

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
OFFICIAL TRUSTEE: Christopher Richardson	PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL CHAIR: 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) & səlilwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh Nation).

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

This year, I once again have reason to thank the entire Grenfell school community for the wonderful support you have shown throughout the school year. We truly have an exceptional group of students, staff, and families. The spirit at Grenfell is remarkable, and each day I come to work feeling grateful for the opportunity to be part of such a caring and dedicated community.

It has been a privilege to serve as principal of Grenfell School over the past five years. I will truly miss all of you and the strong sense of community that has made Grenfell feel like home during my time here.

As shared in my recent letter to families, the district's Seismic Team is currently working with the City of Vancouver to obtain our occupancy permit for the upgraded Grenfell building. We are excited to share that we anticipate moving into the seismically upgraded and safe building to start the next school year, on September 8, 2026. This is wonderful news for our community. In addition to enhanced safety, the school will be fully accessible with the addition of an elevator. We are also looking forward to our new outdoor learning area and nature park.

I look forward to coming back to visit in the future!

To the students and families who are leaving us, we wish you all the very best at your new schools—we know you will go on to do great things.

Finally, as you begin your well-earned summer break, I wish you all a happy, restful, and safe holiday.

Sincerely,

Maureen McDonnell

GRADE 7 FAREWELL



I would like to congratulate all the grade 7 students for their many accomplishments in their final year at Grenfell. You will be missed! We are all very proud of each and every one of you, and we hope that you will remember your time here fondly. Come back visit us anytime!

Congratulations to the following students who are moving on to high school in September: Alex, Andrew, Aqilaazzalea, Avery, Axzel, Bonnie, Carmelita, Coby, Daniel, Doris, Ethan A., Ethan P., Felix, Irvin, Jack, Jai, James, Jonathan, Joseph, Kyle, Linda, Luke P, Luke C, Lyan, Maddison, Megan, Michaela, Miguel, Pavani, Rachel, Sophia, Uday, Walter, William, Bella and Zoe.

GRENFELL SCHOLARSHIP



Grenfell PAC generously supports a scholarship awarded to former Grenfell students and Grade 12 Windermere graduates. The recipient of this year's Grenfell Scholarship is Jessie Garcha. Jessiew will receive a scholarship amount of \$300 towards her post-secondary education. Congratulations Jessie! Thank you to Grenfell PAC for their generous support of this scholarship.



GOODBYE TO OUR STAFF

This is the time of the year when we must say farewell to some of the staff at Grenfell. We are sad to see our Student Support Workers Roya and Simran leave Grenfell to pursue other opportunities. Ms. Mary Santorelli, our office support, has been

assigned to a different school.

After 44 years of teaching including 5 years in an independent school, Ms. Ramzzini is retiring at the end of June. Ms. Ramazzini has been at Grenfell for 20 years as Kindergarten teacher. We will miss her and wish her all the best.

After 34 years as Resource Teacher, Ms. Kwong is retiring at the end of June. Throughout her career, Ms. Kwong worked tirelessly to advocate for students with diverse abilities and students who are English Language learners. Ms. Kwong has created a calm place for her students to work and to self-regulate.

After 29 years in Education, I am also retiring at the end of July. My time at Grenfell has been a true highlight of my career—filled with meaningful relationships, shared accomplishments, and a deep sense of belonging that I will always carry with me.



VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION TEA

In recognition of the contributions made by our volunteers and as a small token of thanks, we hosted a Volunteer Tea as a way to show our appreciation. Volunteers such as supervising at school fieldtrips, driving students to sports events, running the PAC functions, organizing school hot lunches, just to name a few...leave lasting effect on our students and the school community. Thank you to the volunteers who were able to attend our Volunteer Appreciation Tea on **Friday, June 5**. If you were

unable to attend the tea, please know that we appreciate your contribution to our school very much.

THANK YOU, GRENFELL PAC

We would like to thank Grenfell PAC for their support over the course of this year. The PAC has funded the school with over \$10,000 of purchases that included technology, library books, on-line home reading program, fieldtrips, Music resources, Grade 7 camp bus and classroom supplies.

Thank you Grenfell parents and Grenfell PAC for your generosity!

Our sincere thanks to the PAC Executive 2025-26:

Caitlin Glass (PAC Chair)

Vanni Pheng (Treasurer)

Jasmine Sanchez (Hot Lunch Coordinator)

Holly Zimmerman (Hot Lunch Co-Coordinator)

Patricia Sharma (Fundraising Coordinator)

FOOD BANK DONATION

Students in Div. 1, 2, 3 & 4 held a very successful Spring Fair showcasing their entrepreneurial skills by designing and marketing their products. They have decided to donate part of their proceeds to the Greater Vancouver Food bank. A cheque with the amount of \$260.60 was mailed to the food bank. We are very proud of students who think about the people who face food insecurity.

EXTENDED SCHOOL ABSENCE

Please note that the Vancouver School District has an Administrative Procedure if families take their child out of school for more than 20 consecutive days during the school year.

Section 9 of AP300 states

9.2 School Principals have the authority to withdraw any student who is absent for more than 20 consecutive school days.

9.1 Students who have never attended by the end of the first week of school in September will be withdrawn, unless a prior arrangement has been made with the school Principal.

Please inform the school principal if your child will return to Grenfell later than **September 11, 2026.**

BC SUMMER READING CLUB AT VANCOUVER PUBLIC LIBRARY!



The Summer Reading Club is a great way for children to practice or improve their reading skills and to continue learning new things over the summer months. Please check it out: <https://bcsrc.ca/>

SCHOOL CALENDAR 2026-2027 AND NEXT YEAR'S SCHOOL FEE SCHEDULE

Please find both documents **attached at the end of this newsletter.**

DATES TO REMEMBER

Thursday, June 25	Last day of school for students (full day)
Tuesday, September 8	First Day of School Grade 1 to 7 (students attend from 9:00 -10:00 am)
Tuesday, September 22	Meet the Teacher day (time to be confirmed)
Wednesday, September 23	Professional Development Day (students do not attend)
Wednesday, September 30	National Day for Truth & Reconciliation (school not in session)



The Grenfell staff would like to wish you a great summer and we look forward to seeing you in September. To the students who will start at a new school in September, we wish you all the best at your new schools. We hope you have enjoyed your time at Grenfell.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION - PLEASE TRANSLATE

Informations importantes - Veuillez traduire



这是一份重要信息 — 请找人为您翻译

Mahalagang Impormasyon - Paki salin sa sariling wika

Thông tin quan trọng - Xin tìm phiên dịch

ਮਹੱਤਵਪੂਰਨ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ-ਮਿਹਰਬਾਨੀ ਕਰਕੇ ਅਨੁਵਾਦ ਕਰੋ/ਕਰਵਾਓ

महत्वपूर्ण जानकारी - कृपया अनुवाद करें

Información importante - Por favor traducir

重要な情報-翻訳してください

중요한 정보 - 번역 부탁드립니다

معلومات مهمة - الرجاء الترجمة

اطلاعات مهم - لطفا ترجمه کنید

Важная информация -

переведите, пожалуйста
מידע חשוב - אנא תרגם**Grenfell****ELEMENTARY SCHOOL****School Year 2026-27****School Fee Schedule****FINANCIAL HARDSHIP**

The Vancouver School District is committed to ensuring that no school-age student will be denied an opportunity to participate in a course, class or program because of an inability to pay fees. Parents and guardians unable to pay some or all school fees are invited to speak to their child's teacher, school counsellor, and/or the school Principal.

[See Administrative Procedure 506: Financial Hardship](#)

\$35.00 SCHOOL SUPPLY FEE

As per the School Act, families are required to provide their child with consumable supplies and equipment for personal use. The Vancouver School District offers the service of purchasing basic school supplies provided in bulk at wholesale prices and passing the cost savings on to families. The School Supply Fee for 2026-2027 is \$35.00 per student. This fee covers basic consumable school supplies used for each student's personal use such as paper, writing tools, glue sticks, erasers, exercise books and art supplies. Supplies are provided for the full year. However, families can choose to purchase their own school supplies independently and opt out of paying this fee. The school will provide a list of required consumable supplies to families who choose this option.

SUPPLEMENTAL SCHOOL FEES

Optional supplemental school fees can be charged for materials and/or activities that are in addition to what is necessary for the student to meet the learning standards of the curriculum. These resources and activities enhance learning experiences and are recommended, but not required. Some supplemental fees may be offset through fundraising events or financial support through the Parent Advisory Council. The items listed below include materials and activities that the school has already identified as supplemental fees for the 2026-2027 school year.

Item	Description	Fees	Grade(s)
Agenda	School agendas support students with organization and planning.	\$12.00	1 to 7
Applied Design and Technology Skills (ADST)	Enhanced materials for applied design and skills.	\$15.00	K to 7

Calendar 2026-27
GRENFELL
Elementary School



SCHOOL OPERATION OVERVIEW

Number of Days in Session	186
Number of Days of Instruction	179
Number of Days of Non-Instruction	5 Professional Development Days 1 Non-Instructional Day 1 Administrative Day (June 30)

IMPORTANT DATES

First Day of School for Students	Tuesday, September 8, 2026
National Day of Truth & Reconciliation	Wednesday, September 30, 2026
Thanksgiving Day	Monday, October 12, 2026
Remembrance Day	Wednesday, November 11, 2026
Last Day of Instruction Before Winter Vacation	Friday, December 18, 2026
Winter Vacation Period	Monday, December 21, 2026-Friday, January 1, 2027
School Re-opens after Winter Vacation	Monday, January 4, 2027
Family Day	Monday, February 15, 2027
Last Day of Instruction Before Spring Vacation	Friday, March 12, 2027
Spring Vacation Period	Monday, March 15-Thursday, March 25, 2027
Good Friday	Friday, March 26, 2027
Easter Monday	Monday, March 29, 2027
School Re-opens after Spring Vacation	Tuesday, March 30, 2027
Victoria Day	Monday, May 24, 2027
Last Full Day of Pupil Attendance	Tuesday, June 29, 2027
Administrative/School Closing Day	Wednesday, June 30, 2027

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND NON-INSTRUCTIONAL DAYS
(SCHOOL NOT IN SESSION)**

Wednesday, September 23, 2026	Professional Development Day (Date set by school)
Friday, October 23, 2026	Professional Development Day (Province wide)
Friday, November 20, 2026	Professional Development Day (District wide)
Friday, February 12, 2027	Professional Development Day (District wide)
Monday, April 19, 2027	Non-Instructional Day (District wide)
Friday, May 21, 2027	Professional Development Day (School – not movable)

PARENT CONFERENCE DATES

EARLY DISMISSAL TIMES

Wednesday, October 21, 2026	Students will be dismissed at 2:00 pm
Thursday, October 22, 2026	Students will be dismissed at 2:00 pm
Wednesday, April 28, 2027	Students will be dismissed at 2:00 pm
Thursday, April 29, 2027	Students will be dismissed at 2:00 pm