wəkʷaṅəs tə syaqʷəm Elementary School Weekly Newsletter

November 13, 2026 / #10 | **Website / Phone 604-713-4686**

wəkʷaṅəs tə syaqʷəm School Community,

Honouring Our Veterans

This Tuesday, we gathered as a school community for our annual Indigenous Veterans' Day and Remembrance Day Assembly to honour those who served. This tradition carries deep meaning and is a time for reflection at our school, and this year's assembly was no exception. Guided by their teachers, students shared poetry and sang songs, paying tribute to the courage and sacrifices made by individuals in pursuit of peace and freedom. It was a thoughtful and respectful event that highlighted the importance of remembrance in our community. A big thank you to our student council volunteers who helped collect donations to support the veterans fund.

Created by Kids Art Fundraiser

Our PAC's **Created by Kids Art Fundraiser** is now underway! Earlier this week, students brought home their artwork order packages, giving families the opportunity to purchase personalized keepsakes and gifts featuring their child's unique creations. Participation is completely optional, and 30% of all sales will be returned to our PAC to support school programs and initiatives.

To place an order, simply scan the QR code on the back of your child's artwork or visit shop.createdbykids.ca. Additional ordering information can be found in the package sent home with your child.

Important Dates

- **Order Deadline:** Tuesday, November 17
- **Artwork Return to School Deadline:** Wednesday, November 18
  (The Artwork Must Be Returned to the School)

Thank you for supporting our PAC while celebrating the creativity and talent of our student artists!

Traffic & Parking Safety Reminder

We have recently experienced some safety concerns related to traffic and parking during drop-off and pick-up times, particularly in the staff parking lot on the south side of the school off Grant Street. To help ensure the safety of our students, we are asking for everyone's cooperation.

Please note that the Grant Street parking lot is reserved for staff only and is not a student drop-off or pick-up area. Families are asked not to enter this lot during arrival and dismissal times.

Thank you for helping us maintain a safe environment for our school community. Please consider arriving a few minutes early and walking your child onto the school grounds. Let's keep everyone safe.

Purdy's Chocolatier Fundraiser

PAC's Purdy's Chocolatier Fundraiser is back! This is their biggest fundraiser of the year, and every purchase helps support programs and resources that enrich student learning and school life. Ordering is quick and easy online. Please share the link with family and friends who may be looking for holiday treats or gifts.

Order Online: https://tinyurl.com/3jpnzr9f

Important Dates:

- **Order Deadline:** November 30, 2026
- **Pick-Up / Distribution:** Week of December 7, 2026

Please remember to include your child's name and division in the Additional Information section when placing your order. Thank you for supporting our school and helping make this fundraiser a success!

School Closure – Professional Development Day

Please note that next week, on **Friday, November 20**, the school will be closed for a professional development day. We kindly ask families to make appropriate childcare arrangements, as classes will not be in session.

Have a safe and restful weekend,

Brad Toews
Principal
wəkʷaṅəs tə syaqʷəm Elementary School

🗓 Important Dates 2026 -2027

- **Friday, November 20, 2026:** *Professional Develop Day – No School*
- **Thursday, December 10, 2026:** *Winter Concert – 11am in the gym*
- **Friday, December 11, 2026:** *Pancake Breakfast and PJ Day*
- **Tuesday, December 15, 2026:** *Report Card #1 is accessible*
- **Friday, December 18, 2026:** *Last Day of School Before Winter Break*
- **Monday, January 4, 2027:** *First Day Back from Winter Break*
- **Monday, January 11, 2027:** *Saleema Noon Parent Night – please see newsletter post*
- **Tuesday, February 9, 2027:** *Grade 6 Immunizations*
- **Friday, February 12, 2027:** *Professional Develop Day – No School*
- **Monday, February 15, 2027:** *Family Day Stat Holiday – No school*
- **Tuesday, March 9, 2027:** *Report Card #2 is accessible*
- **Friday, March 12, 2027:** *Last Day of School Before Spring Break*
- **Monday, March 29, 2027:** *Easter Monday Stat Holiday – No school*
- **Tuesday, March 30, 2027:** *First Day Back from Spring Break*
- **Monday, April 19, 2027:** *Professional Develop Day – No School*
- **Tuesday, April 27, 2027:** *Composite/Class Photo Day*
- **Wednesday & Thursday, April 28 & 29, 2027:** *Parent Teacher Conferences – Early Dismissal @ 2:00pm*
- **Thursday, May 6, 2027:** *The Big One @ 2! – Earthquake Drill*
- **Thursday & Friday, May 6 & 7, 2027:** *Grade 7 Camp Summit*
- **Thursday, May 20, 2027:** *Sport's Day*
- **Friday, May 21, 2027:** *Professional Develop Day – No School*
- **Monday, May 24, 2027:** *Victoria Day Stat Holiday – No school*
- **Wednesday, May 26, 2027:** *On Our Way to K! – New Kindergarten Welcome*
- **Wednesday, June 2, 2027:** *Spring Concert @ 11am and 4pm*
- **Thursday, June 3, 2027:** *Kindergarten Immunizations*
- **Wednesday, June 23, 2027:** *Grade Seven Moving Forward Ceremony*
- **Thursday, June 24, 2027:** *Report Card #3 Go Home*
- **Tuesday, June 29, 2027:** *Last Day of School!*
- **Tuesday, September 7, 2027:** *First Day for Students – (9:00-10:00am, One Hour Only)*

Safe Arrival

If your child will be absent or late, please call ***604-713-5159 Ext. 12*** or Email ***begsafearrival@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. Meetings are typically held once a month, from September to June.

The next PAC meeting of 2026/2027 is November 18 in the library and online

Childminding is provided for parents attending in person. Please arrive a few minutes early to drop off your child(ren).

PAC Information and meeting minutes can be found: HERE

VSB: After the Bell, Podcast

In the VSB's podcast, **VSB: After the Bell**, you'll hear directly from experienced educators, subject matter experts and students on topics that relate directly to our VSB community. Whether you tune in to a pre-recorded episode or join us for a live session, we're happy to have you with us during these open and honest conversations about education.

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!
