



Beaconsfield Banter

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Principal: Mr. Tony Romano

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PAC Chairs: Ms. Kathy Tenta & Ms. Tracy Cook

Director of Instruction: Ms. Janis Myers

Official Trustee: Ms. Victoria Jung

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

NEWSLETTER NO. 9

MAY 2025

Principal's Message

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) & səlilwətał (Tsleil-Waututh Nation).

Over the course of the school year, we hold several fire drills and emergency evacuation practices. Our next drill will be on Thursday, May 8th at 2pm, where we will practice “drop, cover, hold” (taking cover under tables, etc. and holding for 1 full minute), safely evacuating the building and gathering on the field. The goal during an earthquake evacuation is to evacuate the building safely and quietly. During earthquake drills, various specially trained staff emergency response teams execute their own procedures. We have adequate materials and supplies to properly care for students until they can be safely released to families.

In case of a real emergency, we can anticipate that children and parents will be worried about their family members' health and safety. The school has specific student release procedures in place to ensure that families are re-united as quickly and safely as possible, and to ensure accountability and tracking of each student's safe release.

To this end, we must ask for parents' cooperation during a real emergency:

- Students and parents will likely be quite excited and anxious to be together. Parents must follow the directions of school staff.
- Parents arriving to pick up their child(ren) should report to a table that will be set up, to request their child. Please DO NOT run to your child and grab them. Provide your name and show ID (as it needs to

match a name on the yellow reunification form that was sent home in Sept.) and we will reunite you (or the emergency contact) with your child.

- Please ensure you keep your “emergency contact” information current as we cannot release children to adults for whom we do not have prior consent.

This event also serves as an excellent chance for families to revisit their **emergency preparedness plan**. I encourage you to take a moment and carefully review the [VSB Reunification Plan brochure](#). Please read it carefully and understand the process for picking up your child in the event of a major earthquake or disaster. Remember that for student safety, only **authorized individuals** are permitted to pick up students. More general Emergency Preparedness information can be found [here](#).

Walkathon



We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all parents and families for your generous donations in support of our goal to purchase new iPads for our school. Your contributions are making a real difference. Thanks to your support, we've already raised over \$4,000!

These funds will go a long way in helping us enhance student learning through access to updated technology, and we are truly grateful for your continued involvement and commitment to our school community. Every donation brings us one step closer to our goal!

♥ Welcome to Kindergarten

Welcome to Kindergarten Event

On Tuesday, May 20, from 10:30am – 11:30am, Beaconsfield Elementary will host a Welcome to Kindergarten event in our school gym. Access is from the front of the building directly into the gym on Penticton Street. Stations will be set up for our new kindergarteners and their parents registered to attend Beaconsfield in September 2025. This is an opportunity to meet staff and community representatives. Our office will be sending out an email shortly inviting new kindergarten parents and children to this event.

Artist in Residence Program Showcase

On Friday, May 9th our students will be displaying their artwork at Beaconsfield Elementary from **3:00 to 4:00 pm** in our library and main hallway by the office. Please come and join us to celebrate your child's artwork! Our PAC will be providing refreshments and light snacks. I am also pleased to share with you and extend a warm invitation to our school district's **annual year-end AIRS exhibition on Tuesday May 20th, from 4:30-7pm at the VSB Education Centre**. We hope that you will be able to attend both events.

PAC News

Our last PAC meeting was held on Tuesday, April 8, at 6:30 pm. The minutes from this meeting are posted on the PAC tab of the school website. The next meeting is on Tuesday, May 13 at 6:30 pm in our staff room. Childcare will be available. All parents are welcome to attend. If you would like to contact our PAC or volunteer, please email beaconsfieldschool@gmail.com.

PAC Movie Night at Beaconsfield



Our PAC sponsored movie night was a big success! Our students enjoyed watching a movie on our big screen along with their family and friends. A big thank you to Ms. Geant, Ms. Cook, Ms. Agustin, Ms. Kennedy and Ms. Baker for making this event such a success!

Sports Day

We will be having sports day this year on May 23. Staff are currently working on a plan and will communicate more information as it becomes available.

Class Organization for Next Year

The guiding principle in the placement of students and the organization of classes is to design a positive learning environment for each child within the larger context of the needs of all children. It is my role as Principal to be on the lookout for everyone's well-being. Regardless of parent input or not, the professional staff at the school makes the best decisions for all students.

In late May, staff gather in a three-day process to devise tentative classes in consideration of the following criteria:

- Adherence to class size regulations (as stipulated by the Ministry of Education guidelines)
- A balance of social, emotional and behavioural needs of students
- A range of learning needs with a balance of students requiring learning assistance or special education services in each class
- A child's physical and social maturity (especially in combined classes)
- Student friendships
- Student learning styles and strengths
- Input from parents* (May 16 deadline)

By 3:00pm on May 16th, parents who wish to provide input, should email ttromano@vsb.bc.ca stating educational reasons (for example - preference for a more structured or open-ended environment, a special request to separate a child or keep two together, a request to pay special attention to a child's level of anxiety in regards to a certain area, etc). The focus is not on a particular teacher, but rather a particular educational environment. We do not yet know what teacher will be teaching what grade, therefore we ask that you focus on the educational setting. Please note that parent requests often conflict with each other.

Any e-mailed requests will receive a reply email from Mr. Romano stating receipt of input with a reminder that although submitted requests will be considered, the final decision is that of the school. If you do not receive such a response from Mr. Romano, please resend your email.

Are You Moving?

If your family will not be returning to Beaconsfield this September, please let us know as soon as possible by emailing our office assistant at tbell@vsb.bc.ca. Please include the school that your child/children will be attending. This will help us with organizing next year's classrooms.

Summer Learning Program Registration

Registration for Elementary Programs is now open: <https://www.vsb.bc.ca/page/5211/summer-learning>

- Current Kindergarten to Grade 11 students who are attending a BC school are eligible to register.
- All courses require in-person attendance.
- **To register**, you will need your child's PEN number. You can access this number through this self-serve portal – <https://kchoice.vsb.bc.ca/penrequest.aspx>

** If you have any questions, please email the Summer Learning office at: summerlearning@vsb.bc.ca. **

Important Upcoming Dates in May and June

Thur. May 8	District Wide Earthquake Drill at 2 pm
Fri. May 9	AIRS Exhibition afterschool in main hallway
Tues. May 13	PAC meeting @ 6:30pm in the staff room
Mon. May 19	Victoria Day (school not in session)

Tues. May 20	Welcome to K event 10:30am to 11:30am
Fri. May 23	Sports Day
Mon. June 2	Return all library books
Fri. June 6	PAC Fair / BBQ
Tues. June 10	PAC meeting @ 6:30pm in the staff room
Wed. June 18	Grade 7 leaving Ceremony
Thurs. June 26	Last Day for Students

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