



Beaconsfield Banter

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Director of Instruction: Ms. Janis Myers

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<http://beaconsfield.vsb.bc.ca>

NEWSLETTER NO. 5

JANUARY 2025

Principal's Message

Happy New Year and Welcome Back to School!

We hope you had a safe and restful Winter Break filled with joyful moments and cherished memories with your children. Thank you for your thoughtful holiday wishes and generous support before the break—your kindness means so much to our staff.

We are truly grateful for the unwavering support of our families and feel incredibly fortunate to do what we love most—working with your incredible children. Here's to an amazing year ahead!

Highlights from December

There were many highlights from the month of December. The PAC sponsored Pancake Breakfast on December 12th was a huge success. A special thank you to our PAC parents who came before 7am to set up and clean up.

Additionally, the holiday hip hop student performance on December 19th highlighted the incredible talents of our students, bringing joy to everyone. These events along with our choir performance on

December 17th, created a cheerful atmosphere, making December truly memorable. Thank you to everyone who contributed to these wonderful events!



Santa's Helpers!



Our primary and intermediate winter choir performed on December 17.



Hip Hop Dance Performance on December 19th



Counselling Corner

Hello Beaconsfield Parents/Guardians:

I wanted to introduce myself. I am Nancy, the school counsellor. I am a counsellor at 3 schools and I am at Beaconsfield Elementary every Thursday and alternating Mondays. Here is a mental health resource I'd love to share with you:

Kelty Mental Health Resource Center is a community and online resource that supports families in navigating the mental health system in B.C. The website helps families find support (referral process and access to parent peer support workers). If families need a translator at the medical appointments, they are free. The website has valuable information on healthy living, challenges and disorders, substance abuse, medications and therapy, and an online resource library. There are multi-language resources for mental health information, translated medical sheets and translated types of therapy on the website. Accessibility is great. There are events, webinars, podcasts and even an app for youth, called 'Breather,' to help practise mindfulness. There are phone lines on the website to help families with children/youth who are having mental health or substance use crisis. <https://keltymentalhealth.ca>

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at nchong@vsb.bc.ca.

With warmth,
Nancy Chong

School Closure for Snow and other Emergencies

Information regarding school closures in the event of snow, or other emergency situations, will be provided to the following radio and television stations by 6:00 a.m. on the morning of the closure:

CBC (690 AM or 105.7 FM), CKNW (980 AM), CKWX (NEWS 1130 AM),

BCTV (Global) (cable channel 11), CITY TV (cable channel 13)

You can also check the Vancouver School Board [website](#) for updates. Please do not call the school to see if it is open.

School Choir

The Beaconsfield Elementary Extracurricular Choir is still accepting new registrations for the upcoming term. Please see the attached flyer or use the following link to sign up: <https://vems.ca/signup.html>

Registration is Open for Beaconsfield Elementary Choir Term 2!



(diverse music and diverse singers – well behaved monsters welcome)

Dates and Times

Beaconsfield Junior	Thursdays - Noon	Jan-16, 23, 30, Feb-06, 13, 20, 27, Mar-06
Beaconsfield Senior	Thursdays - 3 PM	Jan-16, 23, 30, Feb-06, 13, 20, 27, Mar-06

Junior Choir Now Open to Kinders! ☺

Senior Choir ... is your Grade 3 needing a challenge? Please feel free to join either Junior or Senior Choir.

PAC News

The last PAC meeting was held on Tuesday, December 12 at 6:30 pm in the staff room. Several parents attended. Minutes will be posted on the PAC tab of the school website. The next meeting is on **January 14 at 6:30 pm** in our staff room. Childcare for school-aged children will be available. All parents are welcome to attend. If you would like to contact our PAC or volunteer to help with a program, please email beaconsfieldschool@gmail.com.

Kindergarten Registration for 2025-26

Kindergarten registration for children born in 2020 has begun.

All Kindergarten applicants are required to submit an application to their English catchment elementary school. This includes families who wish to apply for choice programs (French Immersion, Montessori, etc.) and/or a cross boundary placement.



Registration is a two-part process.

Step 1: **Complete an online application form**

Step 2: **Verifying Documentation**

- **Contact** your catchment school to set up an appointment to bring your supporting documentation
- **Bring supporting documentation** to your catchment school during your scheduled appointment
 - **FOR CHILDREN BORN OUTSIDE OF CANADA:** Book an appointment with a Registrar at the Newcomer Welcome Centre (NWC) to complete your registration (an appointment booking link will be provided in the confirmation email after submitting your application - step 1). Please note, NWC visits are by **appointment only**. Please email the NWC at nwc@vsb.bc.ca if you do not receive a link to their bookings page to book an appointment.

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

- Proof of British Columbia residency
- The original birth certificate of the child including parent names
- Applicable Immigration/Citizenship/Permanent Resident Documentation
- Immunization Records if available

[Note: Some schools may request additional identification as proof of residency.]

NOTE: Some catchment schools do not have space for all students even if you apply before the January 31 deadline. In these cases there will be a draw for student placement mid-February and the school will contact you by late April to confirm your enrolment.

District choice programs

Families must register at their neighbourhood catchment school during the priority registration period (November 1 - January 31) before applying for Kindergarten Choice programs. Applying for a District choice program is a separate process and runs from January 7 to February 4, 2025. Visit the [Kindergarten Choice Programs](#) page for more information.

Cross-boundary

Families who wish to apply to a school outside of their catchment area, known as cross-boundary, will register their child at their neighbourhood catchment school first. Applying for cross-boundary is a separate online process and runs during the month of February 2025. Cross boundary applications will only be considered after all in-catchment students have been accommodated. More information can be found on the district website, under [cross boundary registration](#).

Kindergarten Registrations Received AFTER January 31st

In-catchment Kindergarten students who apply **after** January 31st will be accommodated if there is space. If there is no space their names will be added to the bottom of the existing waitlist.

***Note:** There will be **no priority** given to registrants with siblings if they register after January 31st.

Important Upcoming Dates in January / February

Mon. Jan. 7	K choice program online opens
Tues. Jan. 14	PAC meeting at 6:30 pm in the staff room
Wed. Jan. 15	Professional Day – no school for students
Fri. Feb. 14	District Professional Day – no school for students
Mon. Feb. 17	Family Day – school not in session

Please check our website Beaconsfield.vsb.bc.ca for the regularly updated school calendar