šxʷəxʷaʔəs Thunderbird Elementary School

2325 Cassiar Street, Vancouver V5M 3X3
604-713-4611 thunderbird@vsb.bc.ca

November 2026 News

With deep gratitude and respect, we are honoured to be learning and unlearning on the ancestral and unceded lands of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Sḵwxwú7mesh| (Squamish) and səlilwətaɬ (Tsleil-Waututh).

Principal: Sharon Vieira **Director of Instruction: Amy Van Vliet**

Trustee: Alfred Chien **Superintendent: Helen McGregor**

PAC Chair: Amber Morgan **PAC Vice Chair: Laura White**

November 2026

Dear šxʷəxʷaʔəs Thunderbird Elementary Families,
Thank you to all our families and teachers for connecting during our goal setting conferences. It was really uplifting to have our families in the school and meeting with staff to share stories of student success and next steps to support their learning. Our Halloween parade was a success inside, the children all had fun in our gym sharing their costumes. Thank you to the Thunderbird Community Centre Team for providing fun activity stations in the afternoon for our students that were run by our division 1 students.

On November 10th we will be holding our Remembrance Day assembly in our gym. Families are welcome to join us for this important assembly where we remember those who have passed working to protect Canada and our role in building peaceful solutions in our world. We will begin the assembly at 11:00am and there will be seating at the back of the gym for parents and caregivers who would like to join us.

Connecting with the School Team to problem solve
We appreciate the support and communication from families around your child's school experience. When your child comes home and relates a story about an unsolved or worrisome problem at school we hope you will connect with us. Please take a moment to email your classroom teacher outlining the concern and asking for their help to unpackage the incident and learn about the school's insight on a situation. Sometimes these connections offer the school team an opportunity to learn more about an issue that your child is facing. In other instances, a school staff might seek support of the school counsellor, youth and family worker and/or principal to help with problem solving and repair of relationships in the school.

When our students know that the adults in their lives are connecting to discuss strategies to keep them safe, happy and successful at school, it can be reassuring for them. We know that our children are learning how to manage social dynamics every day and that this is an important part of their social development. We also know that mistakes will happen and we need to work on peaceful resolutions. Please feel free to include Ms. Vieira in an email to your teacher at any time if you feel it will be helpful as well. Our šxʷəxʷaʔəs Thunderbird Elementary staff team appreciates the support of all our families.

Safe Boundaries with Strangers in the Community
As a final note to families to please take a moment to remind your children about appropriate boundaries with adult strangers without making them fearful to enjoy our beautiful community. Please review your family's safety guidelines around engaging with strangers your child doesn't know and what to do if they are approached by an unknown adult. Children need to understand that they can walk away from strangers who are trying to engage with them and let a trusted adult know about their experience. Thank you for working with us to keep our students safe with such important conversations.

Sincerely,
Sharon Vieira, Principal, šxʷəxʷaʔəs Thunderbird Elementary School
she/her scvieira@vsb.bc.ca

SOGI 123 Safe and inclusive schools for students https://www.sogieducation.org/resource/10-key-components-for-policies-and-procedures/

Library News from Ms. Ting



Dear Thunderbird Families, you are welcome to access **digital library resources** at home! The VSB Library has many eBooks that your child can borrow and read on your digital devices.

Instructions to check out and read VSB eBooks

(mobile instructions below):

1) Visit the VSB Library website and select Thunderbird School.

2) Open Destiny Discover on the left side.

3) Click "Login" in the top right corner.

4) Click the Office 365 Login link.

5) Log in with your school account.

6) Search for a book you would like in the search bar or scroll down to eBooks to browse the available books.

7) Once you find the book you like, select "Open".

8) Click "BORROW" then "GO TO CHECKOUTS".

9) Click "Read (in your browser)".

10) You can now read your eBook online.

How to read books on your mobile device:

1) Download the Sora app from the App Store or Google Play Store.

2) Open the app and select "Find my school".

3) Select "My school isn't listed".

4) Search for "Vancouver School Board" and select “This is my school".

5) Click "Sign in using Vancouver School Board" and log in using Office 365.

6) Your checked out books will appear on the home page. Select the book you want to open it, then select "Open book" to start reading.

7) You can now start reading your book on your mobile device.

Cross Country

Congratulations to all our cross country runners for all their hard work and enthusiasm. A special thank you to our Mr. Lai for ensuring this opportunity was available for our students.

Volleyball

We have registered 2 senior girl volleyball teams this term. Stay tuned for more details on practice and game times.

šxʷəxʷaʔəs Thunderbird Parent Advisory Council (PAC)

The next PAC Meeting is on Thursday November 5th in the school library & online starting at 6:00pm and going to 7:00pm.

There will be pizza and grade 7 leaders offering babysitting and a movie in the classroom beside the library. **All parents/caregivers are welcome, please RSVP at thunderbirdpac@gmail.com**

Please enter through the back school door near the gymnasium by the intermediate undercover area.

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81461317584?pwd=tbyJ9HdJ0xata7tZtreEl4lacG9x32.1

Meeting ID: 814 6131 7584

Passcode: 175846



Kindergarten registration for children born in 2022 begins on November 1

All kindergarten registrants are required to complete an online application for their catchment elementary school. This includes families who wish to apply for District choice programs (Early French Immersion, Early Mandarin Bilingual, Indigenous Focus School, Fine Arts, or Montessori) and/or apply cross boundary to attend a school other than their catchment school.

The priority registration period for kindergarten opens on **November 1** and closes on **January 31**. Students who submit an online application within this priority period will be accommodated before late applicants.

Applying for kindergarten is a 2-step process:

Step 1: Online Application.

- Complete an online application form (https://applynow.vsb.bc.ca/) for the **2027-28** school year



Step 2: Document verification.

- Your catchment school will contact you to set up an in-person appointment. Bring supporting documents with you to complete registration.
- **If your child was born outside of Canada, book an appointment at the Newcomer Welcome Centre (NWC) to complete registration.** After you submit your online application, your confirmation email will include an appointment booking link. Visits to NWC are by appointment only. If you do not receive the link, email nwc@vsb.bc.ca



The following original documents must be presented to complete your application:

- Proof of British Columbia residency
- Child's original birth certificate
- Applicable Immigration/Citizenship/Permanent Resident Documentation
- Immunization records, if available

*Schools may request additional identification of proof of residency.

District Choice Programs and Cross Boundary Applications

If you want to apply for a District Choice Program or apply cross boundary, you must **first apply to your catchment elementary school.** District Choice Programs and Cross Boundary applications will be accepted in early 2027. For more information, go to: govsb.ca/kchoice and govsb.ca/crossboundary

Important information for families registering for kindergarten

We're looking forward to welcoming new kindergarten students in 2027–28.

šxʷəxʷaʔəs Thunderbird Elementary School may receive more registrations than available spaces, so we'd like to let you know what to expect if that happens.

If you register between November 1 and January 31

If more students register than there are spaces at our school:

1. Students with a sibling who attends the school and will return the following year will have priority.
2. A random draw will be held for the remaining spaces.
3. If there are not enough spaces for all students, a waitlist will be created based on the order of the draw.

If you register after January 31

Registrations received after January 31 will be added to the waitlist in the order they are received. Sibling priority does not apply after January 31.

When you will hear from us

Families will be contacted in the **spring** with an update on their child's kindergarten registration. All students will have a place at a Vancouver school.

If your child is on the waitlist for šxʷəxʷaʔəs Thunderbird Elementary School they will have a place at a neighbouring school with available space. They will also stay on the waitlist for šxʷəxʷaʔəs Thunderbird Elementary School. If space becomes available, families will be contacted in waitlist order.

Kindergarten Registration Continued:

Applying to a school outside your catchment

Families may also apply to a school outside their catchment from February 1 to 26. You must first register your child at their catchment school before applying cross boundary.

Visit our cross boundary webpage for more information.

November 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 Indigenous Veterans Day	9	10 Remembrance Day Assembly 11-11:40am Parents welcome	11 Remembrance Day School Closed	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20 Professional Development Day School Closed	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

December 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3 6-7pm PAC meeting	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15 Reports Cards sent home	16 Community Centre Christmas Dinner	17	18 Pancake Breakfast Last Day before Winter Break	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Winter break school closed

Winter break school closed