



šxʷəxʷaʔəs Thunderbird Elementary School Weekly Newsletter

May 3, 2024 / #32

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

šxʷəxʷaʔəs Thunderbird Families:

This week Thunderbird participated in a Provincial wide earthquake drill meant to help staff and students prepare in the event of an earthquake. The students did well through the earthquake simulation, and the subsequent evacuation. Thunderbird has a comprehensive plan for adverse events to help keep students as safe and comforted as possible. In the event of a real earthquake, students would evacuate to our gravel field on the northwest corner of the school property, or to Sunrise Park on Rupert Street, if the field was unusable, where a controlled student release would occur.

Also, this week, we were treated to a presentation from David Robertson. David Robertson is an Indigenous Canadian author, public speaker, and two-time winner of the Governor General's Literary Award. David is a member of the Norway House Cree Nation. His talk was fun, engaging, and educational. We thank David, and the VSB Indigenous Education department for this opportunity.

As we approach the end of the school year, staff are now beginning to have conversations around school and class organization for 2024-2025. When determining class composition, grade combinations, and student placement, many factors are considered in the process. Staff examines academic progress, individual learning styles, student relationships and interactions, specific and collective student learning needs, class balance, and other pertinent insights provided by the educational professionals who work with your child. School organization and classroom composition is a complex, lengthy, and thoughtful process, that looks at the needs of all learners to determine the best possible educational environment for student learning. Parents or guardians who have specific and relevant information regarding their child's learning style and school relationships that are important for the school to be aware during this process, are welcome to email their teacher, or the administration at thunderbird@vsb.bc.ca before Friday, May 31st. The school will not take requests for student placement to specific teachers.

To celebrate Bike to School week, the Thunderbird PAC will be hosting the 2nd Annual Thunderbird School Bike Fest on **Wednesday, Jun 5th, 2024, 3:00pm-4:30pm**. Please see the poster attached.

A reminder, the Vancouver School Board, šxʷəxʷaʔəs Thunderbird Elementary, and the AIRS Artist in Residence Studio program invites you to the *Imprints of Belonging* opening night on **May 13 @ 4:30 – 7:00pm at the Vancouver School Board Student Gallery, 1580 West Broadway Avenue**. The AIRS Artist in Residence Studio program works in partnership with the Vancouver School Board, including šxʷəxʷaʔəs Thunderbird, to reclaim space for the arts in public elementary schools and provide equitable access to high quality and socially just art making experiences through long term artist studio residencies. This exhibition runs from May – 13 -27 and is open to the public, 8:30am – 4:30pm, Monday to Friday. Please see the attached flyer. We hope to see you there.

Have a safe and restful weekend,

Brad Toews
Principal
šxʷəxʷaʔəs Thunderbird Elementary School

"The world was hers for the reading." - Betty Smith

Important Dates

- Sunday, May 12, 2024: Mother's Day
- 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: BIKE FEST hosted by the PAC @ 3:00 pm – southside of school
- Wednesday, June 5, 2024: PAC AGM @ 6:00 pm – in the library
- Wednesday, June 19, 2024: SPRING CARNIVAL hosted by the PAC @ 4:30 pm – 7:00pm
- 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 May 26, 2024.**

The next PAC meeting of the school year is **Wednesday, June 5, 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!
