



šxʷəxʷaʔəs Thunderbird Elementary School Weekly Newsletter

January 31, 2025 / #20

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

šxʷəxʷaʔəs Thunderbird Families:

I hope you all had a wonderful week. As we enter February, at Thunderbird we will be recognizing and celebrating Black History Month. Each year, Black History Month has a specific theme. This gives us a clear focus to reflect on and learn about as we think about and celebrate the contributions of Black people to society. The theme for Black History Month 2025 is **Celebrating the Mosaic: Black is Limitless**. This theme encourages us to explore the diversity of Black culture and history and serves as a reminder that Black people have been and continue to be trailblazers in many areas of life. It also serves as an invitation to examine one's own connection to Black history, culture, and identity. During this month, students will have many opportunities to learn about and celebrate the important contributions of Black Canadians to our society. We invite all in our community to learn more about Black Canadians, and how they continue to positively shape Canadian history.

Wednesday, January 29, 2025, was the Lunar New Year. It marks the first new moon of the lunisolar calendars traditional to many East Asian countries including China, South Korea, Vietnam, and more, which are regulated by the cycles of the moon and sun. 2025 is a Year of the Snake, more specifically, Wood Snake, starting from January 29th, 2025, and lasting until February 16th, 2026. Recent years of the Snake are 2013, 2001, and 1989. If you were born in one of the above years, then you are a Snake. The 12 animals of the Chinese zodiac are Rat, Ox, Tiger, Rabbit, Dragon, Snake, Horse, Goat, Monkey, Rooster, Dog, and Pig. At Thunderbird, teachers will be participating in different activities within their classroom communities.

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 you at the next **Books For Breakfast**, on **February 28, at 8:15 am**. As always, we thank Starbucks Grandview Tech Centre for their generous donation of coffee.

There is possible snow in the forecast. In the event of snow, please check [our school website](#), [the Vancouver School Board website](#), or the list of media outlets below for information on school closures after 6:00 am:

- CKNW (980 AM)
- CBC (690 AM, 105.7 FM)
- CJVB (1470 AM)
- CFHG (96.1 FM)
- CKWX (1130 AM)
- BCTV/Global (Cable channel 11)
- CITY TV (Cable channel 13)

And lastly, please join us for our February PAC meeting next **Wednesday, February 5th at 6pm**. 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 to contribute to a sense of community within the school and between the school, home, and neighbourhood. Hope to see you there!

Have a safe and restful weekend.

Brad Toews

Principal

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"A book is a gift you can open again and again." - Garrison Keillor

Important Dates

- **Wednesday, February 5, 2025:** PAC Meeting @ 6:00pm in the library
 - **Friday, February 14, 2025:** Professional Development Day – No School
 - **Monday, February 17, 2025:** Family Day Stat Holiday – No school
 - **Wednesday, February 26, 2025:** Pink Shirt Day
 - **Friday, February 28, 2025:** Books For Breakfast
 - **Friday, February 28, 2025:** Parent Reading Workshop – Kindergarten to Grade 2
@ 9am – 10:30am in the lunchroom
 - **Friday, February 28, 2025:** Ramadan Begins
 - **Wednesday, March 5, 2025:** PAC Meeting @ 6:00pm in the library
 - **Monday, March 10, 2025:** Report Card #2 Goes Home
 - **Wednesday, March 12, 2025:** Family Learning Night 4pm – 6pm
 - **March 17-28, 2025:** Spring Break – School Closed
 - **Monday, March 31, 2025:** First Day Back from Spring 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, February 5, 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](#)

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!

PAC T-Shirts - \$10.00

Children's **ᓃᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂ 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.

Snow Closures

As the weather is getting colder, we remind parents that at this time of year and throughout the winter, snow is always a possibility. In the event of snow, please check our [school website](#), the [Vancouver School Board website](#) or the list of media outlets below for information on school closures **after 6:30am**
