



ᓄᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂ Thunderbird Elementary School Weekly Newsletter

October 31, 2025 / #9

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

ᓄᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂ Thunderbird Families,

Kindergarten Registration Opens tomorrow 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](#)

Reading Workshop for K–Grade 3 Families

All parents and caregivers of students from **Kindergarten to Grade 3** are invited to a Reading Workshop hosted by the One To One Literacy Society.

During this 60-minute interactive session, adults will learn positive reading strategies to support their young readers at home. After the workshop, there may be time to read and practice some of these strategies with your child.

Participants will also receive a resource package of literacy games to take home!

To register:

- Return the paper form to the school by **Monday, November 10** – the form is attached this email
- OR scan the QR code – found on the attached letter
- OR register online at <https://tinyurl.com/5n8df59v>

Keep Halloween Fun and Safe for Everyone

Today is Halloween! It is a time for spooky thrills and imagination—but it also brings extra risks for children and teens. Did you know that child pedestrian injuries are more likely on Halloween than on any other night of the year? Help keep the holiday safe and enjoyable with these essential tips:

-  **Accompany young children** on their neighborhood rounds. If trick-or-treating starts after dark in your area, check with your town or park district for earlier Halloween activities. Research shows that 6–9 p.m. is the riskiest time for child pedestrians.
-  **Plan ahead for older kids** who are trick-or-treating alone. Review their route, agree on a return time, and make sure everyone has a working flashlight.
-  **Talk about distracted walking.** Remind kids to avoid texting, using phones, or listening to music while walking.
-  **Cross streets safely and together.** Most child pedestrian fatalities happen mid-block, not at intersections. Teach kids to use crosswalks and never cross between parked cars or out of driveways.
-  **Don't assume drivers will stop.** Motorists may not see trick-or-treaters clearly, even if they have the right of way.
-  **Stick to well-lit streets and sidewalks.** If there's no sidewalk, walk facing traffic at the edge of the road. Visit only homes with porch lights on and a clear, lit path.
-  **Remember: Halloween is about fun—injuries are never fun.**

Rain or Shine: Be Ready for Fall and Winter Weather

As the fall and winter seasons settle in and rainy days become more frequent, please help your child stay comfortable and prepared:

-  Dress for the weather—warm layers, waterproof jackets, and boots make a big difference.
-  Consider sending an umbrella on rainy days.

-  Pack an extra set of clothes in your child’s backpack for life’s little accidents.

Students will be outside during recess and lunch **rain or shine**, so being weather-ready helps keep the day fun and stress-free.

 Hot Lunch Program Reminder

Lastly, a friendly reminder to all families who participate in the Hot Lunch Program: Please return your **November Hot Lunch Envelopes** to the school **as soon as possible**. These envelopes help us accurately project the number of meals needed for the month, so timely returns are essential. Thank you for your attention and support in keeping this program running smoothly!

With that, have a wonderful and safe Halloween weekend,

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

Important Dates 2025 -2026

- **Wednesday, November 5, 2025:** PAC Meeting at 6:00pm in the library
- **Tuesday, November 11, 2025:** Remembrance Day Stat Holiday – **No school**
- **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

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, November 5, 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!
