



# Thunderbird ᓃᓃᓃᓃᓃᓃᓃᓃᓃ Elementary School Weekly Newsletter

November 23, 2023 / #13

(604) 713-4611 | [thunderbird@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:thunderbird@vsb.bc.ca) | [www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/thunderbird](http://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/thunderbird)

Thunderbird Families:

We are now on the final stretch toward winter break; with just three weeks remaining of the calendar year, teachers and students will be busy tying up loose ends, finishing assignments, writing Report Cards, and thinking ahead to 2024! Over the next few weeks there will be some festive events, such as our annual Christmas store, the community centre's Christmas dinner, and our pancake breakfast. We are looking forward to a bright winter season!

Over the past few weeks, we have seen an increase in students coming to school late. We kindly ask that you do your best to arrive on time to be in your classroom line by 8:55 am, as students arriving late can be disruptive to the class. If you know you will be late or away, please call our Safe Arrival Line @ 604-713-5159 ext. 81, or email [tbrdattendance@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:tbrdattendance@vsb.bc.ca) before 9:00 am.

Also, this week, we have seen a spike in illness throughout all grade levels. If your child is ill, with coughing, sneezing, chills, or aches, please keep them home to help prevent the spread of illness to others. Thank you in advance for your consideration in the matter.

The deadline for Thunderbird PAC's annual Purdy's Winter Fundraiser is next **Thursday, November 30**. Support the PAC and all it does for the students at Thunderbird while buying gifts and stocking stuffers for the winter season! Orders will be ready before the winter break. Follow these steps to order:

#### How to Order:

Go to <https://fundraising.purdys.com/886624-108337>

#### RETURNING CUSTOMERS:

- click "SIGN IN" (top right)
- Enter your **email address** and **password** then click "SIGN IN"

#### NEW CUSTOMERS:

- Enter your **email address** then click "JOIN A CAMPAIGN"
- Fill in the registration form then click "JOIN A CAMPAIGN".
- Place your order.
- Invite friends and family to join the group through the link.
- Last day to order: **Thursday, November 30th**.
- Orders will be sent home with students in mid-December. **Questions:** Purdy's 1-888-478-7397

Lastly, this weekend is a long weekend for students; tomorrow **Friday, November 24, 2023**, is a Professional Development Day. Please ensure childcare arrangements, as staff will be engaged in professional learning and the school will be closed to students.

I wish you a safe and restful long weekend.

Brad Toews  
Principal  
Thunderbird Elementary School

"You can never get a cup of tea large enough or a book long enough to suit me." - C.S. Lewis

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## Important Dates

- Friday, November 24, 2023: Professional Development Day – No school for students
- Friday, December 1, 2023: Report Cards Go Home
- Wednesday, December 6, 2023: PAC Meeting @ 6:00 pm – in the library
- Wednesday, December 13, 2023: Christmas Store
- Wednesday, December 20, 2023: TBCC Christmas Dinner
- Friday, December 22, 2023: PAC Morning Coffee @ 8:45 am
  - PJ Day
  - Pancake Breakfast
- Wednesday, November 1, 2023 – Wednesday, January 31, 2024: [Kindergarten Registration \(Students born in 2019\)](#)
- Saturday, December 23, 2023 – Sunday, January 7, 2024: Winter Break
- Monday, January 8, 2024: School Reopens after winter break

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## Safe Arrival

If your child will be absent or late, please call **604-713-5159 Ext. 81** or Email [tbrdattendance@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:tbrdattendance@vsb.bc.ca) by 9:00 AM.

**Please do not call the school office.**

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## School Cash Online – Student Payment System

Please take five minutes to register, even if your preference is to pay in cash.

Visit <https://vsb.schoolcashonline.com>. Then click “Register”. You will need your child’s usual first name, last name, and birth date to register. An email will be sent to you from school cash online. *Please open the email and click the link provided to confirm and complete registration.*

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## Lunch Program

Please return your lunch envelope at the beginning of each month.

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## PAC News

The Thunderbird Parent Advisory Council (PAC) is now up and running for the 2023-2024 school year. The PAC is a great way to become involved in your child’s educational and school life and contribute to the school. The PAC’s main roles are to promote the education and welfare of students, encourage parent involvement in the school, advise the school on matters relating to the school, and to contribute to a sense of community within the school and between the school, home, and neighbourhood. Our meetings are typically held on the first Wednesday of the month at 6:00 pm and last approximately an hour, from September to June.

The next Friday Morning PAC Coffee @ 8:45 am and After School Student Hot Chocolate fundraiser @3:00 pm is December 22, 2023.

The next PAC meeting of the school year is next **Wednesday, December 6, 6-7 pm** in the library. Dinner and babysitting provided.

RSVP by returning the paper form sent home or emailing [pac\\_tbrd@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:pac_tbrd@vsb.bc.ca).

PAC Information and meeting minutes can be found: [HERE](#)

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## VSBC: After the Bell, Podcast

Podcast episodes are released at the end of every month. Subscribe to **VSBC: After the Bell** on [Apple Podcasts](#), [Spotify](#) or wherever you listen to podcasts!

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## Kindergarten Registration

For children born in 2019 **is now open**. All kindergarten applicants are required to apply to their English catchment elementary school. This includes families who wish to apply for choice programs (Early French Immersion, Montessori, Indigenous Focus School, Early Mandarin Bilingual, Nootka Fine Arts) and/or a cross boundary placement. The priority registration period for kindergarten opens on November 1, 2023, and closes at 4 pm on January 31, 2024. In catchment students who apply within this period will be given priority for placement at Thunderbird before late applicants.

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