



ᓄᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂ Thunderbird Elementary School Weekly Newsletter

September 26, 2025 / #4

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

ᓄᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂ Thunderbird Families,

It was wonderful to see so many families at our Meet the Teacher and PAC Night! Our staff truly enjoyed welcoming you into their classrooms and connecting with both familiar and new faces. It's always special when we come together as a community. A heartfelt thank you to our PAC volunteers for organizing and serving food—your support made the evening even more memorable.

Terry Fox School Run

This week we participated in the Terry Fox Run. It was a great fun. Thank you to the students, staff, and community for your support in advancing Terry's legacy. A special thanks to Ms. Zielke for her organization of this important event. We will be accepting donations for the Terry Fox Foundation until the end of the day today! Donations can be made at: <https://schools.terryfox.ca/ThunderbirdElementary>
Thank you for joining us in the fight against cancer!

Books for Breakfast – Thank You!

Thank you to all the families who joined us this morning for our first Books for Breakfast event of the year. Reading with our children is one of the most powerful ways to support their development. Research shows that children whose parents read to them daily are exposed to over 290,000 more words by the time they enter kindergarten—and that number can grow to over a million words with consistent reading. This exposure helps children build vocabulary and comprehension skills that support lifelong learning.

We hope to see you at our next Books for Breakfast on **Friday, October 31 at 8:15 AM** in the lunchroom! As always, we thank Starbucks Grandview Tech Centre for their generous donation of coffee.

Orange Shirt Day – Monday, September 29

A reminder that **Monday, September 29** is Orange Shirt Day at Thunderbird. This day honours the survivors of residential schools and their families and reflects our commitment to reconciliation. Throughout the week, students will engage in meaningful lessons using resources from the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation, guided by the voices of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit knowledge keepers. We have a limited number of orange shirts available for purchase through the school office.

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation – Tuesday, September 30

Tuesday, September 30 is Canada's National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, a statutory holiday. This day recognizes the tragic history and ongoing legacy of residential schools and affirms our collective commitment to reconciliation. School will be closed on **Tuesday, September 30** and Classes will resume on **Wednesday, October 1**

We encourage everyone to take time to reflect and honour Indigenous Peoples and their histories.

Next PAC Meeting – Wednesday, October 1 at 6:00 PM

Please join us for our second PAC meeting of the year on **Wednesday, October 1 at 6:00 PM**. The PAC is a great way to get involved in your child's education and contribute to the school community. The PAC's roles include:

- Promoting the education and welfare of students
- Encouraging parent involvement
- Advising the school on key matters
- Building a strong sense of community between school, home, and neighbourhood

Meetings are held on the **first Wednesday of each month** from **September to June**, and typically last about an hour. Childminding is available for school-aged Thunderbird students.

Thank you for your continued support and engagement. We look forward to seeing you at upcoming events!

Warmly,

Brad Toews
Principal
ᓄᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂ Thunderbird Elementary School

“A room without books is like a body without a soul.” – Cicero

Important Dates 2025 – 2026

- **Monday, September 29, 2025:** *Orange Shirt Day for ᓄᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂ 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*
- **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***
- **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 next 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!
