

# Thunderbird šx<sup>w</sup>əx<sup>w</sup>a?əs Elementary Gchool Weekly Newsletter

October 19, 2023 / #8

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

#### Thunderbird Families:

Over the past two weeks, students successfully participated in a few emergency drills: a lock down drill, fire drill, and earthquake drill. The students followed instructions well and displayed that they know how to properly respond in the event of an emergency. During the Great British Columbia ShakeOut, we had the opportunity to practice how to be safer during earthquakes: "Drop, Cover, and Hold On." The ShakeOut helps our school and district to prepare, review, and update our emergency preparedness plans and supplies to best respond to a seismic event.

A reminder, our Parent Teacher CSL (Communicating Student Learning) Conferences will be held on October 25 and October 26, starting at 2:00pm. There will be an option for <u>In-Person or Virtual TEAMs Meeting through our online booking page here.</u> Booking is now open. Please contact your teacher with any questions, or if you are unable to make these dates. Please remember to pick your children up at @ 2:00pm for these two days.

Another reminder, as Halloween is fast approaching, students and families are beginning to plan their costumes for our annual Halloween parade on October 31, please remember it is meant to be fun and exciting, however, some costume choices run the risk of offending others with costumes that are culturally offensive. It is important not to inadvertently mimic culture by culturally appropriating racial or ethnic groups or wear costumes that promote or normalize violence. Costumes should not include weapons and other props of violence. Thank you in advance for your cooperation in choosing a school appropriate costume.

Thunderbird PAC is offering school clothing to our families. Clothing is available to order in both youth and adult sizes and are a variety of t-shirts, long sleeve shirts, hats, and hoodies in various colours. The school logo will be printed on the front of all shirts except for the youth small & medium sized hoodies - logo will be on the back. Orders can be placed online <a href="https://vsb.schoolcashonline.com">https://vsb.schoolcashonline.com</a> or on the paper form.

Next Friday, Thunderbird PAC will host another morning Coffee Meet and Greet for parents, and a hot chocolate and cookie sale in the afternoon for students! For the coffee sessions and the hot chocolate sale, we will meet on the south side of the building under covered area. We look forward to seeing parents at <u>8:45am on Friday, October 27</u> and the student after school.

Lastly, please remember that tomorrow, October 20 is a 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

"You're never too old, too wacky, too wild to pick up a book and read to a child." - Anita Merina

## **Important Dates**

- Friday, October 20, 2023: Professional Development Day No school for students
- Wednesday, October 25, 2023: Parent Teacher Conferences 2:00pm Early Dismissal
- Thursday, October 26, 2023: Parent Teacher Conferences 2:00pm Early Dismissal
- Friday, October 27, 2023: PAC Morning Coffee @ 8:45am
- Tuesday, October 31, 2023: Halloween / Halloween Parade
- Wednesday, November 1, 2023: PAC Meeting @ 6:00 pm in the library
- November 6, 2023: Individual Student Photo Retake

### Safe Arrival

If your child will be absent or late, please call **604-713-5159** Ext. **81** or Email **thrdattendance@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 <a href="https://vsb.schoolcashonline.com">https://vsb.schoolcashonline.com</a>. 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.

## **Lunch Program**

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

#### **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 Friday Morning PAC Coffee @ 8:45pm, and After School Student Hot Chocolate fundraiser @3:00pm is October 27, 2023.

The next PAC meeting of the school year is next **Wednesday, November 1, 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: <u>HERE</u>

## **VSB: After the Bell, Podcast**

Kicking off season 2 of <u>VSB</u>: After the <u>Bell</u>, we take a deep dive into VSB's first Literacy Framework – what literacy is, what the framework does and what it means for student learning. In our matter-of-the-month segment, we turn our attention to Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) in the wake of recent anti-SOGI protests and talk about why SOGI education is still important today. Podcast episodes are released at the end of every month. Subscribe to **VSB**: After the Bell on <u>Apple Podcasts</u>, <u>Spotify</u> or wherever you listen to podcasts!