



# Thunderbird ǵx<sup>w</sup>ǵx<sup>w</sup>a?ǵs Elementary School Weekly Newsletter

December 8, 2023 / #15

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## Thunderbird Families:

This week, we welcomed Advah and Sara, from DreamRider Theatre teaching students to be *Zero Heroes*. Through story, music, interactive media, and live theatre, they worked to instill positive environmental values in students, helping us change our ways to make an impact on the environment. They explored our garbage predicament and engaged students in ways to change their families' waste habits!

December 10<sup>th</sup> is Human Rights Day, an international United Nations Day that day aims to spread awareness about Human Rights across the world. Human Rights Day is an annual event that commemorates the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) by the United Nations General Assembly on December 10, 1948. The UDHR is a milestone document that outlines the basic principles of human rights, including the right to life, liberty, and security of person, all of which need to be upheld by vigilance and participation in democratic processes.

Next Wednesday, we are holding our annual pop-up Thunderbird Christmas Store. With the help of a fearless crew of volunteer gift wrappers, and the guidance of Ms. Froncisz, students can purchase holiday gifts for their family and friends, all for \$1 per gift. Proceeds help fund our annual student pancake breakfast! Students can bring their money anytime to their teacher from now until the event.

Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup> is National Ugly Winter Sweater Day, which takes place on the third Friday of every December. Once an object of ridicule, Ugly Winter Sweaters have gained popularity and become a cultural phenomenon in recent years. This is a day to whip out your ugliest winter sweater - think tinsel, bells, tacky designs, and lights - and wear it for the whole day!

Lastly a reminder, on Wednesday, December 20, the Thunderbird Community Centre will be hosting a community Christmas Dinner. This dinner has been a much-cherished event in the neighbourhood for years. Please see the attachment or see the Community Centre for more information.

With that, I wish you a safe and restful weekend.

Brad Toews  
Principal  
Thunderbird Elementary School

"I find television very educating. Every time somebody turns on the set, I go into the other room and read a book." - Groucho Marx

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## Important Dates

- 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
- Saturday, December 23, 2023 – Sunday, January 7, 2024: Winter Break
- Monday, January 8, 2024: School Reopens after winter break
- Wednesday, January 10, 2024: PAC Meeting @ 6:00 pm – in the library
- Wednesday, January 17, 2024: Professional Development Day
- Friday, January 26, 2024: PAC Morning Coffee @ 8:45 am
- Wednesday, February 7, 2024: PAC Meeting @ 6:00 pm – in the library
- Wednesday, February 7, 2024: Parent Teacher Conferences – **2:00 pm Early Dismissal**
- Thursday, February 8, 2024: Parent Teacher Conferences – **2:00 pm Early Dismissal**

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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.schoolcashionline.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 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 January 26, 2024.**

The next PAC meeting of the school year is next **Wednesday, January 10, 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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Zero Heroes