



ᓃᓂᓂᓂᓂ Thunderbird Elementary School Weekly Newsletter

April 19, 2024 / #30

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

ᓃᓂᓂᓂᓂ Thunderbird Families:

On Thursday, May 2nd, Thunderbird students and staff will participate in the district-wide “Big One at Two” earthquake preparedness drill. In this annual drill, students and staff practice “drop and cover” procedures, taking cover under tables, holding for 1 full minute, and safely evacuating the building and gathering on our north field. The goal during an earthquake evacuation is to evacuate the building safely and quietly, not necessarily quickly. In an emergency, various specially-trained staff emergency response teams, including district radio communication, execute their own procedures. We have adequate materials and supplies to properly care for students until they can be safely released to their families.

In case of a real emergency, we can anticipate that children and parents will both be worried about their family members’ health and safety. The school has specific student release procedures in place to ensure that families are re-united as quickly and safely as possible, and to ensure accountability and tracking of each student’s safe release.

To this end, we must ask for parents’ cooperation during a real emergency:

- Students and parents will likely be quite excited and anxious to be together. Parents MUST follow the directions of school staff. Most importantly, signing their students out properly, so both school and parents know are aware where they are.
- Parents arriving to pick up their child(ren) should go to the north field and follow the directions of school staff. You will be directed to a reunification area where you will fill out a brief form and we will release your child to you.
- Please have photo ID with you. You will need it as part of our student release protocol. Not all staff know who you are.
- Please ensure you keep your “emergency contact” information current. This includes people who have your permission to take your child in the case of an emergency, as we cannot release children to adults for whom we do not have prior consent.

Thank you for your cooperation and we look forward to an efficient earthquake drill on the May 2nd.

[Summer School registration](#) will open on **Wednesday, April 24, 2024 at noon**. The VSB Summer School offers a wide range of Ministry funded courses; from remedial, which provides extra help, to enrichment, which extends student learning. Please consider enrolling! Course catalogs can be found online here: <https://media.vsb.bc.ca/media/Default/medialib/2024-sl-program-brochure.ab18ec71539.pdf>

Next week, Thunderbird will recognise Earth Week from April 22 to Friday, April 26, which kicks off with Earth Day on Monday April 22 (Which is a pro-d day!). To keep containers out for landfills and to support recycling habits, we will be collecting refundable containers for the PAC’s bottle drive fundraiser. Simply save your empties and send them to school in a clear plastic bag, if possible. All proceeds go to our grade 7 grads. Every container counts! For a full list of containers, see here: <https://www.return-it.ca/beverage/products/>.

Next week, join us on **April 26 at 8:15 am** for **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 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!

Lastly, this weekend is a long weekend for our students; there is a **Professional Day on Monday, April 22**. Please make any needed childcare arrangements, as the school will be closed to students on this day.

Have a safe and restful long weekend,

Brad Toews
Principal
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“A good book is an event in my life.” - Stendhal

Important Dates

- Monday, April 22, 2024: Professional Development Day
- Monday, April 22, 2024: Earth Day
- Friday, April 26, 2024: PAC Morning Coffee and *Books for Breakfast*
- Tuesday, April 30, 2024: Class Photographs
- Wednesday, May 1, 2024: PAC Meeting @ 6:00 pm – in the library
- Thursday, May 2, 2024: The Big One 2 2:00pm - Earthquake Drill
- Monday, May 20, 2024: Victoria Day Statutory Holiday – No School
- Friday, May 24, 2024: Sport's Day in the morning
- Friday, May 31, 2024: PAC Morning Coffee and *Books for Breakfast*
- Wednesday, June 5, 2024: PAC AGM @ 6:00 pm – in the library
- Sunday, June 16, 2024: Father's Day
- Thursday, June 20, 2024: Grade 7 Moving Forward Ceremony - AM
- Friday, June 21, 2024: National Indigenous People's Day
- Monday, June 24, 2024: Report Card #3 Goes Home
- Wednesday, June 26, 2024: School Picnic – Sunrise Park
- Thursday, June 27, 2024: Last of School

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.

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 is April 26, 2024.**

The next PAC meeting of the school year is **Wednesday, May 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: [HERE](#)

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!
