



SOUTHRIDGE.
We are all one.

ONE IDEA CAN INFLUENCE THE WORLD.
ONE VOICE CAN CONNECT A COMMUNITY.
ONE SPIRIT CAN INSPIRE OTHERS TO SOAR.
ONE COMMUNITY CAN CONTRIBUTE EXTRAORDINARILY.

May 2018

Dear Parents,

I would like to introduce to you the Duke of Edinburgh's Award program that we offer at Southridge. This program was established by H.R.H. Prince Phillip, the Duke of Edinburgh, as he wanted to see young people get more involved in service, outdoor activities and in athletics. The program has been around for 50 years and is highly recognized in several countries around the world.

There are 3 levels to the program: Bronze, Silver and Gold. Within each level are 4 main categories that a student must complete. These categories are: Service, Physical Recreation, Skills and an Adventurous Journey. For their Gold level, there is an extra category called the Residential Project, which is why the Gold level is the most difficult to complete.

Students in Grade 9 will start with their Bronze level, and hopefully in the following year they will go for their Silver and then on to Gold. Each level is worth 2 school credits and it goes on to the students' high school transcript. Given that universities are now looking at more than just a student's mark, this program looks very good on any university application or even on one's resume when trying to convey a well-rounded student.

With the Grade 9's going to Strathcona Park soon, this trip actually counts for their Adventurous Journey in the Bronze level. After going to Strathcona and filling out the required information in their booklets, the Grade 9's will have already completed $\frac{1}{4}$ of their Bronze level. At Southridge, we provide students with several opportunities in service, outdoor education and other aspects that make it quite easy for students to fulfill the requirements of the program.

In order for your child to be enrolled in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award program, please fill in the attached registration form and return it to me as soon as possible.

The cost for the Bronze level is \$50.00 and you can either forward a cheque (payable to the Duke of Edinburgh's Award) **or indicate that you would like your child's student account charged.** Once the registration and payment is received, your child will be mailed the initial Bronze booklet and they can get started.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me anytime at 604-542-2325 or by email, jknihniski@southridge.bc.ca. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mr. James Knihniski
Social Studies Curriculum Leader
Board of Stewards Faculty Advisor
Duke of Edinburgh's Award Coordinator