships team. This information session is open to middle and secondary students and parents.

Various career, trade, dual credit and transition opportunities, combined with stories of current and graduated students will be showcased.

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**Tuesday, November 23, 2021**

**7:00-8:00pm**

**ZOOM**

Registration is required for this information session.

To register, [click here](#)

<https://forms.gle/vH96wSBv9f6BSbma7>



For information on either of these events visit our website, [www.careers.sd61.bc.ca](http://www.careers.sd61.bc.ca) or contact Bonnie Alexander. ([balexander@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:balexander@sd61.bc.ca))

## Greater Victoria School District Middle School Hosting Opportunity

### ***Students from Brazil***

This winter, the Greater Victoria School District (GVSD) will host middle school students from Stance Dual School located in Sao Paulo, Brazil. The Brazilian students will attend classes with their Canadian peers to learn about Canadian Culture and further develop their English language abilities. The Stance Dual School group also provides an excellent opportunity for local students to learn and engage with students from a culture that is different than their own.



***Hosting Opportunity:*** GVSD middle school families are currently being sought to host the visiting students in their homes from January 4th - March 2nd, 2022. Welcoming an international student into your home is a fantastic way to open your family up to new experiences while developing intercultural friendships. Families that agree to host a student will also receive \$975 in compensation per month for a total of \$1950 for the two-month duration. Families are also supported by International Program Homestay Coordinators which also includes a 24-hour support line.

***Hosting Information Meeting:*** If you are interested in learning more about potential opportunities to host a Stance Dual student, Please attend the Zoom information session on November 4th from 7:00 pm – 7:30 pm

**Meeting Link:** <https://gvsd61.zoom.us/j/61043341685?pwd=K3lETHNnNTlIMUFnUytpbnRjZnk4QT09>

## ***RMS PAC News:***

Attention Rockheights families! The school PAC is doing a fundraiser through Tru Earth. This is a BC company that creates eco-friendly products ranging from laundry strips to cleaners to dryer balls to beeswax wraps. 20% of all purchases made through the following link go directly to the PAC. We are hoping to focus this fundraiser through the month of November- perfect for holiday gifts! Share this link with friends and families shipping is free to anywhere in North America! Thanks in advance for your support.

<https://fundraising.tru.earth/RockheightsPAC>







**Halloween is coming...** On Friday October 29 we are inviting students to wear their costumes to school.

If your child is planning to wear a costume, please ensure that costumes are appropriate for school so this means that:

1. There should be NO Weapons- real or imitation,
2. Costume Masks are not allowed for moving through the halls or during breaks. Students may bring masks, but must have teacher's permission to wear them in class.
3. Themes that are inappropriate for school should are not permitted- i.e. themes that are degrading to a group, or groups of people, as well as any costumes that have references to foul language or degrading themes.
4. Students must still be able to follow all of the school health protocols such as mask wearing, hand sanitizing, and respecting each other's personal space

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to our school community. We are hoping that we will be able to celebrate some of our great things together shortly and are actively planning for concerts and some of the other end of the term celebrations. Stay tuned for more information...

Sincerely, **Mr. Maxwell**