



Thunderbird ǵx^wǵx^wa?ǵs Elementary School Weekly Newsletter

January 12, 2024 / #18

(604) 713-4611 | thunderbird@vsb.bc.ca | www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/thunderbird

Thunderbird Families:

Welcome back from the winter break, and a happy New Year to all! I trust that each of you enjoyed a restful break connecting with family and friends. As we step into this new year, it provides a valuable opportunity for reflection on the successes and challenges of the past year. It's a time to set new goals or recommit to existing ones, fostering positive growth in our lives. The Thunderbird staff is dedicated to supporting students in this journey. We're excited to introduce students to new and exciting educational and learning opportunities, day by day. Our goal is to help students create and achieve realistic learning goals in a safe and caring environment. Here's to a year of growth, learning, and collective success!

Next week, Thunderbird will begin the Artist in Residence program, with artist Tami Murray Cline returning for another year. Tami Murray Cline holds a BFA from Emily Carr with a major in Photography with an additional focus on printmaking, drawing and painting during her education and in her artistic practice. She has taught art to children of all ages for 8 years emphasizing immersion into the creative process as part of her art-making ideology. Her love of making art with children comes from their unbridled enthusiasm for experiencing the world around them, the surprising ways that they express their views of the world and the unlimited creative potential an art lesson provides. She is fond of telling people that she learns just as much as she instructs in the classroom studio. This year she will work with the students to create art with the theme of community, differences that help bring people together, storytelling and empathy in mind. This program will last the year, culminating in a year-end exhibition at the end of May. We look forward to seeing the amazing works of art from our students.

For Grade 7 Thunderbird Families, Van Tech Secondary School is hosting an **online** information session for current Grade 7 students and their parents for those who are interested in attending Van Tech next year. The online session is scheduled for **Monday, January 22nd from 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm**. Please refer to the attachment on where to register for this information session and further details.

At this time of year and throughout the winter, snow is always a possibility. In the event of snow, please check our [school website](#), the [Vancouver School Board website](#) or the list of media outlets below for information on school closures **after 6:00 am**.

- CKNW (980 AM)
- CBC (690 AM, 105.7 FM)
- CJVB (1470 AM)
- CFHG (96.1 FM)
- CKWX (1130 AM)
- BCTV/Global (Cable channel 11)
- CITY TV (Cable channel 13)

Lastly, please remember that next **Wednesday, January 17th, 2024**, is a District Wide Professional Day. Please ensure childcare arrangements, as staff will be engaged in professional learning and the school will be closed.

With that, welcome back and have a safe and restful weekend.

Brad Toews
Principal
Thunderbird Elementary School

“Think before you speak. Read before you think.” - Fran Lebowitz

Important Dates

- 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
- Friday, February 16, 2024: Professional Development Day
- Monday, February 19, 2024: Family Day (No School)
- Friday, February 23, 2024: PAC Morning Coffee
- Wednesday, February 28, 2024: Pink Shirt Day
- Thursday, March 7, 2024: Family Literacy Night 4 pm – 6 pm
- Sunday, March 10, 2024: Ramadan Begins
- Tuesday, March 12, 2024: Report Card #2 Goes Home
- Friday, March 15, 2024: PAC Morning Coffee
- Saturday, March 16, 2024 – Monday, March April 1, 2024: Spring Break
- Tuesday, April 2, 2024: School Reopens after spring break

Safe Arrival

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

Please do not call the school office.

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.*

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, February 7, 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.

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

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!
