



SIR JOHN FRANKLIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

THE FRANKLIN EXPRESS – February 2023

250 Skeena Street, Vancouver, B.C. V5K 4N8

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PRINCIPAL: Dan Knibbs	DIRECTOR OF INSTRUCTION: Shannon Burton
SCHOOL TRUSTEE: Lois Chan-Pedley	PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL CHAIR: Selina Tribe



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| Monday, February 6 th to 10 th | - Kids on Wheels Rollerblading |
| Tuesday, February 7 th | - Hot lunch online orders due by midnight |
| Thursday, February 9 th | - Hot lunch and noon |
| Thursday, February 16 th | - Division 3 and 4 at Grouse Mountain (9 – 3 p.m.) |
| Friday, February 17 th | - District Pro-D Day – students do not attend school |
| Monday, February 20 th | - Family Day – school is not in session |
| Wednesday, February 22 nd | - Pink Shirt Day |
| Wednesday, February 22 nd | - PAC Meeting @ 6:00 p.m. via Zoom |
| Tuesday, February 28 th | - Audiology Grade K and 2 |
| Friday, March 10 th | - Last day of school before Spring Break |
| Monday, March 27 th | - First day back after Spring Break |

MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL

February is already shaping up to be exciting month and a productive first term has come to an end with our recent report cards being sent home last Tuesday. Please make sure to return your child's signed report card envelope to his or her teacher after reading it. Since our last Newsletter in January we have welcomed in the Lunar New Year - the Year of the Rabbit with a Lion Dance performance in our Gym, sent home our first set of report cards on January 31, hosted the Vancouver School Board Superintendent Helen McGregor for a short visit, we waited anxiously for Groundhog Day last Thursday, only to be disappointed when, by all accounts, the indications were that there will no early spring for us!

The VSB concluded Priority Registration for Kindergarten students on January 31. If you are aware of any families with kindergarten-aged children that have not yet registered, please encourage them to contact the school.

February is also Black History Month. Our teachers will be taking opportunities to talk about the significance and importance of embracing diversity and the many contributions Black Canadians have made throughout history. I have included some interesting resources for families to explore together.

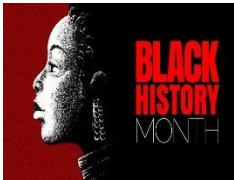
Later on in the month there is a District-wide Professional Day for staff, followed by the Family Day holiday on February 20, Pink Shirt/Anti Bullying Day on February 23. We will be wrapping up February with with an African cultural immersion week with artist in residence Jacky Esombe.

Although 2023 is still young, a lot has happened in a short time, and we appreciate your continued cooperation and support!

Regards,

Dan Knibbs

BLACK HISTORY MONTH



February is Black History Month. Black History Month provides an opportunity for students across the country to explore and learn about many contributions of people of African descent and honour the legacy of Black Canadians, past and present.

The Government of Canada's theme this year is: "Ours to tell". This theme represents both an opportunity to engage in open dialogue and a commitment to learning more about the stories Black communities in Canada have to tell about their histories, successes, sacrifices and triumphs.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/campaigns/black-history-month.html>

Black History Society

<https://bcblackhistory.ca/>

Who Were the Freedom Riders? | The Civil Rights Movement

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E1smGpGSa14>

Black Strathcona-Profiles, the little-known black community that lived in the Strathcona neighbourhood of Vancouver from the late 1800s to approximately the 1960s. Click on the numbers on the map to screen the short films: [Link](#)

The History Channel – Black History Month

<https://www.history.com/topics/black-history/black-history-month>

Black History Month for Kids [Black History Month for Kids - YouTube](#)

CBC Canada Wide Being Black in Canada Stories Grades 8-12

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/beingblackincanada>

Periodic Table of Canadian Black History:Intermediate/Secondary

The Periodic Table of Canadian Black History is a tool that educators, students, and families can use to explore and celebrate the stories, voices, and accomplishments of “Black Canadians”

365 Days and Ways to Celebrate Remarkable Black Canadians: Intermediate/Secondary

PINK SHIRT DAY In 2007 in Nova Scotia, Grade 12 students David Shepherd, Travis Price and a few friends saw that a Grade 9 student was being bullied for wearing a pink shirt on the first day of school. They knew they had to do something to show that this kind of behaviour was not OK. They decided to go out and buy a bunch of pink shirts and hand them out to other students to wear. By the end of that week, most of the students in the school were wearing pink shirts to show support for the Grade 9 student who was bullied. **Wednesday, February 22nd** students will come together to celebrate Pink Shirt Day. Students will learn about conflict vs. bullying and other anti-bullying messages. Please celebrate by wearing an article of pink!

COLD AND FLU SEASON – during this cold a flu season please remember to keep your child(ren) home if they are sick this will help avoid the spreading of germs to other children and staff.

LEGO DAY AT FRANKLIN

Lego Day Jan. 27

We had a record 56 entries this year, all unique and creative! Here are this year's winners:

K-Gr. 1 Winners: 1st Place: Holden, 2nd Place: Briar, 3rd Place: Adam & Ripley B. (tie)

Gr. 2-4 Winners: 1st Place: Ivan L., 2nd Place: Theo, 3rd Place: Andi, Cleo & Izzy (tie)

Gr. 5-7 Winners: 1st Place: Alex R., 2nd Place: Gavin J., 3rd Place: Jasper & Rhys (tie)

The Student Council would like to thank everyone who participated in our Lego Day contest. We also want to say thank you for the kindness and respect everyone showed for other students' work on display. We heard many wonderful compliments being given throughout the day. Thanks to everyone for showing your Franklin spirit!



CHINESE LION DANCE – On Friday, January 27th the students at Franklin were able to participate in a Chinese Lion Dance.



SNOW CLOSURES DUE TO WEATHER CONDITIONS - When the school is closed due to the bad weather, the Board will post information about snow closures by 6:00 am on the website at www.vsb.bc.ca and will inform local media stations. The VSB will also inform local media stations, including:

- CKNW (980 AM) CBC (690 AM, 105.7 FM) CJVB (1470 AM)
- CFHG (96.1 FM) CKWX (1130 AM) BCTV/Global
- CITY TV (Cable channel 13)



PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (PAC)

The next PAC meeting is **Wednesday, February 22nd** from **6:00 to 7:00 pm** on Zoom: PAC is a great way to get involved with your child's school, meet new people, and work together to build the vibrant Franklin community. Please contact Selina Tribe for more information (selina.tribe@gmail.com). All Franklin parents are welcome to join.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89974369897?pwd=THplSU9DbnVQTikzVXBDR1RLZWFrZz09>

UPCOMING PURDY'S FUNDRAISER



On the heels of a hugely successful Purdy's Christmas chocolate fundraiser, the PAC is now planning an Easter chocolate fundraiser as well – 25% of sales go back to the school!

Keep an eye out for the Purdy's catalogue that will go home with your children later this month, and you can get a jump on ordering your Easter treats for that special somebunny!

ALLERGY POLICY



Franklin School is allergy-aware!

Please note that parents are asked to avoid sending foods containing **nut or peanut products** to school with their children due to severe allergies to these particular foods.

As peanut/nut butter tends to stick to surfaces, please wash your child's hands if you give them these foods for breakfast before school.

If there are questions or concerns, please contact Mr. Knibbs for further information. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.