

GRENFELL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

South Hill Swing Space: 5987 Prince Albert Street

Phone: 604-713-4844

Website: <https://www.vsb.bc.ca/sir-wilfred-grenfell/>

PRINCIPAL: Maureen McDonnell	DIRECTOR OF INSTRUCTION: Chris Wong
SCHOOL TRUSTEE: Christopher Richardson	PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL CHAIR (PAC): Caitlin Glass

With deep gratitude and respect, we are honoured to be learning and unlearning on the ancestral and unceded lands of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation) & səliłwətał (Tsleil-Waututh Nation).



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome everyone back from the winter holidays. I hope you and your family were able to have some quality time together during the winter break.



SNOW, ICY ROADS PROCEDURE

We would like to remind parents/caregivers about the procedure we will follow in the event that our buses are cancelled in the morning due to poor weather (such as ice or snow). Although this is rare, in the case of snowy or icy roads the bus company may decide to cancel the bus service, for safety reasons. In this case, the school will email families as early as possible to the email address you have provided. Our goal is to email families prior to 7:00am. Please check your email regularly during mornings where there is snow, ice, or other inclement road conditions.

ROAD SAFETY

Parents and caregivers who drive students to the swing site are reminded not to park in the bus zone in front of the school. Please do not make U-turns on Prince Albert Street as it is unsafe. We sometimes see the school buses stop on the street while waiting for the drivers to finish their U-turns.

PRICE STREET CLOSURE



You may have noticed that Price Street and the sidewalk are currently closed. We were told that the work will be completed by the end of next week. During Price Street closure, we would like to remind parents and caregivers to look for alternate parking spots when picking up and dropping off your child(ren). A reminder to continue to observe the bus zone on Rupert Street. The bus zone is reserved for the school buses to safely pick up and drop off students. Thank you for your ongoing support!



MIDDLE YEARS DEVELOPMENT INSTRUMENT (MDI)

This year all Grade 6 students are invited to participate in the MDI survey. This survey is sponsored by the UBC Human Early Learning Partnership (HELP). The MDI is a self-report questionnaire for students in BC. The questionnaire asks about how students think and feel about their experiences both inside and outside of school. The questionnaire is completed online through the e-MDI and takes 45 to 60 minutes to administer. The MDI questions align with the BC Ministry of Education's K-12 curriculum which includes a focus on promoting children's personal and social competencies. You can learn more about the MDI here: <http://www.discovermdi.ca/what-is-the-mdi/>

A letter has been shared with the Grade 6 parents/guardians informing them of the MDI survey. The MDI will be administered between **January 13 and March 13, 2026**. Please return the Informed Passive Consent Form if you like to **withdraw** your child from participating.

STUDENT LEARNING SURVEY

This year all students in Grade 4 and 7 participate in the Ministry's Student Learning Survey. Parents of all ages (particularly parents of Grade 4 and 7 students) are invited to fill out the survey. **Survey opens from January 5th to May 1st, 2026.**

Go to www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat_survey/access.htm

1. Click on Parents (please complete one survey for each child).
 - District: **39 Vancouver**
 - School: **Sir Wilfred Grenfell Community**
 - Language: the language of your choice
2. Begin the survey by clicking on "next" located on the bottom right. Complete the survey by clicking on the appropriate circle to answer each question. Move to the next set of questions by clicking on the right arrow in the bottom right corner of the screen. Click on the left arrow to navigate backwards.
3. When you are finished the survey, you will get a message "Thank you for sharing your views".

PAC MEETING

Our next PAC meeting is **Wednesday, February 18 at 9:00 am** in the Staff Room at South Hill (5987 Prince Albert St). All parents and guardians are welcome to attend.

SNOW CLOSURES DUE TO WEATHER CONDITIONS



When the school is closed due to inclement weather, the Vancouver School Board will post information about snow closures by 6:00 am on the website at www.vsb.bc.ca and will inform local media stations.

Parents are encouraged to check the VSB website or listen to the radio/TV stations to learn about school closures. The school will also send an email out to families as soon as VSB has made the announcement to close schools due to snow. Please check your email regularly during mornings where there is snow, ice, or other inclement road conditions.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Friday, January 23	PAC hot lunch (Sushi Taku)
Friday, February 6	PAC hot lunch (Hi Five Chicken)
Friday, February 13	Pro-D Day (students do not attend)
Monday, Feb 16	Family Day holiday
Wednesday, February 18	PAC meeting at 9:00am in Staff Room
Friday, February 20	PAC Hot Lunch (pizza)
Wednesday, February 25	Pink Shirt Day assembly (students are encouraged to wear pink to school)