



## February 20 – February 24, 2023

*We want to acknowledge and thank the First Peoples of the hən̓q̓əmin̓ ənl̓ language group, on whose traditional and unceded territory we teach, live and learn.*

Monday February 20	Tuesday February 21	Wednesday February 22	Thursday February 23	Friday February 24
Family Day (School Closed)		Connections Class #5 9:20am  <i>Pink Shirt Day</i>		Gr 9 SR Day
	DCBA (2)	BA (1)	DC (2)	ABCD (1)

**erases Parent Sessions on Establishing Respectful Relationships and Consent**

erases is providing two virtual learning sessions (Feb. 27 and Mar. 8) for parents/caring adults focused on Establishing Respectful Relationships and Consent. These sessions are best suited for parents/caring adults of students in Grade 8 and above. Please see the [session schedule](#).

**February 22 – Pink Shirt Day**

February 22<sup>nd</sup> is Pink Shirt Day. This day is recognized each year in February to help raise awareness about the prevention of bullying and to promote kindness and inclusion. The SLSS community stands strong in supporting this day. We encourage all members of our school community to get involved and show their support by wearing pink on this day!

**Grade 9 Social Responsibility Day**

Friday, February 24<sup>th</sup> is Grade 9 Social Responsibility Day at SLSS. The focus of this day is SOGI (Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity). Grade 9 students at SLSS will have the opportunity to engage with student leaders and staff in a variety of activities centred around SOGI, and a focus on diversity, equity and inclusion. Each year, this day is a wonderful day of learning and engagement for all involved.

**Ministry of Education Student Learning Survey**

The annual Student Learning Survey, which is completed by current Gr 10 and 12 students, is scheduled to take place at SLSS on March 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>. Grade 10 students will complete the survey on March 8<sup>th</sup> during block B. Grade 12 students will complete the survey on March 9<sup>th</sup> during block D. Any Gr 12 student on study block during block D can check in with Mr. Banta to find a time when they can drop in to complete the survey.

The survey takes approximately 30 minutes to complete and asks students to comment on a variety of topics relating to their experiences in school and the community. The aim of the survey is to collect data which can be used to improve the ways that schools and other community services are offered to students. Parents will also have the opportunity to complete the survey. Keep your eyes open for more information about how to do this!

**Vancouver International Children’s Festival.** Vancouver International Children’s Festival is taking place in-person between May 30-June 4, 2023 and online between May 30-June 23, 2023. To find out more information, please see the attachment.

**Dates of Significance:**

**February 18 is Maha Shivaratri** - this is a notable solemn festival in Hinduism, which marks the remembrance of “overcoming darkness and ignorance”.

**February is Black History Month**

Did you know on Jan. 29, 2023, Canada Post unveiled a new [Black History Month stamp](#) honoring Chloe Cooley, who had a profound impact on the history of enslavement in Canada. Go to the link to learn more and share.

Richmond Public Libraries are offering a variety of school and community events to honor Black History Month. Go [HERE](#) to discover offerings that are available.

**Future Dates to Remember**

March 3	Progress Reports
March 10	Last day of school before Spring Break
March 12	Daylight Saving Begins-Set clocks 1 hour ahead
March 13-24	Spring Break

**Watersafe Courses for All Richmond Schools**

The City of Richmond has made changes to how schools request Watersafe courses for the 2022-23 school year. The attached newsletter and certification performance criteria has information about the program for families and schools.

**Program Planning for Students**

Teachers handed out program planning sheets to students in the Block C class on last Friday, February 10<sup>th</sup>. Any student who has a study block during Block C should come to the office at lunch to pick up their program planning sheet. **The portal is open from Friday, February 10<sup>th</sup> to Friday, February 24<sup>th</sup> for students to enter their course requests for next year.** Parents and students should read through the detailed Program Planning Guide posted on our website: <https://slss.sd38.bc.ca/students/program-planning-guide-2023-24> for details on course descriptions, grad requirements and all the details of the program planning process. If students have questions about what courses they should take for next year, they should direct those questions to their teachers or counsellors for support with planning. Please see the attached documents for instructions for selecting your courses in MyEdBC and a student tip sheets for course selections. **Students, please be sure to click save after selecting your courses and return your program planning sheet to the boxes outside the counselling centre by Friday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at 3pm.**

**UBC Young Women for STEM Education**

AMS Young Women for STEM Club at UBC is raising awareness about the lack of representation of women in STEM fields, gender gap and other barriers faced by women. They hope to break the barriers by facilitating discussions and workshops. Presentations will take place between February 20-24, 2023. To find out more information, please see the attachment.