



Thunderbird ᓇᓃᓃᓃᓃᓃᓃ Elementary School Weekly Newsletter

September 21, 2023 / #4

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

Thunderbird Families:

This week sure flew by! I hope all enjoyed the sunny weekend last week and hope for more sun this weekend. As we end the month of September, we have many events coming up.

On Wednesday, September 27 at 5:00pm to 6:30pm please join us for our first in person *Meet the Teacher and PAC* evening in three years. The evening will begin promptly at 5:00pm in the lunchroom with a quick greeting and introduction of our teaching staff, followed by two 20-minute sessions in which parents and guardians are welcomed to visit their child's classroom. After the sessions, there will be a mingle with light refreshments in the lunchroom. Please enter the lunchroom through the south side undercover area.

Next week, Thunderbird will be recognizing [Orange Shirt Day](#) on Friday, September 29, 2023. This event is held annually to commemorate the residential school experience, to witness and honour the healing journey of the survivors and their families, and to commit to the ongoing process of reconciliation. Along with this, we will be diving deep into topics of reconciliation, using the [National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation's](#) weeklong series of lessons focused on learning and commemorating the truth of our history from First Nations, Métis, and Inuit knowledge keepers as an important part on the path of reconciliation. Every day at Thunderbird, we are committed to increasing the knowledge, acceptance, empathy, awareness and appreciation of Aboriginal histories, traditions, cultures, and contributions among all students.

Also coming up, Saturday, September 30th, 2023, is Canada's [National Day for Truth and Reconciliation](#). This day signifies the Government of Canada's commitment to reconciliation and ensuring that the tragic history and ongoing legacy of residential schools is never forgotten. We hope we all take some time this day to reflect upon past and present injustices to Canada's Indigenous Peoples, and commit to creating a better, more just Canadian society. As this is a statutory holiday, the school will be closed, on Monday, October 2 in lieu.

Thunderbird school nurse, Nancy Hikawa, would like to say hi! You are probably familiar with nurses who work in the hospital; this type of nurse takes care of people who are sick and help them get better. However, Nancy is a public health nurses (PHN), and has a different role. PHN's work with students, teachers, parents, and staff in health promotion and prevention activities to help keep you and your community healthy. As our school nurse, she provides many services to support students and our school. One of the services is providing immunizations. We are having an immunization clinic on November 21, 2023, for Grade 6 students. Grade 6 children were sent home with a consent form for parents and guardians to review, sign and return as soon as possible. Please feel free to contact the school if have any questions or wish to connect with Nancy!



Lastly, tomorrow, Friday, September 22nd will be the school's first Professional Day. Please ensure childcare arrangements, as staff will be engaged in professional learning and the school will be closed.

I wish you a safe and restful long weekend.

Brad Toews
Principal
Thunderbird Elementary School

"It is a great thing to start life with a small number of really good books which are your very own." - Arthur Conan Doyle

Important Dates

- Friday, September 22, 2023: Professional Development Day – No school for students
 - Wednesday, September 27, 2023: Meet the Teacher and PAC Night
 - Friday, September 29, 2023: [Orange Shirt Day](#)
 - Monday, October 2, 2023: [National Day for Truth and Reconciliation](#) – No school
 - Wednesday, October 4, 2023: PAC Meeting @ 6:00 pm – in the library
 - Friday, October 6, 2023: Thunderbird [Terry Fox Run](#) - [Donate Here](#)
 - Monday, November 6, 2023: Individual Student Photo Retakes
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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 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 email and click the link provided to confirm and complete registration.*

School Fees

The School Supply Fee for 2023-2024 will be \$35 per student. This fee covers basic consumable school supplies used for students’ personal use such as paper, writing tools, glue, erasers, exercise books and art supplies. Supplies are provided for the full year.

Parents do not have to purchase supplies. The agenda fee for Grade 3-7 students will be \$6 and Jump Math workbooks (2) will be \$24, if applicable.

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 6:00pm and last approximately an hour, September to June.

The next PAC meeting of the school year is next **Wednesday, October 4, 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](#)
