wəkʷaṅəs tə syaqʷəm Elementary School Weekly Newsletter

November 6, 2026 / #9 | Website / Phone 604-713-4686

wəkʷaṅəs tə syaqʷəm School Community,

Student Council Poppy Fundraiser

Our Student Council are now collecting twoonies and loonies (or any other donations) in support of the Legion's Remembrance Day Poppy Fund. Donations will be accepted from now until November 10. We encourage students and families to consider contributing as we honour and remember the sacrifices of veterans and all those who have served our country.

PAC's 2nd Apple Fundraiser

Last call for the PAC Apple Fundraiser! Every box sold helps support opportunities and resources for our students.
Orders can be placed online until **November 7, 2026**, with pickup after school on **November 19, 2026**.
Thank you for your support, and please feel free to share the order link with family and friends!
Order here: https://tinyurl.com/58hxkrh3

Artist in Residence Spotlight: Rebecca Heyl

As part of our Artist in Residence program this year, we are pleased to introduce Rebecca Heyl, a community-engaged artist, author, and educator. Rebecca holds a Master of Fine Arts from the School of the Museum of Fine Arts at Tufts University in Boston and is currently engaged in graduate studies with the Faculty of Education at Simon Fraser University.

Rebecca's background includes photography, photojournalism, education, and community-based arts practice. After completing an undergraduate degree in Psychology, she studied documentary photography at the International Center of Photography in New York City and began working as a newspaper photographer in the 1990s. While she continues freelance photography work, her recent focus has been on using photography as a tool for learning, reflection, and documentation in early childhood and primary school settings.

Since 2017, Rebecca has worked with the Artists in Residence in Schools (AIRS) program, bringing experiences centered on nature, curiosity, and wonder into Vancouver public schools. Through both her own artistic practice and her work with students, she seeks to create spaces where dialogue, creativity, and artistic expression can flourish.
Students will have opportunities to engage in meaningful artistic experiences that encourage observation, exploration, and creative thinking. We look forward to the learning and discoveries that will emerge through Rebecca's work with our school community.

Kindergarten Registration

Do you have a child born in **2022**? Kindergarten registration for the **2027-2028 school year is now open**.

Children born in 2022 are eligible to begin Kindergarten in September 2027. Families are encouraged to complete their registration during the priority registration period to support school planning and placement.

For information about eligibility, required documentation, and the registration process, please visit the Vancouver School Board Kindergarten Registration page: HERE

We look forward to welcoming our newest learners and families to our school community!

Remembrance Day Reminder

A reminder to all families that Wednesday, November 11, 2026, is Remembrance Day, a time to honour and reflect on the sacrifices made by veterans and those who have served our country. As this is a statutory holiday, there will be no school on Wednesday, November 11.

We encourage families to take a moment to remember and recognize the importance of this day.
Lest We Forget.

Have a safe and restful weekend,

Brad Toews
Principal
wəkʷaṅəs tə syaqʷəm Elementary School

🗓 Important Dates 2026 -2027

- **Wednesday, November 11, 2026:** *Remembrance Day Stat Holiday – No school*
- **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!