



NOOTKA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

3375 Nootka Street, Vancouver, BC V5M 3N2 604.713.4767

MARCH NEWSLETTER

Hello Nootka!

Spring is in the air – somewhere. I hope that you have all managed to stay safe and bundled in this unusual blast of cold weather so late in the season. A reminder to all parents that in the event of a possible snow day please check any local news or radio stations, or the VSB website for information regarding closures.

If I don't see you before the break, I hope that you all have a wonderful and relaxing time (hopefully the weather starts to perk up a bit) filled with good quality time with your kids. When we get back the push to the end of the school year will begin...it's about to get really busy around here.

Take care,

Mr. Bemister (he/him)
Principal

Student Learning Surveys – Parent Edition

Every year the province surveys students, staff and parents to gather information about school experiences. Evidence gathered is used to help plan and improve the school experience for all. The optional parent survey takes about 30 minutes to complete and is available in 18 different languages. You can find it [here](#). Please head to the parent section called “direct access” if you would like to complete the survey.

Returning to Nootka Survey

It's that time of year that we are starting to prepare for the next school year. An email was sent home with a link to a return to school questionnaire that will help us to determine which students are returning for our classroom organization next year. Please take a minute to answer the survey as this helps make sure that our September is smooth with no surprises.

A number of you have already filled out the survey – thank you. If you haven't, you can find the survey [here](#).

March 12th to March 24th Spring Break

Spring Break will take place from March 12th until March 24th. The first day back from school after the break is March 27th. Enjoy your break!

PAC Meeting Wednesday, April 5th at 6:30 in the library

Thank you to everyone who has been active with the Nootka PAC this year! The next meeting is in-person on April 5th at 6:30pm. Please head to the Nootka PAC website for more information about the remaining scheduled meetings. We hope to see you there.

www.nootkapac.com for more information...including information on Hot Lunch ordering!

Hot Lunch Update

Speaking of hot lunch... if you ordered but your child will be away please email hotlunch.nootkapac@gmail.com by 11am so we can redistribute the lunch to someone else or hold it for pickup later that day.

If we don't hear from you, lunches for absent kids will be stored in the PAC fridge for 24 hours and then discarded. We cannot accommodate holding food longer than 24hrs.

Thanks to everyone who has emailed to allow the PAC to give the hot lunches to students in need. Also, thank you to everyone who has donated on Munch-A-Lunch so that lunches may be ordered for kids who wouldn't otherwise get the chance to have one. At Nootka, equity is something that we have been giving lots of thought to lately and this helps with that. Thank you.

Safe Arrival to report student absences

Parents should leave a message by emailing nooattendance@vsb.bc.ca or by phone on a dedicated answering service by calling **604-713-5159 ext. 60**. School offices are busy places. Consistently notifying the school in advance of your child's absence will significantly improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Safe Arrival Morning Routine.

When an absence isn't reported to the office in advance, your child will be marked absent by the teacher and that information gets sent to the office. From there, the OAA, Mrs. Carollo, will notify the main contacts that we have on file. We do this to confirm that the students are in fact away. If you do not want to receive the contact from the school, please notify the office in advance. This is the ideal scenario as it is less work for us.

To Report Your Child's Absence

Please email nooattendance@vsb.bc.ca or

Call 604-713-5159 ext. 60 prior to 9:00 am on the first day of the absence.

When reporting a student absence, please provide the following information:

- The first and last name of your child – please spell the last name
- Grade and/or division number
- The reason for the absence
- The date of the absence and the length of the absence if your child will be away for more than one day.

Traffic around the School

Lately, there have been concerns regarding traffic speed and stopping near the school which create unsafe situations for Nootka students and families travelling on foot. Please be mindful of where you are stopping your car and how you drive when you are near the school. There are several places where crossing visibility is greatly reduced when vehicles are stopped. We want all Nootka students and families to be safe when coming and leaving Nootka.

Alternatively, you might consider a mode of active transportation. Walking and wheeling are both excellent alternatives. Please look for more information to come regarding our Walk and Wheel to Work/School week!

Important Upcoming Dates

Friday, March 10th, 2023

- *Last day of school before Spring Break*

Monday, March 27th, 2023

- *School re-opens*

Friday, April 7th, 2023

- *Holiday – No School*

Monday, April 10th, 2023

- *Holiday – No School*

Wednesday, April 12th, 2023

- *Student Led Conferences – Dismissal @ 2:00pm*

Thursday, April 13th, 2023

- *Student Led Conferences – Dismissal @ 2:00pm*

**For up-to-date information please see our Nootka Website
@ <https://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/nootka/Pages/default.aspx>**

