



# ᓄᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂ Thunderbird Elementary School Weekly Newsletter

November 20, 2025 / #12

(604) 713-4611 | [thunderbird@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:thunderbird@vsb.bc.ca) |  
[www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/thunderbird](http://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/thunderbird)

ᓄᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂ Thunderbird Families,

## **School Closure – Professional Development Day Tomorrow**

Please note that tomorrow, **Friday, November 21**, 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.



## **Kindergarten Registration Now Open for Children Born in 2021**

Kindergarten registration for the 2025–2026 school year is open for children born in 2021. All applicants must register with their English catchment elementary school—even if they plan to apply for a Choice Program.

Families interested in Choice Programs (Early French Immersion, Montessori, Indigenous Focus School, Early Mandarin Bilingual, Nootka Fine Arts) can apply during the Choice Program and Cross Boundary window, which runs from **January 6 to February 3, 2026**.

The **priority registration period** for kindergarten begins on **November 1, 2025**, and closes at **4 p.m. on January 31, 2026**. In-catchment students who register during this window will be given priority placement at Thunderbird Elementary before late applicants. [CLICK HERE FOR INFO AND REGISTRATION](#)

## **Parking Lot Safety Reminder**

For the safety of our students and staff, parents should **not use the Thunderbird staff parking lot** at the back of the school for drop-off or pick-up at any time. This area is for staff only. Parents dropping children off at the Community Centre childcare facility in the portable should use the Community Centre parking lot off Cassiar Street or street parking and walk their children in  .

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for helping us keep our school community safe.

## **Winter Weather Reminder**

As the weather turns colder, we want to remind families that snow is always a possibility during this time of year and throughout the winter months. In the event of snowfall, please check our <https://thunderbird.vsb.bc.ca>, the <https://www.vsb.bc.ca>, or the media outlets listed below for information on school closures after **6:00 a.m.**

### Media Outlets:

- CKNW (980 AM)
- CBC (690 AM, 105.7 FM)
- CJVB (1470 AM)
- CFHG (96.1 FM)
- CKWX (1130 AM)
- BCTV/Global (Cable channel 11)
- CITY TV (Cable channel 13)

## **Books for Breakfast**

We look forward to seeing you at our next **Books for Breakfast on Friday, November 28 at 8:15 AM** in the lunchroom!

Reading with our children is one of the most powerful ways to support their development. Research shows that children whose parents read to them daily are exposed to over 290,000 more words by the time they enter kindergarten—and that number can grow to over a million words with consistent reading. This exposure helps children build vocabulary and comprehension skills that support lifelong learning.

Starbucks Grandview Tech Centre will once again provide coffee for families to enjoy.

Have a wonderful long weekend,

Brad Toews

Principal

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“A room without books is like a body without a soul.” – Cicero

### Important Dates 2025 – 2026

- **Friday, November 21, 2025:** Professional Development Day – **No School**
- **Wednesday, December 3, 2025:** PAC Meeting at 6:00pm in the library
- **Thursday, December 11, 2025:** Student Christmas Store
- **Wednesday, December 17, 2025:** Thunderbird Community Centre's Christmas dinner
  - Report Card #1 Go Home
- **Friday, December 19, 2025:** Pancake Breakfast and PJ Day - Last Before Winter Break
- **Monday, January 5, 2026:** First Day Back from Winter Break

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### Safe Arrival

If your child will be absent or late, please call **604-713-5159 Ext. 81** or Email [tbrdattendance@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:tbrdattendance@vsb.bc.ca) by 9:00 AM.

**Please do not call the school office.**

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### 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. Our meetings are typically held on the first Wednesday of the month at 6:00 pm and last approximately an hour, from September to June.

The next PAC meeting of 2025/2026 is **Wednesday, December 3, 6-7 pm** in the library. Dinner and babysitting for school aged children are provided. RSVP by returning the paper form sent home or emailing [thunderbirdpac@gmail.com](mailto:thunderbirdpac@gmail.com).

PAC Information and meeting minutes can be found: [HERE](#)

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### VSBC: After the Bell, Podcast

Podcast episodes are released at the end of every month. Subscribe to **VSBC: After the Bell** on [Apple Podcasts](#), [Spotify](#) or wherever you listen to podcasts!

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