



# ᓄᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂ Thunderbird Elementary School Weekly Newsletter

October 10, 2025 / #6

(604) 713-4611 | [thunderbird@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:thunderbird@vsb.bc.ca) |  
[www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/thunderbird](http://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/thunderbird)

ᓄᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂ Thunderbird Families,

## ShakeOut Earthquake Drill

Next Week Next week, our school will be participating in the Great British Columbia ShakeOut, an annual province-wide earthquake drill designed to help communities practice how to stay safe during a major seismic event. The key message is simple: “Drop, Cover, and Hold On.”

This drill provides an important opportunity for us to review and update our emergency preparedness plans, assess our supplies, and ensure we’re ready to respond effectively in the event of an earthquake. We encourage families to talk about earthquake safety at home and reinforce these practices with their children.

## Parent Teacher Conferences


Our Parent Teacher CSL Conferences (Communicating Student Learning) will be held on **Tuesday, October 21 and Wednesday, October 22, starting at 2:00 pm**. These days will be early dismissal for students. For the conferences, there will be an option for In-Person or Virtual TEAMS Meetings through our online booking page [here](#).

It is very important to **select the correct teacher** from the drop-down menu. **Please do not select the option “Anyone.”** Contact your teacher with any questions, or if you are unable to make these dates.

## Grade 8 Mini Schools

As our Grade 7 students begin preparing for their transition to high school, we’d like to highlight the Mini School Programs offered by the Vancouver School Board. These programs provide enriched learning opportunities and unique school experiences designed to support students’ academic and personal growth.

Families are encouraged to explore the options available by visiting [the VSB Mini School Programs page](#) and reviewing [the Grade 8 Mini School Brochure](#).

 General registration runs from **November 10 to December 15, 2025**. We recommend starting early to learn more about the programs and application process.

## Halloween Parade

With Halloween just around the corner, excitement is building as students and families begin planning costumes for our annual Halloween parade on **October 31st**. We love seeing the creativity and spirit this event brings to our school community!

As you prepare, please keep in mind that costumes should be fun, respectful, and school-appropriate. We kindly ask families to avoid costumes that may be culturally insensitive or that mimic racial or ethnic groups. Additionally, costumes that promote or normalize violence—including those with weapons or violent props—are not permitted.

## Morning Arrival Reminder

Please note that our **Breakfast Program begins at 8:15 AM**. Students and Families should not arrive earlier than this time. **School supervision on school grounds starts at 8:40 AM**, so we kindly ask that students are not left unattended outside before this time, especially our primary students. Thank you for helping us keep everyone safe and supported!

## Thanksgiving Closure Reminder

Please note that **Monday, October 13th** is a statutory holiday in observance of Thanksgiving. As such, the school will be closed for the day, and no staff will be on site. We kindly ask families to make alternative childcare arrangements as needed.

Thanksgiving is a time to reflect on gratitude, togetherness, and the changing season. We hope you enjoy a warm and restful long weekend with loved ones. Regular classes will resume on **Tuesday, October 14th**.

Warmly,

Brad Toews

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

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**Important Dates 2025 -2026**

- **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*

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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](mailto:tbrdattendance@vsb.bc.ca) by 9:00 AM.  
**Please do not call the school office.**

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**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, November 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 [thunderbirdpac@gmail.com](mailto:thunderbirdpac@gmail.com).

PAC Information and meeting minutes can be found: [HERE](#)

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**VSBC: After the Bell, Podcast**

Podcast episodes are released at the end of every month. Subscribe to **VSBC: After the Bell** on [Apple Podcasts](#), [Spotify](#) or wherever you listen to podcasts!

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