



ᓃᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂ Thunderbird Elementary School Weekly Newsletter

April 11, 2025 / #27

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

ᓃᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂ Thunderbird Families:

Next Monday is Vaisakhi. Vaisakhi is a spring festival which happens on the 13th or 14th of April every year. This year, Vaisakhi takes place on Monday, April 14. Vaisakhi was originally a harvest festival in the Punjab until it became Sikhism's most important festival. It celebrates the creation of the Khalsa order in 1699. It promotes justice and equality and the creation of a more equal and just society. On Vaisakhi, Sikhs go to the Gurdwara (Sikh place of worship) in the morning for a service, followed by a procession through the streets with lots of singing, chanting and colourful clothes. The procession is called the Nagar Kirtan, which concludes in a special meal with family and friends at the end of the day. Many Vancouverites may be familiar with the sight of annual colourful Vaisakhi parades, locally occurring along Main and Fraser streets in Vancouver, and in Surrey, which hosts the largest Vaisakhi parade in the world outside of India. I hope you have the opportunity to witness this amazing festival for yourself!

Next week is a short week as **Friday, April 18** is Good Friday and **Monday, April 21** is Easter Monday, both statutory holidays, and the school will be closed both days.

Thunderbird will recognise Earth Week from **April 22 to Friday, April 25**. 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/>.

[Summer School registration](#) will open on **Wednesday, April 23, 2025 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!

Our Parent Teacher CSL Conferences (Communicating Student Learning) will be held on **April 23 and April 24**, starting at **2:00 pm**. These days will be early dismal for students. For the conferences, there will be an option for **In-Person** or **Virtual TEAMS Meetings** through our online bookings page [here](#) for divisions 1, 2, and 8 only. Booking options for divisions 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 will be sent directly to you by the teacher.

Have a safe and restful weekend,

Brad Toews
Principal
ᓃᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂ Thunderbird Elementary School

"People can lose their lives in libraries. They ought to be warned." - Saul Bellow

Important Dates

- **Friday, April 18, 2025:** *Good Friday Stat Holiday – No school*
- **Monday, April 21, 2025:** *Easter Monday Day Stat Holiday – No school*
- **Wednesday and Thursday, April 23 & 24, 2025:** *Parent Teacher Conferences – Early Dismissal @ 2:00pm*
- **Friday, April 25, 2025:** *Books For Breakfast*
- **Monday, April 28, 2025:** *Professional Development Day – No school*
- **Wednesday, May 7, 2025:** *PAC Meeting @ 6:00pm in the library*
- **Monday, May 5-7, 2025:** *Grade 6/7 Camp*
- **Monday, May 19, 2025:** *Victoria Day Stat Holiday – No school*
- **Friday, May 23, 2025:** *Sports Day*
- **Friday, May 30, 2025:** *Books For Breakfast*
- **Wednesday, June 4, 2025:** *PAC Meeting @ 6:00pm in the library*
- **Wednesday, June 18, 2025:** *PAC Spring Fair*
- **Thursday, June 19, 2025:** *Grade 7 Graduation*
- **Wednesday, June 25, 2025:** *Report Card #3 Goes Home*
- **Wednesday, June 25, 2025:** *Sunrise Park Fieldtrip*
- **Thursday, June 26, 2025:** *Last Day 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 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, May 7, 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!
