



ᓄᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂ Thunderbird Elementary School Weekly Newsletter

May 9, 2025 / #32

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

ᓄᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂ Thunderbird Families:

Dear Families and Community Partners,

This weekend is Mother's Day. Mother's Day offers a moment to honouring the women in our lives that have influenced and nurtured us. Whether it's your mom, grandma, a favorite aunt or friend, the women our lives are integral in shaping and defining us in ways both large and small. We thank you for all you do.

This May and as the weather gets sunnier and warmer, Public Health is promoting the Canadian Dermatology Association's month-long sun awareness campaign, part of National Sun Awareness Month. [Sun Awareness Month - Canadian Dermatology Association](#). The campaign informs Canadians about the importance of self-skin examinations and the simple steps that can be taken to protect themselves and their families from the sun's harmful ultraviolet radiation exposure. Check out the link above. Throughout the month, the CDA will be sharing important sun awareness messages and resources for Canadians, including steps to conduct a self-examination and preventative actions. As we head into summer, it is important to protect ourselves as we enjoy the sunny weather!

UBC invites families to attend the 5th annual Biodiversity Days-Family Nature Walk at the beautiful UBC Botanical Garden. This is a special complementary invitation for you join for free!

About the Family Nature Walk

This family-oriented biodiversity adventure is ~ 90 minutes and includes a self-guided journey through UBC Botanical Garden to find the pop-up education stations in the Garden. Activities included traversing the Greenheart TreeWalk, exploring the Forest gardens, discovering pollinators or taking time to look for slugs and watch for eagles.

Kids Nature Kits are an exciting, family-favorite element of our Family Nature Walk. When families arrive at the Garden, each child is given the first few pieces of their very own kit. As families continue their journey throughout the Garden, children collect additional fun items to help learn about the natural world and engage with science.

WHAT: A family ticket (max 6) provides access to the Garden to experience the Greenheart TreeWalk and to find educational stations. Children collect elements of Kids Nature Kits and there is food and light snacks for families to enjoy in the Food Garden.

WHEN: Tickets are available from **10 am – 2:30 pm on Saturday May 17.**

WHERE: UBC Botanical Garden (6804 SW Marine Drive see [Map](#))

HOW TO REGISTER: This is a special complementary invitation for you and your family to join us for free! Regular tickets cost \$90/family. Families are invited to learn more and register through our website and Shopify.

Step 1 - Click here to register: <https://shop.botanicalgarden.ubc.ca/products/family-nature-walk-2025>

Step 2 - Select an entrance time and ticket type. Select the number of adults and add to cart. Choose – Continue Shopping. Then select the number of children and add to cart. Review your cart and then proceed to Check Out.

Step 3 - You will have to register your name and email and can apply the discount code – FNWSPEC2025 to obtain your complementary tickets.

Step 4 – Your email order confirmation is your ticket, and we will ask the registrants name when you arrive for your scheduled time on the day-of.

Step 5 – Join us on Saturday May 17th for a wonderful time in Nature!

Have any questions or need help with registration? Contact us at garden.programs@ubc.ca

Lastly, on May 8, we participated in a Provincial wide earthquake drill meant to help staff and students prepare in the event of an earthquake. The drill went well, and our staff practised a limited student release to ensure our ability to reunite students with their families and an orderly and caring way in the event of an emergency. The school and its staff have a comprehensive plan and delegation of roles 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. Please let the office know if any changes are needed to be made to the student release forms that parents or guardians filled out at the beginning of the year.

Have a safe and restful weekend.

Brad Toews

Principal

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

Important Dates

- **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, June 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](#)

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!
