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Brit News
February 5, 2021

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1. Black History Month at Britannia

The following events are running at Britannia during Black History Month:

Black History month film festival

We are hosting a Black History Month Film Festival! The films will be screened during flex times each week. [Hidden Figures](#) was shown this week and next week classes will be showing "[Selma](#)". Debrief/Discussion questions have been developed by our BIPOC student team for teachers hosting discussions with their classes.

Assembly

Feb 19th is our Black History Month assembly. It will take place during AM and PM classes. We are grateful to have [Clay Crellin](#) join us as a guest speaker. There will be a Q and A session after his presentation.

Black History Month Change-makers and Icons initiative:

The Brit BIPOC group's "Black History Month: Changemakers and Icons" poster project is an opportunity for the whole school to be involved in reflecting on the contributions of the Black community.

All classes and departments have been invited to research an important Black changemaker from history or from present day that is connected to the subject area of the class or department. The information will be presented on big, beautiful posters that we will put up throughout the school. By the end of Feb., we will be able to walk around our hallways learning about the different ways Black folks have (and always have) influenced and changed our world.

2. Quarter 2 Report Cards

Quarter 2 Report Cards will be published to the MyEd portal on February 12th. February 10th was originally the publication date, but this has been pushed back a bit as a result of changes to Quarter 3. Thank you for your patience.

For information on how to log into the MyEd portal, please follow this link:

<https://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/britannia-secondary/About-Us/News/Pages/Student-Family-Portal-on-MyEd-BC.aspx>

3. Provincial Student Learning Survey

Ministry of Education Electronic Anonymous Student Learning Survey Project

During the months of January to April, the Vancouver School District is participating in the 2021 Ministry of Education Electronic Anonymous Student Learning Survey Project in cooperation with all other school districts throughout the Province. Parents/Guardians/Caregivers can complete the online Anonymous Student Learning Surveys **any time before 11:59 pm April 30th, 2021**, providing immediate results to the school and the district.

For 2021: Students in Grades 4, 7, 10 and 12 complete the survey; Parents/Guardians/Caregivers of Grade 4, 7, 10 and 12 Students complete the survey; and all Staff associated with a School complete the survey.

To complete the survey:

1. Go to any computer that has an up-to-date internet browser access at home, work, or school.
2. Go to www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat_survey/access.htm
3. Under the section *Direct Access – no logon number required* select:
 - District: SD 39 Vancouver
 - School: Britannia Secondary
 - Language: the language of your choice
4. Complete the survey by clicking on the appropriate circle to answer each question. Move to the next set of questions by clicking on the right arrow in the bottom right corner of the screen. Click on the left arrow to navigate backwards.
5. When you are finished the survey, you will get a message “Thank you for sharing your views”.
6. Once complete, your school will have the results immediately.

Thank you for participating in this innovative project. If you need more information, please contact the school.

4. Britannia Library News

The Britannia Library is ready for Black History Month and Lunar New Year!

The library has an awesome display of new books that are centred around Black authors, Black lives, and Black stories. We have what you want: biographies, fantasy, adventure, non-fiction, graphic novels. Come check it out.

We are also celebrating Lunar New Year with books that celebrating Asian cuisine and stories centered on the Chinese and Vietnamese experience in North America.

The library is open and ready to serve you! Also, bring back your overdue!



5. VSB SLO Program review

[The VSB has engaged a third party for a review of School Liaison Officer program](#)
[School Liaison Officer \(SLO\) Review: Student and Stakeholder Engagement Program](#)

Why is the VSB doing engagement about the SLO program?

To hear stories, experiences, and insights to inform School Trustees of the SLO program's impact. Trustees would like to know about understandings of the SLO program, experiences with it, and how the program could be changed.

Who can fill out the survey?

Any student in the Vancouver School District can complete the survey. The survey is also open to parents/guardians and other community members who wish to share their feedback about the SLO program.

Note: students under 12 years of age require parent/guardian permission to do the survey.

How will feedback be used?

All feedback from the online survey will be included in a What We Heard Report, which will be presented to School Trustees in March. All feedback will be anonymous.

Parents may find the survey [here](#).

6. Britannia Homework Club – free online tutoring

Britannia Homework is offering free online tutoring Mondays to Thursdays from 3:30pm. We offer academic support for Grades 8-12 in English, Socials Studies, Math, Sciences, Modern Languages, Business, CLE, PE and Electives. Our tutors are students at UBC and may hold Bachelors or Masters Degrees. If a student, a teacher or a parent would like to access tutoring, please fill in the intake form below. Once approved, students do not have to come to room 221 and 222 this Quarter but instead will be invited to join a teams site and Zoom at 3:30pm.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=WC6KCzB7CEq6t9dVWeDjpWfgeTqwVhJi5oytb2ZAXpUMjY1VDE2TEFaMkJEQUmxNVI5TkxHNExYNy4u>

7. Message from the Wood and Robotics shops at Britannia:

Thank you to all the grade 8 families that participated in Woodshop/Robotics in quarter 2. We safely completed many projects and I hope you have a great time in your new classes. I am looking forward to increasing our skills and abilities together over the upcoming years.

In grade 9-12 Wood we have been busy in the shop prepping for your arrival. We have a received a raw wood order with 4 species of wood for you to work with. Yesterday the VSB machinists finished doing safety checks, adjusting the machines to optimal conditions, and changing the cutting blades on many of our machines. So, the good news is we have a clean and safe shop with lots of material for us to work with. Traditionally in the shops we are used to wearing safety gear like masks, gloves, and hearing protection when needed. During finishing and sanding we do occasionally wear masks as well. We have a sink in the shop to regularly wash hands and lots of space to social distance and work independently with the current class sizes and rules with mask wearing. I have attached some photos of some wooden rings that I have been learning to make with epoxy and we have lots of design work that we can do at home, online, and face to face during this quarter.

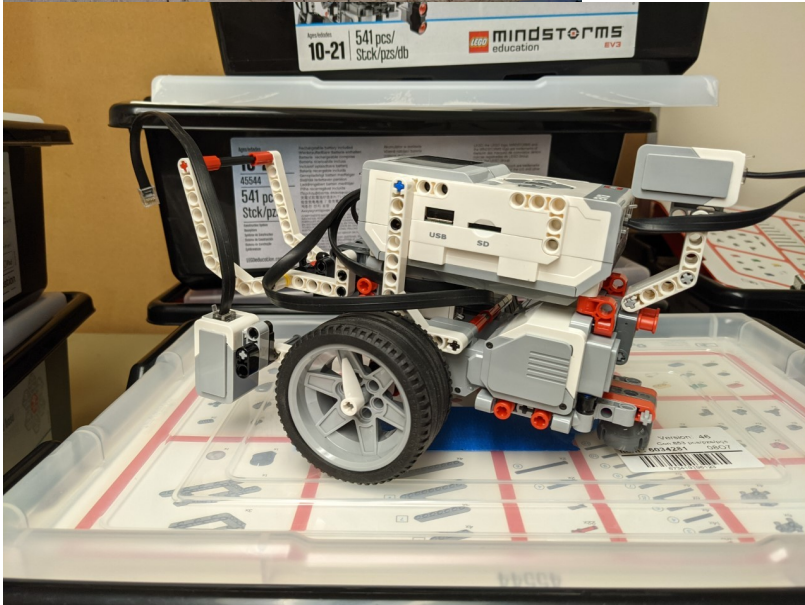
In grade 9-12 Robotics we have been preparing the computers and robots for student arrival. This quarter we will be working with Lego EV3 robotics, Vex IQ robotics, and Rasberry PII arcade units. We also have an opportunity to program and work with software remotely and then operate the machines during our face-to-face time. At Britannia we have lots of opportunities and I hope that some of these photos will inspire families to talk about the future of technology in the workplace post pandemic. What will our jobs look like in the future? What type of technology excites you? What type of technology doesn't work for you? How do you keep yourself in the loop?

I am looking forward to meeting this quarters new students, please check out

<https://britdesignandbuildspace.wordpress.com/> for resources and information about maker and design spaces.

Adam Lipsky

Alipsky@vsb.bc.ca



8. Changes for Quarter 3

As mentioned in previous communications, we are refining our quarter 3 schedules:

- Changes for Quarter 3 for Grade 8 students:

Students will continue to have class daily either 8:40-10:25 OR 1:18-3:03. In addition, 2 or 3 times per week, grade 8s will have an additional hour of class, 10:30-11:30 or 12:15-1:15. Counsellors will visit grade 8 classes on Tuesday and hand out paper copies of each grade 8 student's schedule. If a student is taking English and PE, their schedule might look something like this:

Week 1:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:40-10:25	English 8	English 8	English 8	English 8	English 8
10:30-11:30	PE 8	PE 8			

Week 2:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:40-10:25	PE 8	PE 8	PE 8	PE 8	PE 8
10:30-11:30	English 8	English 8			English 8

- Changes for Grade 9-12 students:

Students in grades 9-12 will also continue to have class daily either in the morning or the afternoon. In addition, teachers may require students to attend class on certain days from 10:30-11:30 or 12:15-1:15 or to use Teams for on-line lessons during the Remote learning weeks. Teachers will make clear their expectations when Quarter 3 begins.

If you have any questions about your child's schedule, please contact their counsellor.

Families and staff can find more information at

<https://www.vsb.bc.ca/News/Pages/Q3Q4secondary.aspx>

9. Course Planning Message from the Counsellors

Greetings parents & guardians! The Britannia counsellors will be running course planning presentations for all students on Monday February 1st during their morning and afternoon classes. Students will be provided with detailed information about course selection for their upcoming 2021/22 school year and given a course selection sheet to fill out and have signed by a parent/guardian. Course sheets are to be handed in at the counselling office by February 8th. For course descriptions please visit the Britannia course calendar online.

<https://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/britannia-secondary/Guidance-and-Support/Course-Planning/Documents/sbfile/210118/Britannia%20Course%20Calendar%202021-2022.pdf>

Students should also pay extra attention when selecting Math courses in grades 10-12 as their choices may or may not impact post-secondary options. If you have any questions about this or about course selection in general, please contact your child's grade counsellor.

Ms. Joann Liu - Gr 8 (A-H) & Gr 11 - jsliu@vsb.bc.ca

Ms. Kaitlee Simonson - Gr 8 (I-P) & Gr 12 - ksimonson@vsb.bc.ca

Ms. Michelle Roberts - Gr 8 (R-Z) & Gr 9 - mroberts@vsb.bc.ca

Mr. Mike Wiskar - Gr 10 & International Students - mwiskar@vsb.bc.ca

10. Parent Resources and Webinars

- Parent Resource: With our youth spending more time on social media – much of that occurring in the home or on their own, this can sometimes lead to interesting conversations at the dinner table. To support those conversations please have a look at the [SaferSchools Together “Parent Guide”](#).

11. COVID-19 Family and School Resources

[VCH reports on COVID-19 transmission in schools across its region – New!](#)

[Student Daily Health Assessment form](#)

[Health and Safety Reminders](#)

VSB [COVID-19 Updates](#)

[Vancouver Coastal Health COVID-19 Information](#)

Should you have any pressing concerns or needs including food and groceries, please do not hesitate to contact your child's grade counsellor or program teacher.

12. School Calendar of Events

February 12 – Quarter 2 Final Report Cards Published

February 12 – Non-instructional Day - No school

February 15 – Family Day – No school

Britannia Full Year Calendar is found here:

<http://britannia.vsb.bc.ca/homepage/Yearly%20Calendar.pdf>