



# Gator News

## #5

### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

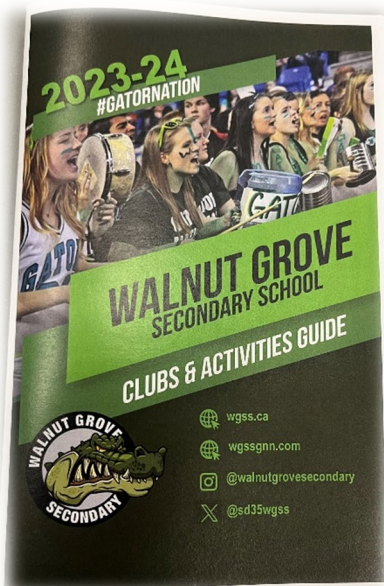
These past few weeks have been very busy here at WGSS! As you know, we hosted our parent/teacher interviews on October 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. It was great to see so many families connecting with our staff and engaging in conversations about student learning and how to support learning moving forward throughout the semester. On October 24<sup>th</sup>, we hosted our annual Clubs Day, which was a huge success. The cafeteria was filled with club leaders sharing their passions with students; it was a great opportunity to find out the multitude of ways in which they can connect with the school community and their peers outside the classroom. On Monday, we hosted our Fall Music Concert! It was a wonderful showcase of the skills that our students have been building throughout the semester! Looking ahead, there is the District Choir festival as well as the WGSS Christmas concert. On Tuesday we had our Halloween Spirit Day. It was fantastic to see all the students and staff who were dressed in their costumes!







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Next Thursday we will be hosting our Remembrance Day assemblies. Our student and staff team have done a wonderful job of putting together an assembly that will honour our veterans and the sacrifices that they have made. The following website has a number of resources that might be helpful in terms of honouring our [Veterans](#).

Wednesday of next week is National Indigenous Veterans Day. This is a day of remembrance and commemoration of the contributions of Indigenous veterans in WWI, WWII, as well as the Korean War. National Indigenous Veterans Day began in Winnipeg in 1994 when Indigenous veterans were not previously recognized in Remembrance Day activities and is now celebrated in many communities across Canada. Over 12,000 Indigenous people are estimated to have volunteered in all three wars, including 7,000 First Nations members, and approximately 300 died during these conflicts. To learn more about our Indigenous Veterans, please see below:

- [Canadian Indigenous Veterans](#)
- [Forgotten Warriors](#) documentary
- [Right to Play Website](#)

I wish you all a wonderful weekend.

Sincerely,

*J. Lyndon*

Proud Principal



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### **IMPORTANT DATES**

November 6-17	Grad 2024 portraits/yearbook photos (see info in this newsletter)
November 8	National Indigenous Veterans Day
November 10	Report Card/Design & Assessment Day (students do not attend)
November 13	School closed in recognition of Remembrance Day
November 14	District Choral Festival (REMSS)
November 16	Student screening of the documentary "Screenagers"
November 22	HUB 1 Day
November 22	Parent screening of the documentary "Screenagers"
November 29	HUB 2 Day
December 7	WGSS Christmas Concert @ 7pm
December 21	Last day of classes before Winter Break

### **POPPY CAMPAIGN**

It is a long-standing tradition for schools to support our veterans and the efforts of the [Royal Canadian Legion](#). Once again, our school will be receiving a poppy for every student and distributing them to classes. We will continue to collect funds this year in support of the Legion's Poppy Campaign but kindly ask students and their families to donate online via School Cash Online: <https://sd35.schoolcashionline.com/>. Please do not send cash or cheques with your child to school. If you need assistance accessing School Cash Online, please contact the school office.

We appreciate your generosity. As always, our school is committed to educating our community about the meaning of the poppy and Remembrance Day.





## **SCREENAGERS**

On Thursday, November 16, our students will view the documentary film *Screenagers: Under the Influence* (see synopsis below) during the first block of the day. This documentary focuses on vaping. On November 22, at 6:00PM, there is an opportunity for parents, families and adults working with youth in the community to view the film in the Walnut Grove gym. We will have a panel of school and community professionals available for a question-and-answer period after the viewing. You might recall that last year we hosted a similar event centred on the movie *Screenagers: Next Chapter*. *Screenagers: Under the Influence* is the most recent release in the Screenagers series, focused on vaping. We hope you can join us. Please register for this free event at <https://forms.office.com/r/nkxUus88j4>

Below is a synopsis of *Screenagers: Under the Influence*.

*Screenagers Under the Influence, the third feature documentary in the Screenagers trilogy, delves into how the tech revolution has reshaped adolescence and its effects on substance use. The film debunks myths and depicts strategies parents and schools can use to encourage healthy decision-making, support teen mental health, set limits, and create healthy home environments. The film also includes many ways young people are using their wisdom and strength to help each other and themselves through this complicated terrain around substance use.*

*While most documentaries about substance use focus on severe addiction, Screenagers: Under the Influence fills a pressing need for a film that explores more common scenarios. The film is grounded in teens' current reality of being flooded by images on social media, movies, and TV shows about vaping, drugs, and alcohol.*

*Like the first two Screenager films, Screenagers Under the Influence interweaves cutting-edge science with personal stories to create an informative and entertaining film experience for young people and adults alike. Screenagers Under the Influence focuses on practical solutions for keeping our teens safe in a changing world.*

For more information, please see the [Screenagers website](#).



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### ATHLETICS

#### **VOLLEYBALL**

Our Grade 8 Girls, Grade 8 Boys, Grade 9 Girls, and Grade 10 Girls have all secured their spot in the EVAA Championships coming up next week. These teams are currently battling it out to see who will claim the number ONE spot in Langley. Updates to follow!

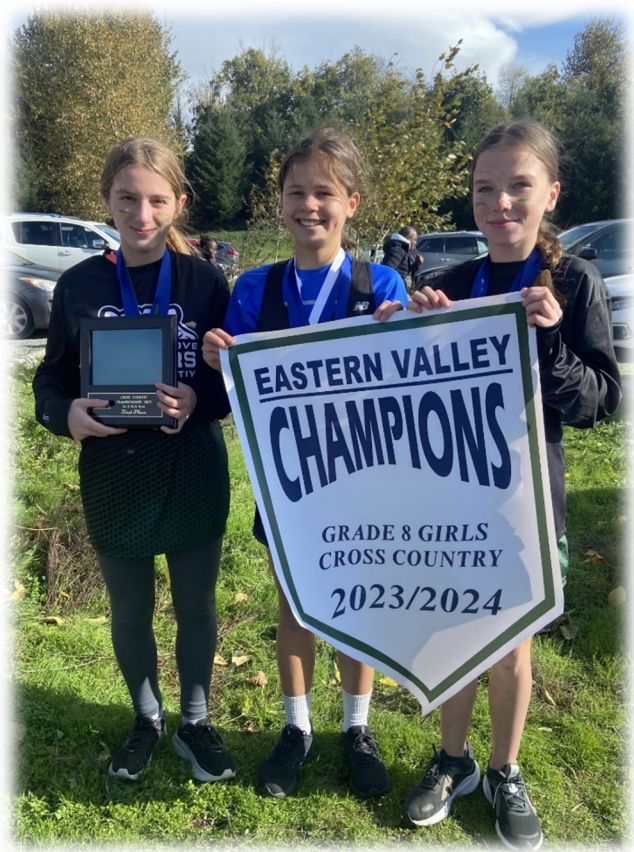
**Walnut Grove is excited to be hosting Senior Girls Volleyball Eastern Valley Championships! We would like to invite you all to join us in watching these skilled athletes! Our Walnut Grove team will be competing in the Semi-Finals on Wednesday November 15 at 7:30PM. Wear green!! Hope to see you there! On Thursday the girls will either be playing for bronze at 6:00PM, or GOLD at 7:30PM. Bring your gator spirit! Let's cheer these ladies on as they work towards becoming the next EVAA Champions and earning their spot at Provincials!**

#### **SWIM**

The swim team competed last weekend at the EVAA Championships! The team swam like true gators chomping on the competition and making a name for our school in the relay events! Athletes must come top three in order to qualify for Provincials. The swim team have had many students qualify individually and on relay teams for Provincials in Nanaimo, BC, later this month.

#### **CROSS COUNTRY**

This past week, Cross Country competed in the EVAA Championships. All the runners showed up and ran incredible races, demonstrating their mental and physical toughness and leaving it all on the race course! Our Grade 8 Girls swept the field taking first, second, and third in the team division for a total of 6 points -- securing them the EVAA Championship title by a landslide.







The WG Senior boys followed their lead claiming the victory and EVAA banner by one point! Demonstrating to our younger athletes that everyone point really does matter!!



Senior Girls placed 2nd, Junior Girls placed 4th, Junior Boys placed 3rd, and Grade 8 boys placed 5th. Congratulations to these runners - all incredible placements within the entire Eastern Valley.

Provincials for XC are occurring at Crescent Park on November 4th. Both WG's Senior Teams qualified, along with 3 individual Junior Athletes.

### **SOCCER**

Senior Boys Soccer are competing for the Fraser Valley Championship on Tuesday, November 7 vs. Abbotsford Senior Secondary. Let's go GATORS!





## **GRAD 2024 PORTRAITS/YEARBOOK PHOTOS**

PORTRAITS WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE NORTH LANGLEY COMMUNITY CHURCH FROM NOVEMBER 6-17. PLEASE ENTER THROUGH THE OFFICE DOOR WITH THE WELCOME SIGN ON IT (OFF 96<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE BY THE OUTDOOR PLAYGROUND).

***All grads must be photographed for the yearbook and class composite.***

Please use [www.signupgenius.com/org/2024\\_WGSS\\_Grad\\_Photo\\_Sign-Up](http://www.signupgenius.com/org/2024_WGSS_Grad_Photo_Sign-Up) to book your appointment. We ask that you read **all the information** carefully. You will find answers to the majority of, if not all, your questions. Please contact Vibrant Photos directly at 604-380-3388 if you still require assistance.

Choose either the full portrait sitting (\$50) **or** yearbook only sitting (no charge). Please sign up for ONE photo slot only.

Check the box next to the time slot and type of photo you would like. At the bottom of the screen, click on the "submit and sign-up" button. You will then complete your registration and that's it. You're done!

If you choose the full portrait option, the sitting fee is \$50 and must be paid at the time you book your appointment. This option will allow you to have both the formal grad portraits as well as the casual photo sitting. Your 16 proofs will be available for viewing online about one week after all photos are completed.

The yearbook only option is **free**, but you still must sign up in the **yearbook only** slots to have your formal portrait taken. This will ensure your photo will be included in the yearbook and all other special grad related events.



## WGSS GATOR GEAR

WGSS Gator Gear orders will open next week! Watch your emails for the link to order.

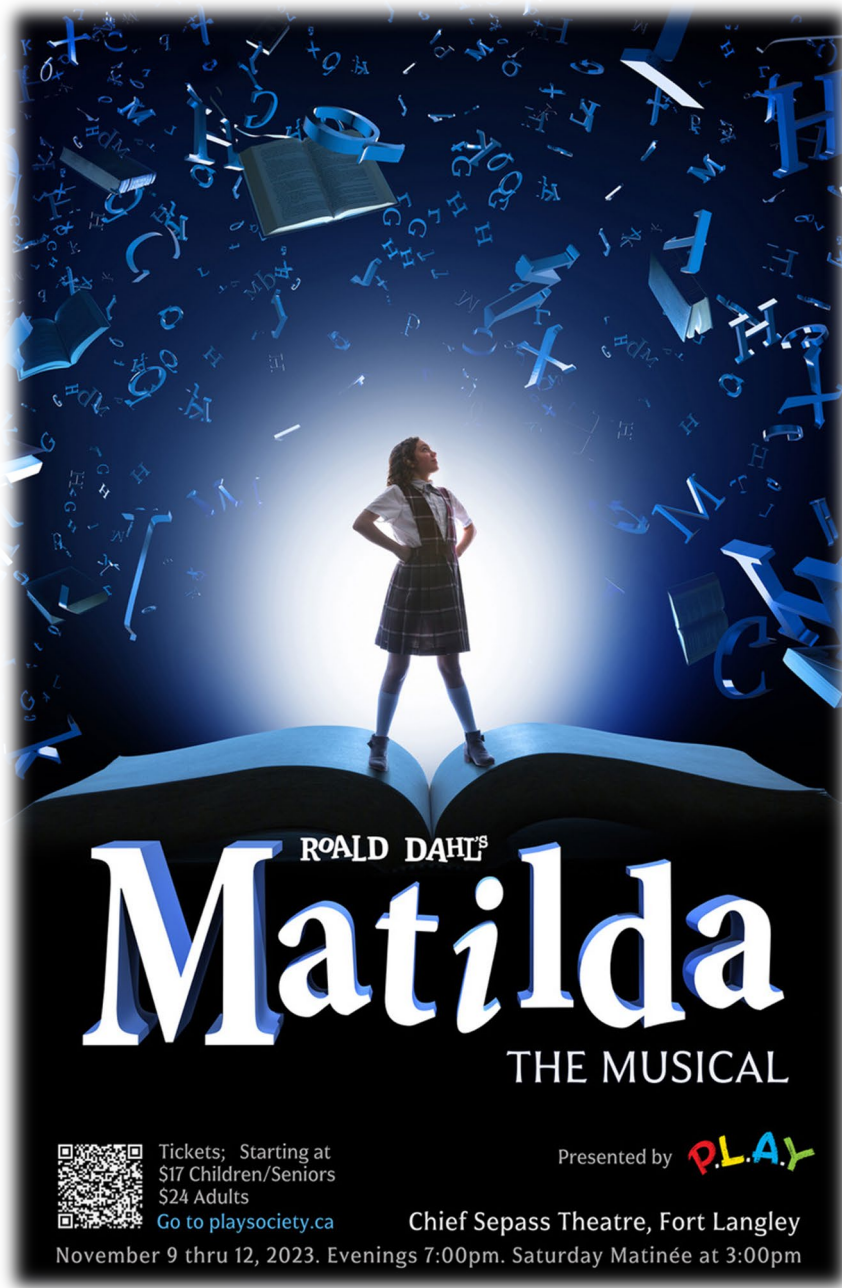






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## P.L.A.Y. SOCIETY



P.L.A.Y. Society is a Langley community based non-profit society that provides affordable theatre opportunities for children and youth.

Their Performance Program casts local youth by audition and they put-on high-quality productions at a reasonable price.

This season *Matilda* takes the stage in Fort Langley at the Chief Sepass Theatre on November 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th. This group's past productions of *Shrek*, *Newsies*, and *Beauty and the Beast* have all been amazing. Come enjoy and support local live theatre!

Please see the attached poster for ticket information.



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## SCHOOL DISTRICT 35 *MUSIC FESTIVALS*

**24** TUESDAY 7 PM  
OCTOBER **Concert Band**  
WALNUT GROVE SECONDARY

**14** TUESDAY 7 PM  
NOVEMBER **Choral**  
RE MOUNTAIN SECONDARY

**25** THURSDAY 7 PM  
JANUARY **Jazz Band**  
LANGLEY FINE ARTS SCHOOL

**10** MONDAY 7 PM  
JUNE **Vocal Jazz**  
WALNUT GROVE SECONDARY







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**Season of Theatre 2024**



**BROOKSWOOD  
SECONDARY**  
February 14-17  
& 21-24 2024



**LANGLEY FINE ARTS  
DRAMA ENSEMBLE**  
March 5-9th, 2024  
[www.showtix4u.com](http://www.showtix4u.com)



**LANGLEY  
SECONDARY**  
Feb 29, March 1, 2  
March 7 - 9 @7pm  
Matinees March 2 & 9  
@2pm



**D.W. POPPY  
SECONDARY**  
April 2024  
<https://dwps.sd35.bc.ca>



**LANGLEY  
FUNDAMENTAL  
MIDDLE/SECONDARY**  
April 25 - May 4 2024  
[www.showtix4u.com](http://www.showtix4u.com)



**H.D. STAFFORD  
MIDDLE**  
May 3 - 6, 2024  
<https://hdsms.sd35.bc.ca>



**WALNUT GROVE  
SECONDARY**  
May 2-4 & 9-11 2024  
[www.showtix4u.com](http://www.showtix4u.com)

**the Addams  
Family  
SCHOOL EDITION**

**GET YOUR TICKETS!**  
We hope you will be able to take in one  
or all of the shows! Please check out  
individual schools' websites for more  
information. Break a leg!

CREATED BY CH  
04/06/2023



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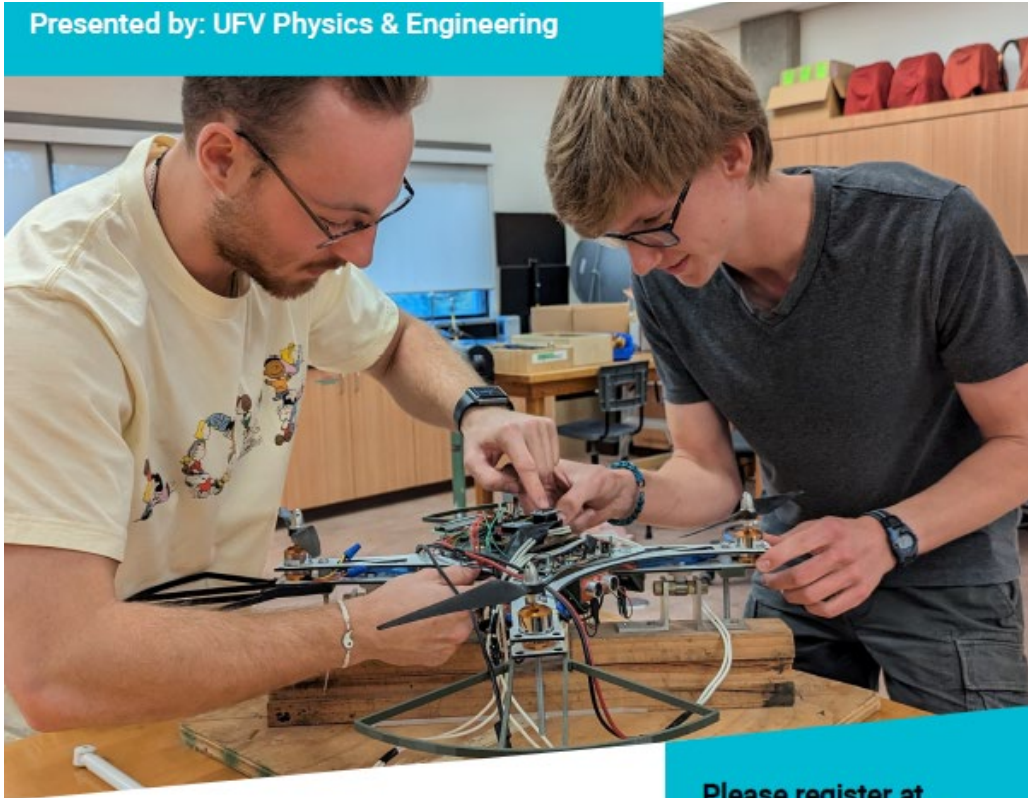
## Gordon Greenwood Elementary Winter Market





# Gator News #5

Presented by: UFV Physics & Engineering



## Engineering Programs Info Session

**Wednesday, November 22, 2023**  
**6:30pm, B101, UFV Abbotsford Campus**

Please join us for a comprehensive session open to prospective students and families as well as school counsellors/advisors. Topics will include:

- Program options: Engineering Transfer (Certificate) and Engineering Physics in Mechatronics (Diploma)
- Timelines, deadlines, registration process, fees and costs
- Career and educational opportunities
- Q & A session
- Meet Physics & Engineering faculty members, Academic Advisors, and current program students.

**Please register at**  
**[ufv.ca/engineering](http://ufv.ca/engineering)**

Panel members include:

- Introduction by Dr. Teresa Kisilevich, Dean of the Faculty of Applied & Technical Studies
- Dr. Lin Long, Physics Department Head and Engineering Physics Chair
- Dr. Peter Mulhern, Engineering Transfer Chair and Associate Professor
- John English and Trevor Beugeling, UFV Engineering Faculty
- Karen Cooper, Academic Advisor
- Current program students

Parking at UFV is \$2.00 for 2 hours

Refreshments will be available

Questions? Call 604-864-4698 or email [karli.menagh@ufv.ca](mailto:karli.menagh@ufv.ca)  
Learn more at [ufv.ca/engineering](http://ufv.ca/engineering)



UNIVERSITY  
OF THE  
FRASER VALLEY



# Gator News #5

## **PARENTING IS HARD YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO IT ALONE.**

### **JOIN US MONTHLY FOR A CAREGIVER SOCIAL**

For Caregivers of Folks Aged 12-24  
on the first Tuesday of the month at 6 pm  
Foundry Langley 20616 Eastliegh Crescent

Tuesday, Nov. 7

Topic: What is Foundry?

Tuesday, Dec. 5

Topic: Self-care during the Holidays

· F O U N D R Y ·





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## ONLINE SAFETY PARENT/CAREGIVER GROUP

INFORMATIVE SESSION ON TRENDS AND  
WAYS TO KEEP YOUR YOUTH SAFE  
ONLINE.



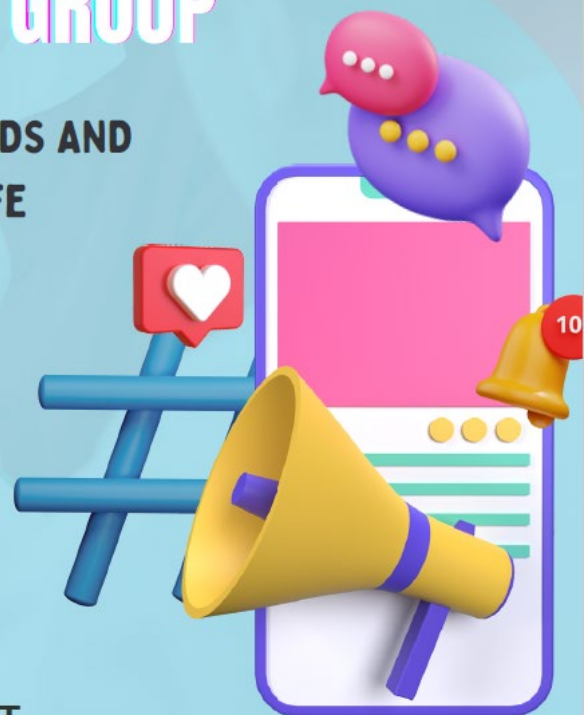
DATE  
November 7th, 2023



TIME  
6:00 - 7:00 PM



LOCATION  
20616 EASTLEIGH CRESCENT



**DROP-IN SESSION**



· F O U N D R Y ·  
WHERE WELLNESS TAKES SHAPE



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### **DRY GRAD NEWS**

#### **2024 DRY GRAD COMMITTEE:**

Chairperson	Colleen Campbell
Vice Chair	Stacey Melnychuk
Treasurer	Edwin Palsma
Secretary	Alexis Moore
IT Coordinator	Mike MacDonald
Fundraising Committee	Kimberly Wishinski
	Cheryl Boyd
	Karen Postnikoff
	Heather McNeill
	Alissa Matheson
Committee Members	Tanya Welk
	Eryn Keen

Please check out our FB page at *WGSS Dry Grad 2024 Parent Group* or email [wgssdrygrad2024@gmail.com](mailto:wgssdrygrad2024@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

#### **COMING SOON!: WGSS Dry Grad 2024 Neufeld Farms**

Support our grads and fill up your freezer for the winter holiday! Ordering opens Friday, November 10th and closes Monday, November 27th. Delivery day is Monday, December 4th at 4:30pm. Order forms will be available soon

**The next Dry Grad Meeting is Wednesday, December 6 at 7 PM WGSS Library.**