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Newsletter

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Mr. Don Balcombe
Principal

Mr. Scott Christianson
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Ms. Theresa Kraeker
Vice-Principal

NOVEMBER 15, 2018

DOVER BAY SECONDARY

The School Newsletters will be available to students and parents on-line. They are posted on the Dover Bay website: www.doverbay.ca
If you do not have access to a computer, there will be paper copies available in the school office for you or your child to pick up.

PRINCIPAL'S COMMENTS:

Dear Parents and Guardians,

My message to parents/guardians during this November Newsletter includes information about our reporting process, a new layer of support for student achievement, and encouragement for parents to connect with our students about their academic and social-emotional well-being.

Term one has ended and report cards will soon be available. This year, all of our secondary schools will be making report cards available online through the parent portal of MyEd BC. Instructions will be coming home via email. The shift away from a paper version of reporting aligns with our efforts to continually improve our ongoing communication of student learning. A decade ago, parents would often eagerly await the first school report card, which may have been the first communication during the school year of their son or daughter's progress. Today, schools are much better at communicating student progress through the use of technology. Email, Google Classroom, FreshGrade, and now MyEd BC each provide teachers the tools to communicate student learning on a regular basis. As such, the first report card of the year is less like opening a birthday present and more like tuning in to watch the next episode of a series you are binge-watching on Netflix. You may not know exactly how the episode unfolds, but you are very familiar with the characters, their patterns, and the development of the plotline. Think of this term report card as the final episode of a season, similar to other episodes, just a bit more dramatic and packing a bit more of a punch. The good news is that the episodes (ongoing communication of

student learning) keep coming and the series (course) still has a few more seasons (months) to go. The best news, unlike the Netflix shows, is that you have the opportunity to speak directly with the actors and the director, and change the course of the series from a tragedy or comedy to an up-lifting human-interest story that inspires.

One of the challenges of being a student is balancing the yearning for independence with the reality of the responsibilities that come with schooling. At Dover Bay we are adding a layer of support to help students meet some of the responsibilities we require of our students. Each Monday, from 2:15-3 pm, we will be offering our "Monday School." Teachers will refer students who are not currently meeting their responsibilities, ranging from assignment completion to class attendance and participation. Parents will be notified in advance via email that their son or daughter has been referred to Monday School and will receive a follow-up email on that Monday to inform parents that their son or daughter did attend and what assignment they worked on. We know that this added support will help some of our students stay on a path to graduation but also recognize that other students will need additional, more intensive interventions to help them engage with their school work.

As we get ready to issue our first report card of the year, it is important to acknowledge that this event can be both rewarding and stressful for our students. Please take the time to appreciate that the summative assessment you see on your son or daughter's report card is a 'snapshot' of their learning at this particular moment in the course. Celebrate the successes as well as the struggles. I would suggest that it is more important for you to discuss your son or daughter's level of

engagement than their level of achievement. Some students, with minimal application, earn high grades. Others, with significant effort and engagement, struggle to reach their desired academic goals.

Schooling can sometimes feel like one long exercise in conformity and compliance. Students who can see beyond the structures and curricular requirements of the system find the benefits that come with academic engagement. Being a willing participant, and pushing their thinking beyond their current self-imposed limits, these students experience a sense of fulfilment and satisfaction in their academic journey. Stretching further, I encourage students to become intellectually engaged in their studies. This is the rare air where students take ownership of their learning outside of the direction of the teacher. They let their curiosity, creativity, and imagination direct their reading, research, and thinking beyond the confines of the classroom or course material that is assigned. As their parents, I encourage you to inquire about the intellectual curiosities of our students, further fueling their pursuits.

Finally, I ask each of you to invest in the emotional well-being of your child. Help them put away their technology and engage in the natural world around them. Go for a hike with them, play a board game with them, or simply sit in a room with them and listen to their worries, their aspirations, their fears, hopes, and dreams. Our students are overwhelmed by the constant social-media buzz that dominates pop culture. Please do your part to help them disengage and to reconnect with authentic, face to face conversations with their family and friends.

Kind Regards,
Don Balcombe

IMPORTANT DATES

Nov 20	PAC meeting at 6:30 in the Library
Nov 21	Lockdown Drill – 12:30 pm
Nov 23	Report Card Distribution
Nov 28	Grade 9 Immunizations
Dec 19	Band Concert
Dec 21	Last day of classes before Winter Vacation
Dec 24	Christmas Eve
Dec 25	Christmas Day
Dec 31	New Year's Eve
Jan 1	New Year's Day
Jan 7	First day back after Winter Vacation

NEW ADMINISTRATIVE SOCIAL MEDIA PROCEDURE

New administrative procedure on social media information for students and families:

<https://www.sd68.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/Administrative-Procedures/100/AP107-SocialMedia.pdf>

COUNSELLING

Counselling Center

Second Semester Course Changes

Students wishing to make course changes for second semester should see their counsellor before the winter break. Counsellors are available before and after school and at lunch. Please note that space is tight in the timetable!

Interested in building community through volunteer service? Check out Katimavik . . .

Katimavik offers youth in Canada the opportunity to contribute to building communities across the country through volunteer service. Katimavik is a six-month program that gives young people the chance to live in two different communities across Canada. In each community they will live with ten other youth, work as a volunteer at not-for-profit organizations, participate in hands-on learning activities with a focus on Truth and Reconciliation, and explore the community and surrounding region. For more information, visit www.katimavik.org.

Post-Secondary Applications

Grade 12 students who are planning to attend a post-secondary program next year should begin the application process now. Some universities have an application deadline as early as the end of January. Others base registration dates on when students apply. Check out the university websites for more information!

Career Technical Center

Grade 11 and 12 students who are interested in attending a Trades program at VIU are encouraged to submit their applications now. This is a popular program and fills quickly. Check out the CTC program at: http://www.sd68.bc.ca/?page_id=1562

BC College and University Event for Parents and Students

Representatives from fourteen Colleges and Universities from BC will be at Wellington School on Thursday, November 22 from 7:00-9:00 for an Education Fair. They will be providing information on programs, admissions,

scholarships, residences and post-secondary life. By attending, you can enter a draw to win a prize of \$500, \$300, or \$150. Parents and students are encouraged to attend.

Colleges and Universities attending the event are: BCIT; Canadian Forces/RMC; Camosun College; Capilano University; North Island College; Quest University; SFU; TRU; Trinity Western University; UBC; UNBC; UVic; VIU; and Vancouver Community College.

Capilano University Information Session

There will be a representative from Capilano University visiting Dover Bay on Wednesday, November 28 at 1:40. Capilano University has a strong Fine Arts faculty including programs in Motion Picture Arts, Graphic Design, Acting for Stage and Screen and Musical Theatre, to name a few. They also have a Bachelor of Paralegal studies. The session will be held in E106

Nanaimo Education and Career Fair – December 5

Grade 12 students are invited to attend the Nanaimo Education and Career Fair. This fair embraces innovative learning and promotes education for all. Representatives from Post Secondary Institutions, Industry and Business will be attending. Students will have the opportunity to tour the fair and to attend a Living Library information sessions. Permission slips will be available November 19. Sign-up in the counselling center. Space is limited

Vancouver Island University Connections

Various activities and program information sessions are happening over the next few months. Bookmark the VIU Events page to make sure you don't miss out. <https://www.viu.ca/events/>

VIU Advising Sessions- Students interested in attending VIU in September are encouraged to make an appointment with our VIU Advisor, Jennifer Merner. Jennifer will be holding advising appointments at Dover Bay. Sign-up in the Counselling Center. When the appointment sheet is full, Jennifer will provide additional dates and times. Leave your name and contact information.

VIU Biology Night- Mark your calendar for January 17, 2019 6:00pm Building 355, Room 203 Featuring Biology B.Sc. degree graduates representing diverse careers: Health professionals, environmental professionals, graduate Research, K-12 education

VIU Future Student Webinars- Are you interested in Vancouver Island University, but have questions or would like to know more? VIU would like to invite you to participate in one of their Future Student Webinars!

During these webinars they will be covering Programs, Admission Requirements, Tuition, Scholarships and Awards, Residence, Information for Aboriginal Students, getting involved in and outside the classroom and athletics. Register for the webinar at <https://connect.viu.ca/future-students/webinars>

University of Victoria Connections

UVIC Admissions Information Session for Students and Parents- A representative from UVIC will be at Dover on Wednesday, November 28 at 6:30 in the library, to provide information on navigating the application process for admission to UVIC. All interested parents and students are invited to attend.

Explore UVIC- Explore UVic is a great opportunity for students interested in attending UVic. It will be held on Saturday, February 2, 2019, and is an in-depth look at UVic through recruitment presentations, student services information fair, campus tours, student panels, sample lectures, department information fairs and faculty building tours. Don't miss the largest welcoming event of the year!

VIU CONNECTIONS

Vancouver Island University Connections

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Highlights:

Biology Night- Mark your calendar for January 17, 2019 6:00pm Building 355, Room 203 Featuring Biology B.Sc. degree graduates representing diverse careers: Health professionals, environmental professionals, graduate Research, K-12 education

Webinars are led by Recruitment Officers who will be able to answer any questions students have about their transition to VIU. Topics such as navigating the student record, finding helpful resources & student services, getting involved on campus, and residence are covered.

<https://connect.viu.ca/future-students/webinars>

How to connect with VIU:

a. General inquiries connect with a Recruitment Officer at 250.740-6672 or viuconnect@viu.ca
b. Visit our campus and take a tour to get a current student prospective on why VIU is for you. For registration and options: viu.ca/visit

b. Students ready to plan for September 2019 connect with Advising at 250-740-6410 or advising@viu.ca The Educational Advisor assigned to jennifer.merner@viu.ca

Office hours: Monday 8:30-3:30pm, **Tuesday 8:30-6:00pm**, Wednesday 10:30am-3:30pm, Thursday 8:30-3:30pm, Friday 8:30-3:00pm

c. Application status and documentation questions connect with the Registration Centre at 250.740.6400 or registration@viu.ca

ATHLETICS

Athletics

Fall sports are quickly coming to an end and we have had a great start to our year with students representing Dover in our community. Cross Country had an excellent season finishing with some of their best races at the Provincials that were held in Nanaimo this year. The Swim Team is off to Provincials in Richmond and look forward to swimming with some of the best swimmers in BC. Volleyball had all three of our grade 8 girls teams finishing 1st, 2nd, & 3rd at the District Championships. Our Junior Girls volleyball team is off to Provincials after a 2nd place finish at North Islands and a 4th place finish at Islands. [Senior Girls are hosting the Island Volleyball Championships on our home court on Nov. 16th/17th.](#) Our Grade 8 Boys finished strong after hosting the District Championships at Dover. The Junior Boys won the District Championships! Our Senior Boys Volleyball team won the North Islands and will be competing at the Island Championships this weekend. Field hockey had it's best season yet with a big second place finish at the Island Championships. Junior Boys Soccer finished 3rd in the District and went on to play some great soccer at the North Island Championships in Campbell River and our Senior Boys

Soccer team came together to play some great soccer at the Island Championships. Way to go Dover!!! #doverpride

The Winter Season is getting underway with basketball players filling our gym. Please check out our Athletic webpage for gym schedules, hosting tournaments in our gym, tryout information, and everything else athletics. It can be found as a quick link tab on our doverbay.ca website. Be sure to follow us on Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook to get weekly athletic updates.

Heidi McWhinnie

Athletic Director