



# ᓃᓂᓂᓂᓂ Thunderbird Elementary School Weekly Newsletter

February 15, 2024 / #23

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[www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/thunderbird](http://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/thunderbird)

ᓃᓂᓂᓂᓂ Thunderbird Families:

I hope all had a great week! There are many events in February, and more in March, just around the corner.

Yesterday, we celebrated Valentine's Day. Valentine's Day has different meanings to different people. In our school context, it is about expressing love through kindness and is an opportunity to show kindness towards all in their class, school, and families. Teachers celebrated Valentine's Day within their classrooms in different ways to express the importance of kindness to all.

As part of the Vancouver Police Department's youth outreach program, next week, the VPD and Thunderbird will be hosting a noon-hour basketball game on **Wednesday, February 21** with our grade 6 and 7 students. This game is meant to connect the VPD with the community, foster positive relationships, and enhance social responsibility amongst young people.

**Kindergarten to Grade 6 parents only.** To prepare for the 2024-2025 school year we need to know if your child will be returning to Thunderbird in September 2024. Please fill out our [INTENT TO RETURN FORM HERE](#)

Next week, join us on **February 23 at 8:15 am** for our first **Books for Breakfast** in our lunchroom! **Books for Breakfast** is an opportunity for families to read together over breakfast at the school. There will be a variety of breakfast options and books! We encourage parents and guardians to attend with their children! Hope to see you there. This event will coincide with the PAC's coffee meet and greet of for parents and guardians, so there will coffee provided as well! Thank you to Starbucks for their generous donation. Please try to bring a reusable coffee mug!

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

Thunderbird Staff, in collaboration with the Thunderbird PAC, will be hosting a [Family Literacy Night](#) on **Thursday, March 7<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm**. This night will begin with an Indigenous Welcome from Musqueam Artist Jody Sparrow, followed by fun Literacy Stations run by teachers, and a demonstration of Jody's work in the gym. Also, there will be a showcase of student artwork in the library. At 5:30 pm, we will have pizza and refreshments in the lunchroom. Please RSVP for this event [here](#)

**This weekend** is an extra-long weekend for our students; there is a **Professional Day tomorrow, Friday, February 16**, followed by the statutory holiday, Family Day, **on Monday, February 19**. I hope you all have the opportunity to spend time with loved ones and enjoy the company of family and friends. Please make any needed childcare arrangements, as the school will be closed to students on these days.

Have a safe and restful long weekend.

Brad Toews  
Principal  
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"Reading one book is like eating one potato chip." - Diane Duane

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## Important Dates

- February 2024: Black History Month
- Friday, February 16, 2024: Professional Development Day – **No School**
- Monday, February 19, 2024: Family Day (No School)
- Friday, February 23, 2024: PAC Morning Coffee and *Books for Breakfast*
- 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 and *Books for Breakfast*
- Saturday, March 16, 2024 – Monday, March April 1, 2024: Spring Break
- Monday, April 1, 2024: Easter Holiday – School Closed
- Tuesday, April 2, 2024: School Reopens after spring break
- Wednesday, April 3, 2024: PAC Meeting @ 6:00 pm – in the library
- Monday, April 22, 2024: Professional Development Day
- Friday, April 26, 2024: PAC Morning Coffee and *Books for Breakfast*
- Tuesday, April 30, 2024: Class Photographs

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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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## 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 **February 23, 2024**.

The next PAC meeting of the school year is next **Wednesday, March 6, 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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## VSB: After the Bell, Podcast

Podcast episodes are released at the end of every month. Subscribe to **VSB: After the Bell** on [Apple Podcasts](#), [Spotify](#) or wherever you listen to podcasts!

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## Working for the VSB

The Vancouver School District in partnership with the Burnaby School District, offers a [6-month Education Assistant program](#). The next EA cohort begins in April 2024 and can lead to job working for a Metro Vancouver school district, including Vancouver and Burnaby. The program is now accepting applications: <http://www.burnabyccce.ca/courses/education-assistant-diploma/>