



ᓄᓐᓄᓐᓄᓐ Thunderbird Elementary School Weekly Newsletter

December 19, 2025 / #16

(604) 713-4611 | thunderbird@vsb.bc.ca |
www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/thunderbird

ᓄᓐᓄᓐᓄᓐ Thunderbird Families,

Thank you to our students, staff, and parents for your support throughout this school year. Our school community remains committed to fostering learning and growth, both in the classroom and beyond. This includes continued focus on academics as well as extracurricular opportunities in athletics, the arts, and other activities that help students develop a wide range of skills and interests.

I appreciate the effort and dedication shown by our students each day. As we approach the New Year, I am confident that this commitment will continue.

Report Cards

Report Cards were **posted on Wednesday, December 17th**. This year, all teachers posted report cards on SpacesEdu, which was new for most families. If you were not signed up on this platform, we encouraged you to reach out to your child's teacher, and they guided you through the process. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's reporting, please contact the classroom teacher.

This Week

This past Wednesday, the Thunderbird Community Centre hosted its annual Christmas Dinner, and it was a wonderful success. Students, families, and community members enjoyed warm greetings, gifts for the children, and a delicious turkey dinner. A big thank you to Lorraine and the entire community centre team for making this event possible. It continues to be one of the highlights of the year for our school community.

Today, students enjoyed a festive pancake breakfast accompanied by music from the Van Tech Band and a few songs performed by our own students. It was a wonderful way to celebrate the winter season together.

Thank you to all the staff who helped make this event possible, to Ms. Kilburn for leading the Van Tech Band, and to the Thunderbird Community Centre for lending equipment. This combined effort truly contributed to the success of the celebration.

Elementary District Choice Programs

VSB is proud to offer a wide range of educational options for different types of learners. Our elementary district choice programs include French Immersion, Mandarin Bilingual, Indigenous Focus, Montessori, and Fine Arts. For further details about each program, please visit the [VSB elementary programs webpage](#). If you'd like to learn more about how these district choice programs are delivered and how they differ from the regular stream, tune in to [episode 13 of the VSB: After the Bellow podcast](#).

Families seeking an overview of the district choice programs and information about the online info sessions are encouraged to visit the [VSB district choice programs webpage](#).

District Choice Info Session Dates and Meeting Links:

- [Tuesday January 6, 2026 @ 6pm – Mandarin and Early Mandarin Bilingual](#)
- [Wednesday January 7, 2026 @ 6pm – Fine Arts](#)
- [Wednesday January 7, 2026 @ 6pm – Intensive French](#)
- [Thursday January 8, 2026 @ 6pm – Late French Immersion](#)
- [Thursday January 8, 2026 @ 6pm – Indigenous Focus School](#)
- [Tuesday January 13, 2026 @ 6pm – Early French Immersion](#)
- [Wednesday January 14, 2026 @ 6pm – Montessori](#)

Please remember that the school will be **closed from Saturday, December 20, 2025**, and will **reopen on Monday, January 5, 2026**, for a regular school day.

Wishing everyone Happy Holidays and a safe, restful winter break!

Brad Toews
Principal
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📅 Important Dates 2025 -2026

- **Monday, January 5, 2026:** *First Day Back from Winter Break*
- **Wednesday, January 7, 2026:** *PAC Meeting at 6:00pm in the library*
- **Monday, January 12, 2026:** *Professional Development Day – No School*
- **Friday, January 30, 2026:** *Book for Breakfast @ 8:15am in the Lunchroom*
- **Wednesday, February 4, 2026:** *PAC Meeting at 6:00pm in the library*
- **Friday, February 13, 2026:** *Professional Development Day – No School*
- **Monday, February 16, 2026:** *Family Day Stat Holiday – No School*
- **Wednesday, February 25, 2026:** *Pink Shirt Day*
- **Friday, February 27, 2026:** *Book for Breakfast @ 8:15am in the Lunchroom*
- **Wednesday, March 4, 2026:** *PAC Meeting at 6:00pm in the library*
- **Monday, March 11, 2026:** *Report Card #2 Goes Home*
- **Monday, March 11, 2026:** *Family Learning Night 4-6pm*
- **Friday, March 13, 2026:** *Last Before Spring Break*
- **Monday, March 30, 2026:** *First Day Back from Spring Break*
- **Wednesday, April 1, 2026:** *Class Photo Day*
- **Wednesday, April 1, 2026:** *PAC Meeting at 6:00pm in the library*
- **Friday, April 3, 2026:** *Good Friday Stat Holiday – No School*
- **Monday, April 6, 2026:** *Easter Monday Stat Holiday – No School*
- **Monday, April 20, 2026:** *Professional Development Day – No School*
- **Friday, April 24, 2026:** *Book for Breakfast @ 8:15am in the Lunchroom*
- **Wednesday & Thursday, April 29 & 30, 2026:** *Parent Teacher Conferences – Early Dismissal @ 2:00pm*
- **Wednesday, May 6, 2026:** *PAC Meeting at 6:00pm in the library*
- **Thursday, May 7, 2026:** *The Big One at 2 PM – Earthquake Drill*
- **Friday, May 18, 2026:** *Victoria Day Stat Holiday – No School*
- **Tuesday, May 19, 2026:** *Sports Day*
- **Friday, May 29, 2026:** *Book for Breakfast @ 8:15am in the Lunchroom*
- **Wednesday, June 3, 2026:** *Bikefest*
- **Wednesday, June 3, 2026:** *PAC Meeting at 6:00pm in the library*
- **Wednesday, June 17, 2026:** *PAC Spring fair*
- **Thursday, June 18, 2026:** *Grade 7 Grad Ceremony*
- **Wednesday, June 24, 2026:** *Report Card #3 Goes Home*
- **Wednesday, June 24, 2026:** *Sunrise Park School Picnic*
- **Thursday, June 25, 2026:** *Last Day of School for Students*

Safe Arrival

If your child will be absent or late, please call **604-713-5159 Ext. 81** or Email tbrdattendance@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. 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, January 7, 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.

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

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!
