

Our Lady of Good Counsel School

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> This Week at OLGC **November 11th, 2025**

Dear Parents,

Thank you for attending your families Three-Way Conference last Friday where academic and spiritual conversations took place and goals were set for the year.

Today, on Remembrance Day we remember our dead, in particular, Mr. Wright is marking 5 years since his dad's passing today on what would have been his dad's 85th birthday. We honour the memory of those who gave their lives for our country as we recognized at our Remembrance Mass last Thursday. Let us also take this chance to renew our commitment to the values of peace, justice, and compassion. Let us remember as Catholic Christians we are called to bring about a more just and peaceful world. Let us be agents of peace in our homes, schools, parishes, and neighbourhoods.

Over the weekend the school has been made aware of a few poor usages of chats on-line by our students at their homes and ask that all parents be aware what their child is doing, seeing and saying in these chats. Our parent police officer with the VPD and Surrey Police Force, Constable Diguangco will be speaking to all our intermediate classes shortly on safe and appropriate use of the internet, social media and platforms.

Extra-curricular Sports

Congratulations to our Grade 5 and 6 Girls that qualified for the CISVA Volleyball Championships that are being held tomorrow at Harry Jerome. The CISVA Athletic Commission would like to remind all of the following:

- Please demonstrate proper spectator etiquette while at this event and maintain a respectful and safe environment for all participants, artificial noisemakers are not permitted at the CISVA volleyball finals. This includes items such as air horns, megaphones, vuvuzelas, whistles, amplified sound devices and laser pointers. If an issue arises, the match will be paused at the nearest natural stoppage and the referee and or coach will be responsible for addressing the concern. Attendees are expected to cooperate fully with event staff and officials.
- Bleacher seating for spectators is available on the second level and chairs are available outside of the nets surrounding the courts. NO sitting/standing on the track at any time. No parents are permitted inside the netted area.

Results will be shared once games have been completed. Thank you to all who participated in our fall sports programs. Stay Proud, Stay Positive, Go Knights!

A reminder that pre-season Basketball for grade 5 - 7 starts up this week. Please see the schedule that was sent home. For Wednesday, November 12:

- Skills and drills 7:55am for Boys only
- 2Ball at Lunch for grade 5 only
- Open Gym for Boys only 3:00 4:00pm

OLGC Christmas Concert December 17th

We have begun preparations for this year's Christmas Concert entitled "Carol and the Belles." Our OLGC School Christmas Concert is Wednesday, December 17th at 1:00 p.m. and 6:15 p.m. Special thanks to our OLGC staff, especially Mrs. Robson, Mrs. Spagnuolo, Miss Mitea and Mrs. Garcia for making this OLGC tradition a reality again this year. A suggested minimum admission of \$10.00 per person is requested to assist with paying for the items needed for putting on the play (costs have gone up since our last communication). Thank you for your support.

Each grade has been assigned a song and a costume for the concert and further communication on costumes will follow shortly.

Christmas Concert Front Row- \$5.00

We have begun selling spots on our raffle board for our OLGC Christmas Concert Front Row. Bring in your \$5.00 starting this Friday at our 3 Way Conferences to win the best seats in the house. We will draw this coveted prize during the Children's Christmas Party Friday, December 5th

Principal for the Day – Spirit Week 2026- \$5.00

We have begun selling \$5 squares for the chance to be the Principal of OLGC for the day during Spirit Week in the last week of January. The winner will help lead the school and join Mr. Wright and a friend of their choice for lunch on this day.

Grade Three Big House-November 13th

Tomorrow our Grade Three students will be travelling to the Big House in Squamish to learn first-hand the ways of our First Nations Peoples in British Columbia. Please pray for their safe transport and for a deep understanding gained from this very important curriculum based educational experience.

OLGC Hot Lunch- November 14th – White Spot

Our next Hot Lunch will be November 14th - White Spot for those who have ordered.

Naa Sheka - Racial Equity Talks - November 17th and 24th.

Naa Sheka will guide our Grad 5 to 7 classes through a presentation on Racial Equity on November 17th and on November 24th.

Naa Sheka is a compelling public speaker who addresses the intersections of racial equity, culture, fashion and entrepreneurship. Her workshops and speeches inspire audiences to embrace diversity, unity, and equity within their communities. Through her engaging storytelling, Naa Sheka empowers others to contribute to a more inclusive and equitable society. - Enlighten students to concepts such as anti- racism, racial equity and social justice - Define concepts and have discussions - Personal heritage and cultural identity to drive social change and empower marginalized voices - Empower and inspire students with awareness and knowledge - Exploring the intersections between culture, identity and fashion, highlighting how these elements can foster inclusivity and social change

Photo Retakes-November 18th

For those wanting photo retake or for those that missed our first sitting please be advised that photo retakes will be on Tuesday, November 18th.

Professional Development Day -November 21st - No School

Casual Day for Covenant House - November 27th

OLGC School will be participating in the Casual Day for Covenant House Thursday, November 27th. On this day students <u>will not</u> be required to wear their school uniform if they pay \$3.00-otherwise they should come to school in their uniform. This is a very worthwhile Youth Outreach program for our Vancouver Youth. Please plan to participate.

First Reconciliation-November 28th

On Friday, November 28th our Grade Two class will be making their First Reconciliation. Special thanks to Miss Ramirez and her team for preparing our students. Please pray as they continue to prepare.

Advent Prayer Services 2025

Advent starts November 30th. Our students will participate in weekly Advent Prayer services in our OLGC School Auditorium in preparation for Christmas. The schedule is as follows:

- 9:00 a.m. Tuesday, December 2nd
- 9:00 a.m. Tuesday, December 9th
- 9:00 a.m. Tuesday, December 16th

Kindergarten 2026 Sibling Registration-Due December 5th

Our sibling 2026 Kindergarten registration is now open and due Friday, December 5th. If you have a child who was born in 2021 fill out the Kindergarten New Sibling PDF form: https://olgcschool.ca/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/2026-New-Sibling-Kindergarten-Initial-Info-Form.pdf and bring or send it in to our OLGC School Office with the registration fee. Parents can also find it on the OLGC School website under the Forms page: https://olgcschool.ca/parent-portal/forms/. This form is for siblings (brothers and sisters) for students who are starting Kindergarten next year.

Children's Christmas Party- December 5th

On Friday, December 5th – We will have our Children's Christmas Party in the afternoon. Students will wear Christmas sweaters in return for bringing in canned food, and/or "Fill the Crib" item and a loonie ("gold coin") for the Holy Childhood Association.

Stage Set Up- December 10th

Our Christmas Concert Stage set up will be December 10th. Please contact the school if you plan to assist. If you want hours and can help, please contact Brian at 778-863-1874.

OLGC School Christmas Concert-December 17th – Tech/Sound Assistance

We are beginning preparations for our school' Christmas Concert set for December 17th and will be in need of those who have skills to assist us in tech/sound/video as needed and required. If you are able to assist and have the skills to do so please contact the school's office.

Christmas Play Stage Take down-December 18th

Brian is looking for a few volunteers to help take down the stage Thursday, December 18th. If you want hours and can help, please contact Brian at 778-863-1874.

OLGC Choir 2025-2026

OLGC Choir for our Primary (Grades 1 to 3) is Tuesdays and our Intermediate (Grades 4 to 7) is on Wednesdays. Please arrive for 8:10 a.m.

Sun Run 2026

This year's Sun Run is on Sunday April 19, 2026 and the OLGC Sun Run Team is back! We will be competing the in the Oasis Youth Team Challenge where you can either run the 2.5K or the 10K. The OLGC Sun Run team is open to all OLGC students and family members are encouraged to join and participate. We need a minimum of 14 kids to form a team with a greater ratio of kids to adults. The last day to sign up is on March 13!

The cost to enter the Sun Run is as follows (this is for both 2.5K and 10K) Youth (18 and below): Oct 1 to Oct 31: \$25.00 (plus taxes and fees)

Nov 1 to Feb 6, 2026: \$30.00 (plus taxes and fees)

Feb 7 to Mr 13: \$40.00 (plus taxes and fees) Adult (19

and above): Oct 1 to Oct 31: \$40.00 (plus taxes and fees)

Nov 1 to Feb 6, 2026: \$45.00 (plus taxes and fees)

Feb 7 to Mar 13: \$50.00 (plus taxes and fees) Senior (65

and above): Oct 1 to 31: \$25.00 (plus taxes and fees)

Nov 1 to Feb 6: \$30.00 (plus taxes and fees)

Garzitto and Mrs. Kirk have coordinated practices to continue on Thursday mornings in the DBYC at 8:00AM starting November 13th. Run Knights, Run!

For more details, please contact Mrs. Garzitto at mrs.garzitto@olgc-school.ca

Criminal Record Check – All Parents to Do (Thank you)

Thank you to those who have submitted an application to complete a criminal record check to ensure students safety for all those volunteering in our school setting. For those who have not done so please complete as soon as possible using this Link:

https://justice.gov.bc.ca/screening/crrpa/org-access

Access Code is: H2295QSNNV

Once you gain access please complete the required on-line criminal record check. Thank you for your understanding and ensuring the safety of all our students.

OLGC School e-Newsletter & OLGC Social Platforms

Please read our OLGC School e-Newsletter each week to keep up to date on school event and timely information. As well, OLGC School has an X account at @OLGCSurrey, an Instagram account at @olgcknights and a Facebook account at OLGC School-Surrey, BC. The main form of school communication remains our OLGC School e-Newsletter weekly and by short message send outs.

Student Pick up/Drop Off

Thank you for adhering to our OLGC School drop-off and pick up protocols. See the student planner for more details. Please be aware of moving vehicles in our parking lots and please slow down when driving on the church and school property. Students may not arrive prior to 8:15 a.m. as parent supervisors are not available to supervise prior to this time unless in an extra-curricular program. Our morning bell rings at 8:45 a.m. to start our day and our Salesian priests' morning message. Please have your child here at school for this time. Pick up is at 2:50 p.m. and prompt pick up is required unless your child is involved in our extra-curricular sports.

Student Supervision

Students must not be left on the school campus before 8:15 a.m. or after 3:15 p.m. as there is no supervision. Students left before and beyond these times may be sent to the OLGC Before and After School program and be charged the daily drop in fee. Please consult your school policy manual located in the front pages of the student planners. Please ensure that you have made arrangements prior to coming to school for your child to be promptly picked up! If there is an emergency, please call the office.

Parent Supervision Responsibilities

Please carefully review the requirements of Parent A and B in front of your child's OLGC Student Planner. Notice that you are requested, for the safety of our students, to arrive in advance of 8:15 am. As well please be reminded to check the grounds for any unsafe materials and inform staff so clean up can happen immediately.

Visitors & Visitors Tags

For the safety of our students and staff, all visitors and parents are required to report to the secretary's office where a "Visitor" tag will be issued. Parents are NOT to go to their child's classroom during instructional times. Supplies and lunches should not need to be left at the office. Please encourage your children to bring all needed items to school daily.

Parent Participation

Thank you for helping to keep OLGC School great. Just a reminder that parents are responsible for keeping an account of the number of hours worked. We have moved to full use of our Google forms work hours tracking, submission and approval of hours. It is important to note that parents complete their own work hours. Nobody else can do your work hours unless approval is given by

the PEC. Also, 30 is the minimum. Many parents do much more, and we thank you all so much for your commitment to our children and OLGC School. Thank you to those already helping out in July, August and September.

2025-26 Google Form for Work Hours

Thank you for continuing to support our school with your time and talents. Please submit your work hours via the OLGC Work Google forms on-line within 7 days of completing the work or task assigned to be valid using our school's Google Forms reporting tool. If hours are not submitted during the 7 day time period they will be forfeited. Also please note that Work hours submission through Google Forms will now be submitted one activity and one approver at a time.

Here is the link:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeJ81uzUoKxoAVwA1BmFH-mK6NsvMACgDN1u5 r2xOD3U19kw/viewform

Please note that parents like you manage and report out work hours as part of their volunteer work hours and your patience is appreciated.

Absentees

It is very important that you call the <u>school office</u> by 8:30 a.m. if your child will be absent or late. Please refrain from contacting the classroom teacher of absenteeism. This will save us calling you to check if your child is home. Upon returning to school, your child <u>must bring a note</u> to the classroom teacher explaining the reason for the absence and stating the day(s) absent. This information is required for our annual attendance audit that determines our government funding for the year.

OLGC Preschool

We currently have 32 Preschoolers registered. Preschool is for 3 and 4 year olds. If you have questions about the Preschool and would like to register please contact Mrs. Martins at 604-581-3225. We still have some spaces available but plan to fill the cohorts by this week.

OLGC Out of School Care

We currently have 42 students registered for this program. We will be using the OLGC School Auditorium for students in Grade 1 to 7 and our OLGC Preschool building for students in Kindergarten at this point. We will place students on a waitlist if numbers hit capacity. If you need the care call Mrs. Martins at 604-581-3225.

Work Party:

Our next work party is November 15th. Call the school's office if you plan to attend. For our new families, the work party consists of doing maintenance tasks around the school and offers parents an opportunity to work on your 30 hours work commitment.

Quick Pics 2025

Our Grade 4-7 Quick Picks winner this week is Rhys (6). Quick Picks are skills from IXL, tailored to your child's current challenge level in one area of Math or L. Arts.

OLGC Knights in Action

For those students doing acts of kindness we at the school like to recognize the following students this week: This week's Knights in Action are: Grade 7's doing draw boards and recycling at our 3 Way Conferences. Thank you!

Community Events:

Funscrip 2025

The holiday season is coming up, and our **FundScrip Gift Card Fundraiser** is back! Whether you're shopping for Christmas, picking up something for friends, or treating yourself (you deserve it!), gift cards are always a win!

To order by cash or cheque, paper order forms will be sent home with the students today. Please submit cash and cheque orders by Friday, November 21, 2025.

You can now **order online** and **pay by credit card**—perfect for those who collect points ©**To order online**:

- 1. Visit FundScrip
- 2. Click the green "Support a Group" button (top right corner)
- 3. Enter Group Invitation Code: SZ569P
- 4. Fill in your details to create an account
- 5. Enter your orders
- 6. Select your shipping method and your payment method
- 7. Check out.

If you have any questions, please email **Kathlene at <u>kbaliong@gmail.com</u>**. See ordering on our olgcschool.ca website under fundraising. Thank you for supporting our school—we couldn't do this without YOU!

Neufeld Farms Fundraiser 2025

Our annual Neufeld Farms Holiday ordering link is: https://app.neufeldfarms.ca/fundraising/2025-our-lady-of-good-counsel-school-d77fce0fdc/ref/em

Menu options include Appetizers, Gourmet Entrees, and Desserts. There are Gluten Free choices as well! Your order will not only save you a trip to the grocery store ahead of the holidays but also help OLGC's fundraising initiatives!

The ordering link will be open until November 24th with orders available for pick up on Friday, December 4th at approximately 2:30 pm. Thank you for your support!

Important dates:

- November 12th -CISVA Girls Volleyball Championships
- November 15th -Work Party #3
- November 17th -Naa Sheka Racial Equity Talks (Day 1)
- November 18th -Photo Retakes
- November 21st -CISVA Networking Day Pro-D **No School**
- November 24th Naa Sheka Racial Equity Talks (Day 2)
- November 27th -Casual Day for Covenant House
- November 28th -Term One CSL Learning Update
- December 2nd -Advent Prayer Service 1
- December 5th -Children's Christmas Party -PM
- December 5th -Kindergarten Sibling Registration due
- December 9th -Advent Prayer Service 2
- December 12th -Preschool Christmas Party
- December 16th -Advent Prayer Service 3
- December 17th -OLGC Christmas Concert
- December 18th Santa Breakfast
- December 19th 12:00 p.m. Dismissal
- January 5th -School re-opens