



# Thunderbird ᓃᓃᓃᓃᓃᓃᓃᓃ Elementary School Weekly Newsletter

December 15, 2023 / #16

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Thunderbird Families:

This week, Thunderbird received a donation of books from the Reading Bear Society (RBS). It is a not-for-profit initiative that promotes early literacy and healthy living in children through intergenerational mentorship. It aims to strengthen empathy and compassion while improving lifelong learning and health outcomes across British Columbia. It is volunteer-run and supported by physicians, medical students, educators, academics, and community members in British Columbia. Its motto is *Educating the Heart-Mind*. Thank you to the Reading Bear Society for their generous donation.

As we approach the winter break, students and staff are getting into the winter season. Next week, the Student Council, under the guidance of Mr. Lai, will host our second annual Festive Classroom Door Decorating Contest leading up to winter break. Classes will be creatively decorating their doors to get into the winter spirit!

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 and RSVP.

Next Friday morning **December 22**, students will be treated to a pancake breakfast with music from the Van Tech Band, and a few songs sung by our own classes. It's always fun to celebrate the winter season together in such a festive way. Parents are welcome to pop in at the beginning of the breakfast to see the band, but breakfast is only for students.

Next Friday morning, **December 22**, the Thunderbird PAC will host its last Coffee Meet and Greet of 2023 for parents and guardians at 8:45-9:15 am. **This Meet and Greet will be on the North side of the building by the gym.** There will be an opportunity for parents to pop in and see some of the festive singing at the student pancake breakfast. Breakfast this morning is for students only. Coffee and treats will be provided for parents and guardians. Thank you to Starbucks for their generous donation. Don't forget your reusable coffee mug!

Also, that Friday afternoon, students will have the opportunity to get a treat after school, with our monthly hot chocolate and cookie fundraiser at 3 pm on the south side of the building in the covered area. This fundraiser is by donation, with a suggested donation of \$1 per item.

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

Brad Toews  
Principal  
Thunderbird Elementary School

“Classic’ – a book which people praise and don’t read.” - Mark Twain

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## Important Dates

- 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
- February 2024: Black History Month
- 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**
- Saturday, February 10, 2024: Lunar New Year

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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 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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