



šxʷəxʷaʔəs Thunderbird Elementary School Weekly Newsletter

November 29, 2024 / #13

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

šxʷəxʷaʔəs Thunderbird Families:

Thank you to the families who joined us for another **Books For Breakfast** event this morning. We encourage you to read with your children as much as possible outside of the school setting to normalize reading as a fun activity to do anywhere. We hope to see at the next **Books For Breakfast**, in the New Year on **January 31, at 8:15 am**. As always, we thank Starbucks Grandview Tech Centre for their generous donation of coffee.

Next Friday, we are holding our annual pop-up Thunderbird Christmas Store, giving the students the opportunity to purchase gifts for their families. With the help of a fearless crew of volunteer gift wrappers, and the guidance of Ms. Kathy, students can purchase holiday gifts for their family and friends for \$1 per gift. Proceeds help fund our annual student pancake breakfast! Students can bring their money anytime to their teacher from **now until Friday, December 6**. Please send children with a bag that day for the presents to be taken home.

Next Friday, we will fly our flag at half-mast to mark the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women. This National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women is about remembering those who have experienced gender-based violence and those who we have lost to it. It is also a time to act. Achieving a Canada free from gender-based violence requires educating ourselves on gender-based violence, supporting survivors in our actions, and speaking up against harmful behaviours.

Division 3 is just finishing up with Ms. Tami in the Artist in Residence program (AIRS). They made clay tiles, practicing first with plasticine. There was a keen interest in doing more art with plasticine. Below is the final product of their choice of animal or favorite character done by pressing plasticine on a board. Creating the animal or character then a background that makes it pop! Well done Division 3!

Also, the Vancouver School Board's **Artist in Residence Program (AIRS)** is running a fundraising campaign from now until December 3. This externally funded program benefits, many schools across Vancouver, including Thunderbird. This program has been instrumental in bringing quality art instruction over the years to our school. If you are able, please consider donating. [Donations](#) can be made by clicking the hyperlink, or via the QR code on the poster below. All donations over \$25 receive a tax receipt. Please see the poster at the bottom of the newsletter.

Also, on **Wednesday, December 18th**, the Thunderbird Community Centre will be hosting a community Christmas Dinner. This dinner has been a much-cherished event in the neighbourhood for years. Please see the attachment for more information.

One week left of the Astrofoods fundraiser. Astrofoods provides fun, tasty and healthy freeze-dried snacks! The šxʷəxʷaʔəs Thunderbird snack shop features everything from health-boosting fruits to indulgent treats that tempt the taste buds. Order online at <https://www.astrofoods.ca/thunderbird-elementary-fundraiser/>. **Orders are due by December 5.**

Lastly, please join us for our December PAC meeting **next Wednesday at 6 pm**. 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. Childminding for school-aged Thunderbird students is available, as well as a light pizza dinner.

I wish you a safe and restful weekend.

Brad Toews
Principal
šxʷəxʷaʔəs Thunderbird Elementary School

"You know you've read a good book when you turn the last page and feel a little as if you have lost a friend." - Paul Sweeney

Important Dates

- **Wednesday, December 4, 2024:** Pac Meeting @ 6:00pm in the library
 - **Friday, December 6, 2024:** Christmas Store
 - **Friday, December 6, 2024:** National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women
 - **Monday, December 16, 2024:** Report Card #1 Goes Home
 - **Wednesday, December 18, 2024:** Thunderbird Community Centre's Annual Christmas Dinner
 - See Community Centre for details
 - **Friday, December 20, 2024:** Pancake Breakfast and Last Before Winter Break
 - **Monday, January 6, 2025:** First Day Back from Winter Break
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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 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 2024-2025 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 PAC meeting is **Wednesday, December 4, 6-7 pm** in the library. Dinner and babysitting for school aged children are 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](#)

VSBC: After the Bell, Podcast

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

VSBC Kindergarten Registration

[Kindergarten registration](#) for children born in 2020 **is now open**. All kindergarten applicants are required to apply to their English catchment elementary school. This includes families who wish to apply for Choice Programs when the Choice Program and Cross Boundary window opens on January 7 to February 4, 2025 (Early French Immersion, Montessori, Indigenous Focus School, Early Mandarin Bilingual, Nootka Fine Arts). The priority registration period for kindergarten opens on November 1, 2024, and closes at 4 pm on January 31, 2025. In catchment students who apply within this period will be given priority for placement at Thunderbird before late applicants.

PAC T-Shirts - \$10.00

Children's **ᓄᓂᓂᓂᓂ Thunderbird T-shirts** in orange or pink, sized xs - xxl are for sale through the office. All proceeds go to support PAC events benefitting students and families.



Div. 3 Tiles



Help us raise \$25,000 to keep AIRS program in schools.



IMAGINE
A
WORLD
CHANGED
BY
ART



Art has the power to inspire children's imagination, foster empathy, and open new possibilities for a just and sustainable shared world.

The Artist in Residence Studio program (AIRS) brings the power of art back into schools where it is needed most.

AIRS creates studio spaces in underserved Vancouver elementary schools and activates them with dynamic year-round, artist-led programming. Artists provide meaningful hands-on art making experiences in a variety of media, in culturally safe and inclusive environments.

AIRS is making a difference; building confidence, creativity and resilience in students, while supporting their mental health and well-being.

AIRS provides studio art programs in 18 schools, reaching 3,600 children who would otherwise not have access.

Donate today and bring the transformative power of art to children in your community.

Every contribution makes a difference. All donations above \$25 will receive a tax receipt.

Scan here to Donate



airsprogram.org



[@airsprogram](https://www.instagram.com/airsprogram)



info@airsprogram.org