

# INSIDE BURNABY SCHOOLS

October 26, 2021



## GEARING UP FOR HALLOWEEN

Tis the season for all things pumpkin, such as this artwork by Kindergarten and Grade 1 students at [South Slope Elementary](#). Older students at [Kitchener Elementary](#) noted in their drawings how light hits the most famous symbol of the season. Halloween has even made its way into the music room, such as at [Second Street Community School](#), with students learning the theme song of *Ghostbusters*. The real thing was found by children at [Taylor Park Elementary](#), and also by students at [Parkcrest Elementary](#) who were among the schools that enjoyed the pumpkin patch in their field. Students at the high school level are also getting in on the fun, such as the week-long festivities at [Burnaby South Secondary](#). Some of the scarier elements of the season are being enjoyed by older students, like this door art at [Burnaby North Secondary](#).

## THE GIFT THAT GIVES BACK

With schools across the District holding their Terry Fox Runs in September, this month many students got to enjoy the rewards of the gift of giving. Students at [Inman Elementary](#) threw pies at their principal, after exceeding their fundraising goal by more than \$600 for a total of more than \$2000. The possibility of dumping cold water on willing school staff and the principal at [Stoney Creek Community School](#) led to a near tripling of last year's fundraising for the **Terry Fox Foundation**, with a total of more than \$1600. And at [Chaffey-Burke Elementary](#), fundraising milestones led to different events, with a pie in the face of staff volunteers for raising \$3200 – and the ultimate prize of a large bucket of ice water dumped on the principal if more than \$4200 was raised. The fun, school spirit and desire to raise money for a good cause led to a whopping total of nearly \$5600 – over two thousand dollars more than last year.

## A RETURN TO CLUBS

There is much enthusiasm in Burnaby Schools with clubs up and running again, as seen here at [Alpha Secondary](#). Clubs, such as these at [Byrne Creek Community School](#) provide an opportunity for students to work on their interests with their peers, learn, build friendships and contribute to the community. Students at [Cariboo Hill](#) and [Moscrop Secondary](#) were able to shop for their favourite at clubs day. Friends and “check mates” are already being made at Chess Club, which is up and running at [Burnaby Mountain Secondary](#).

## AWARENESS DATES PROVIDE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

**International Pronouns Day** provided time to pause and think about how we reference each other. This sign at [Clinton Elementary](#) reminds us to be true to ourselves and to respect how others identify.

Students at [Burnaby Mountain](#) recognized **Latin American Heritage Month**. They celebrated influential Latinx and their important contributions to our world.

**World Mental Health Day** is intended to raise global awareness of mental health issues, and to mobilize support efforts. At [Burnaby North Secondary](#), the Student Government, Leadership and Mentorship students, and the Mental Health Awareness Club encouraged all students and staff to acknowledge the day. Wearing purple was one of the ways they showed they care, and that no one is alone.

While outdoor learning is encouraged throughout the year and on the rise, many schools celebrated **Take Me Outside Week**, such as [Montecito Elementary](#). Making the most of learning outside – like these students are doing at [Kitchener Elementary](#) – is a concept long embraced in the District. Students at [Brentwood Park Elementary](#) are seen here working in their outdoor kitchen and at their new water table. During Take Me Outside Week at [Marlborough Elementary](#), students learned gardening skills while planting bulbs, garlic and harvesting vegetables.

Students and staff across the District participated in the annual **Shake Out BC** drill. [Brentwood Park](#) and [Confederation Park](#) elementary students are seen here learning about earthquake preparedness and practicing how to “Drop – Cover – and Hold on.”

### **COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS ENHANCE LEARNING AND WELL-BEING**

Partnerships, such as the **Rotary Club’s Coats for Kids**, support students and families. Seen here at [Inman Elementary](#), the organization has been helping kids throughout Burnaby stay warm for nearly two decades.

The local **Burnaby Firefighters Charitable Society** supports food security and healthy snacks in schools. Additionally, they teach fire safety as with this classroom talk at [Maywood Community School](#). Volunteers, such as **Rory Tennant**, are also making a difference. He helps students, including by reading with them and finding connection in their interests. After being nominated by teachers at [Stride Avenue Community School](#) and [Kitchener Elementary](#) for his work at those schools and [Aubrey Elementary](#), last night the City of Burnaby presented Rory with a Local Hero Award.

### **HONOURING INDIGENOUS CULTURE WITH LASTING ART**

Under the guidance of Indigenous artist and Squamish Nation **Elder Xwalacktun**, work continues on a **Welcome Post** for the new [Burnaby North Secondary](#). Both staff and students have had the opportunity to experience working with him and hearing his teachings, since last March. Together they’re cutting and carving the old growth piece of red cedar that, when complete, will greet all who come to the new high school. Ideas for the design came from a collaboration with the school and the artist, with each aspect chosen for its meaning. As the final design takes shape, it will reveal elements of the sky, earth, and sea, as well as a medicine wheel representing the different nations and cultures at the school.