



# šxʷəxʷaʔəs Thunderbird Elementary School Weekly Newsletter

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[www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/thunderbird](http://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/thunderbird)

January 23, 2026 / #19

šxʷəxʷaʔəs Thunderbird Families,

## Rainy Day Lunch Plan & Game Donations

We are pleased to share that we now have a Rainy Day Plan in place for days with heavy rain during the lunch hour. This will help ensure students stay warm, dry, and engaged with fun activities indoors. Thank you to our PAC for their generous support, which will help us purchase new rainy-day games for students to enjoy.

At the office, we are also accepting donations of lightly used children's board games. If you are able to donate, please ensure that all pieces and the game box are included. Your contributions help make our indoor days enjoyable for everyone. Thank you for your support!

## Student Learning Survey – Parents of Grade 4 & 7 Students

The Vancouver School Board, District #39, and its students, staff and parent community are participating in the 2026 Ministry of Education's electronic and anonymous [Student Learning Survey](#) in cooperation with all other school districts throughout the Province. Parents/Guardians of grade 4 and 7 students at Thunderbird can complete this electronic anonymous survey **any time before May 1, 2026**.

This survey is intended to help the Ministry of Education and school districts plan – allowing parents and students to tell us about their education experience in their school and district. Students in Grades 4 and 7, and their parents and all staff in B.C. public schools are invited to take the annual online satisfaction survey about their school experience.

**For parents to complete the survey:**

1. Go to any computer that has up-to-date internet browser access at home, work, or school and access: <https://www.awinfosys.com/SurveyFull1/central/main/access.asp>
2. Scroll down to the “**Parent**” section - Direct Access. Select **39 Vancouver** from the pull-down menu next to **District**. **The school** will then appear, and you select **Thunderbird šxʷəxʷaʔəs Elementary**. You can then select your desired language and click the **Log On** button.
3. Complete the survey by clicking on the “radio buttons” for each question. Move to the next set of questions by clicking on **Arrow Button** in the bottom right corner of the screen. If you make a mistake, you can click the back **Arrow Button**.
4. When you have finished the survey, you will get a message thanking you and you are done.

Thank you for participating in this provincial project.

## Books for Breakfast

We look forward to seeing you next week at **Books for Breakfast on Friday, January 30 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 safe and restful weekend.

Brad Toews  
Principal  
šxʷəxʷaʔəs Thunderbird Elementary School

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## 1 Important Dates 2025 -2026

- **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

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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, February 4, 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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## VSB: After the Bell, Podcast

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!

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