



ᓃᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂ Thunderbird Elementary School Weekly Newsletter

September 12, 2025 / #2

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

ᓃᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂ Thunderbird Families,

As we settle into the new school year, we're thrilled to see students enjoying their classrooms and reconnecting with old friends while forming new bonds with both peers and staff. A warm welcome goes out to our newest additions, the kindergarten students, who have now transitioned to full-time attendance after a successful gradual entry. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the kindergarten team, staff, and older students for their efforts in making the kindergartners feel right at home.

We also want to share that Ms. Jaeger will be moving on to a new position within our school district. While we will miss her dearly, we are deeply appreciative of her many contributions to Thunderbird and to our students over the past five years. Her dedication, warmth, and professionalism have left a lasting impact. We know she will bring her immense talents to her new school, where more students will benefit from her care and expertise. We wish her all the best in this exciting new chapter.

Now that we're in full swing, here are a few important reminders and upcoming events:

School Fees

School fees are now due. At Thunderbird, we prioritize access to resources and programs for all students. Financial concerns should never be a barrier—students will never be denied access. If you need assistance or would like to arrange installment payments, please contact the school administration.

Attendance

If your child will be absent or arriving late, please notify our office via the Safe Arrival line at **604-713-5159 ext. 81** or email tbrdattendance@vsb.bc.ca. Students arriving after the 9:00 am bell must sign in at the office and receive a late slip before heading to class. To support a smooth start to the day, we encourage drop-off by **8:55 am**.

Forms and Consent

Verification forms were sent home this week. Please review them carefully, note any changes, and return all signed consent forms promptly.

Personal Devices

Students are asked to keep personal devices (e.g., cell phones, video game devices, smart watches) away during school hours: **9:00 am – 2:58 pm**. A phone is available in the office if students need to contact home.

Lunch

Students not enrolled in the lunch program should bring a packed lunch at the start of the day. The office cannot accept or deliver lunches, and **third-party food deliveries (e.g., Uber Eats, Skip the Dishes)** will not be accepted.

Nutrition Programs

Our **hot lunch and breakfast programs** are now running. The breakfast program begins at **8:15 am** and is open to all students free of charge. Research shows that good nutrition—especially in the morning—supports learning, reduces absences, and improves behavior. We encourage all students to take advantage of this program. Please enter through the **primary undercover area on the southwest side of the school**.

For the lunch program, please return signed lunch envelopes for **September**, and monthly thereafter.

Meet the Teacher/PAC Evening

Join us on **Wednesday, September 24 from 5:00–6:30 pm** for our Meet the Teacher event. We'll begin in the lunchroom with a brief welcome and staff introductions, followed by two 20-minute classroom visits. Afterwards, enjoy light refreshments and mingling in the lunchroom. Please enter through the **south side undercover area**.

Books For Breakfast

Join us on **Friday September 26 at 8:15 am** for our first **Books for Breakfast** of the year, in our lunchroom! **Books for Breakfast** is an opportunity for families to read together over breakfast at the school. There will be a variety of breakfast options and books! We encourage parents and guardians to attend with their children! Hope to see you there. Thank you to Starbucks for their generous donation. Please try to bring a reusable coffee mug!

The other dates for *Books for Breakfast* are, **Friday, October 31, November 28, January 30, February 27, April 24, and May 29.**

Terry Fox School Run

Thunderbird Elementary is proud to participate in the **Terry Fox School Run**. Join us in honoring one of Canada’s greatest heroes. Our run will take place on **Wednesday, September 24, 2025** in the morning. You can donate at: <https://schools.terryfox.ca/ThunderbirdElementary>. Thank you for supporting the fight against cancer!

Professional Development Day

Friday, September 19 is our first **Professional Day**. Please make childcare arrangements, as staff will be engaged in professional learning and the school will be closed.

Wishing you a safe and restful weekend,

Brad Toews
Principal
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“A room without books is like a body without a soul.” - Cicero

Important Dates 2025 -2026

- **Friday, September 19, 2025:** *Professional Development Day – No School*
- **Wednesday, September 24, 2025:** *the Terry Fox Run*
- **Wednesday, September 24, 2025:** *Meet the Teacher & PAC Night @ 5pm*
- **Friday, September 26, 2025:** *Books for Breakfast @ 8:15am in the Lunch Room*
- **Monday, September 29, 2025:** *Orange Shirt Day for ᓄᓂᓐᓂᓐᓂᓐᓂ T-Bird*
- **Tuesday, September 30, 2025:** *National Day for Truth and Reconciliation – No school*
- **Wednesday, October 1, 2025:** *PAC Meeting at 6:00pm in the library*
- **Monday, October 13, 2025:** *Thanksgiving Day Stat Holiday – No school*
- **Monday, October 20, 2025:** *Diwali*
- **Tuesday & Wednesday, October 21 & 22, 2025:** *Parent Teacher Conferences – Early Dismissal @ 2:00pm*
- **Friday, October 24, 2025:** *Professional Development Day – No School*
- **Wednesday, October 29, 2025:** *Individual Photo Re-Take Day*
- **Friday, October 31, 2025:** *Halloween Parade*
- **Friday, October 31, 2025:** *Books for Breakfast @ 8:15am in the Lunch Room*
- **Wednesday, November 5, 2025:** *PAC Meeting at 6:00pm in the library*
- **Tuesday, November 11, 2025:** *Remembrance Day Stat Holiday – No school*
- **Friday, November 21, 2025:** *Professional Development Day – No School*
- **Friday, November 28, 2025:** *Books for Breakfast @ 8:15am in the Lunch Room*
- **Wednesday, December 3, 2025:** *PAC Meeting at 6:00pm in the library*
- **Wednesday, December 17, 2025:** *Thunderbird Community Centre’s Christmas dinner*
 - *Report Card #1 Go Home*
- **Friday, December 19, 2025:** *Pancake Breakfast and PJ Day - Last Before Winter Break*
- **Monday, January 5, 2026:** *First Day Back from Winter Break*

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 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 first PAC meeting of 2025/2026 is **Wednesday, October 1, 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 thunderbirdpac@gmail.com.

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!
