

# INSIDE BURNABY SCHOOLS

November 24, 2020



## **Projects Help Students Process Life in a Pandemic**

Since the start of school, there are many examples of learning opportunities inspired by masks and handwashing, such as this writing and art assignment by Grade 2 students at [Marlborough Elementary](#), and this art project by Grade 5s at [Gilmore Community School](#) who showed who they are behind their masks. At [Morley Elementary](#), the school's youngest students are taking the approach that everyone is a superhero – keeping others safe by washing their hands. The soap and sink double as the “Charging Station.” Over time, as the “charge” wears off, students “recharge” by washing their hands again. Grade 9 art students at [Burnaby Mountain Secondary](#) personalized their masks, finding inspiration in their cultural backgrounds, celebratory festivals, the values that they practice, and the heritage that makes them unique. Elsewhere, a Grade 5/6 class at [Westridge Elementary](#) had fun in ADST – or Applied Design, Skills, and Technologies – while practicing sewing on scraps of fabric, before ultimately creating their own masks. Grade 6/7s at [Confederation Park Elementary](#) made their masks unique with tie-dye. So did Grade 8 Science students at [Burnaby North Secondary](#), who investigated physical and chemical changes while tie-dyeing their masks. Also at [North](#), students in the Access Program applied their fine motor skills to create wearable art.

## **Health and Safety Leads the Way in Cross Country Running Events**

Secondary students were able to enjoy the cross-country running season with a few changes. Students did not run in a group as they usually do. Each ran 5 kilometres and the times were later compared. Seen here are the top two finishers from [Burnaby North](#) and student athletes at [Burnaby Mountain](#). While many students also have access to community sports, not all do, and the cross-country season was a wonderful way to safely engage in school sport.

## **Using Technology to Come Together for Remembrance Day**

Each year, schools honour Remembrance Day through learning projects, such as this art from [Aubrey](#), [Lochdale](#) and [Marlborough](#) elementary schools – or these learning experiences, including an exploration of peace at [Gilmore](#). As gathering restrictions have impacted traditional school-wide assemblies, many schools held virtual ceremonies with the wider school community, including families and those learning remotely. Some involved musicians, such as this example from [Burnaby Mountain](#). At [Burnaby Central Secondary](#), students created an immersive art installation – complete with projected images on a large screen. Earlier in the month, students and staff acknowledged National Indigenous Veterans Day – honouring the Indigenous people who have served and continue to serve. This class work is from [Stoney Creek Community School](#).

### **Students Honour Diwali, Celebration of Light**

A large display of student-made flameless candles lined the hallways at [Second Street Community School](#) in celebration of Diwali. The traditional diya candle represents enlightenment, knowledge or wisdom. The school-wide festival of light included days of preparation, with some students wearing traditional dress at the cultural exchange. Other schools also engaged in learning activities marking Diwali, including this one seen here at [Kitchener Elementary](#).

### **Marking World Kindness Day**

There are many initiatives and activities throughout the year in our schools that explore kindness and respect for others. World Kindness Day is one of several opportunities for students to talk about caring behaviour, and the culture we work to create together every day in our schools. Grade 1 and 2 students at [Lyndhurst Elementary](#) acknowledged the day by sharing when someone else was kind, so their teacher could add it to the board. At [Montecito Elementary](#), students thought about ways to "sprinkle" kindness. And, primary students at [Marlborough](#) used Lego to make 3-D messages of kindness.

### **Supporting Students and Families with Food Security**

Building on our earlier efforts, district and school staff are continuing their work on food security. Our work is done in partnership with other groups in the community and we're grateful to the **Burnaby Firefighters Local 323** – seen here delivering a donation – **United Way of the Lower Mainland, Burnaby Neighbourhood House, Supporting Burnaby Youth Society, Burnaby Children's Fund, Re-food**, and other local groups and businesses. Collectively they've donated everything from food and gift cards to funds for schools to distribute to families in need. School staff continue to provide meals and snacks for hundreds of students, while also connecting families who have emergency needs with Burnaby food hubs. Last week, secondary students at [Byrne Creek Community School](#) organized a bottle drive to raise money for Burnaby food hubs.

### **Students Learn About Empathy While Giving Joy**

Primary Students at [Chaffey-Burke Elementary](#) are already thinking about the holidays and how things are different this year for so many – especially seniors. Eight classrooms, from Kindergarten to Grade 2, created 180 personalized holiday cards for the "Be a Santa to a Senior" program. The program is managed by local businesses and includes gifts donated by the community. The student-made cards will be delivered alongside the presents.