wəkʷaṅəs tə syaqʷəm Elementary School Weekly Newsletter

November 19, 2026 / #11 | **Website / Phone 604-713-4686**

wəkʷaṅəs tə syaqʷəm School Community,

I can hardly believe we are already two and a half months into the school year! The time has flown by, and while I am still officially the "new principal," the school already feels very familiar. It's been great getting to know students, staff, and families and becoming part of the wəkʷaṅəs tə syaqʷəm community.

As we move further into the school year, I want to thank everyone for the warm welcome and support you have shown since September. I am looking forward to the busy weeks ahead, the many learning opportunities for students, and the special events that will bring our community together as we head toward the winter break.

🏑 Vancouver Warriors Visit

On Wednesday, we welcomed the Vancouver Warriors for a lacrosse presentation. Students learned about the sport, its Indigenous origins, and its significance in Canada, while enjoying some interactive demonstrations and activities. It was a fun opportunity to learn more about the history and culture of the game.

The Warriors also provided two-for-one ticket coupons, which are available in the office for families interested in attending an upcoming game. First come, first served. 🏑

🎄 wəkʷaṅəs tə syaqʷəm School Winter Concert & Pancake Breakfast

Families are invited to join us for our Winter Concert on Thursday, December 10, from approximately 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Students will be sharing songs and performances they have been preparing in class.

The following morning, our PAC will host its annual Pancake Breakfast on Friday, December 11, beginning at 8:00 a.m. This is a wonderful opportunity to gather as a school community and enjoy breakfast together before the start of the school day.

To help the PAC plan for food and seating, families are asked to RSVP here: RSVP Form

Please see the attached flyer for additional details. We look forward to gathering with our school community at these seasonal events. 🎄🥞

❄️ Weather Reminders

As we move into the late fall and winter season, Vancouver weather is often wet and rainy. We encourage students to come to school dressed appropriately for the weather each day, including waterproof jackets, proper footwear, and other weather-appropriate clothing. We also recommend that students keep a change of clothes at school, particularly during the wetter months, to help ensure they remain comfortable throughout the day if they get wet while travelling to school or during outdoor activities.

As a reminder, winter weather, including snowfall, is always a possibility as we move into December and the winter months. In the event of snowfall, please check our school webite, or https://www.vsb.bc.ca for information on school closures after **6:00 a.m.**

🍫 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 **tomorrow**, **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 December 9 in the library.

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. **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!**
