



šxʷəxʷaʔəs Thunderbird Elementary School Weekly Newsletter

May 31, 2024 / #36

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www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/thunderbird

šxʷəxʷaʔəs Thunderbird Families:

Today, we welcomed next year's kindergarten students at our annual Welcome to Kindergarten event. Students and their guardians met their teachers and toured the school. The anticipation of starting school is always an exciting time but can come with some anxieties. Having our newest members of our school community familiarize themselves with the staff and school site always helps to calm some nerves. It was great to meet our newest community members.

June is Pride Month. Throughout the month of June, we commemorate the LGBTQ+ community, uplifting the lives of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer people. We teach that everyone deserves the same rights and respect in our society. The word "Pride" was originally an acronym that stood for Personal Rights in Defense and Education, an organization started in 1966 to fight for equal rights for LGBTQ+ people in California. But of course, there's also the double meaning of Pride, which describes the feeling of deep pleasure or satisfaction people get from their achievements or best qualities. Pride is also seen as the "consciousness of one's own dignity." During this month, I hope we all take the time to reflect and thinking about the way we respect and treat others.

Also, June is Indigenous Heritage Month, a time when we as a nation commemorate Indigenous History. During this month, we take time to recognize the rich history, heritage, resilience and diversity of First Nations, Inuit and Métis Peoples across Canada. We reflect upon past injustices and atrocities, and look toward advancing reconciliation with First Nations, Inuit and Métis Nations across Canada. At Thunderbird, with the help of our Indigenous Enhancement Worker, we are committed to increasing the knowledge, acceptance, empathy, awareness and appreciation of Indigenous histories, traditions, cultures, and contributions among all students.

The upcoming Young Entrepreneurs show for Division 1 and 2 is scheduled for next Wednesday, June 5th. Students have dedicated themselves to creating businesses and crafting products to showcase at the event! All students are invited to attend and explore a range of items available for purchase, priced between \$1.00 and \$5.00. Additionally, there will be specialty items offered at prices exceeding \$5.00.

Parents who wish to contribute to the Young Entrepreneurs show by allowing their child to buy items are encouraged to discuss with their children the amount of money, if any, they feel comfortable sending to school, in order to manage their spending. Your support in this matter is appreciated. Thank you in advance!

Next week, on June 3, our Track and Field team will be competing in the Vancouver School Board's final track meet of the year. Congratulations to all our athletes who worked so hard training and competing over the past two months. We know you will do great at the meet! A big thank you to Mr. Costea and Mr. Lai for your time and care they put into track and field.

On **June 19, 4:30pm – 7:00pm**, the PAC will be hosting the Spring Carnival in our Lunchroom/Activity Room and under cover area at the south side of the building. There will be games and other fun activities outside for families, as well as food and snacks.

Thank you for joining us today for our last **Books for Breakfast** of the year. It is always great to see families in school, enjoying the joy of learning together. Next year, we hope to continue **Books for Breakfast** and families learning and reading together. Thank you to the staff who helped make this program possible.

Attached is our yearly calendar and the information on school fees for 2024/25.

Lastly, there is a PAC meeting **next Wednesday, June 5 @ 6:00pm** in the library after the Bike Fest. We hope parents are able to support and join both the PAC meeting and Bike Fest. Fingers crossed for sunny weather.

Have a safe and restful weekend!

Brad Toews
Principal
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"Literature is the most agreeable way of ignoring life." - Fernando Pessoa

Important Dates

- 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 June 21, 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

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