



Tyee Newsletter

Principal – Melanie Monrad – mmonrad@vsb.bc.ca
 Office Administrative Assistant – Stephanie Ward - sward@vsb.bc.ca
 Direct of Instruction – Janis Myers - jmyers@vsb.bc.ca
 Trustee – Christopher Richardson - christopher.richardson@vsb.bc.ca

<https://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/tyee>

October 27th, 2023

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Goodbye October, and hello November! I hope families had the opportunity to connect with their child's teacher during the recent Parent Teacher Conferences to have meaningful discussions about their child's progress. Report Cards will be sent home on December 1st, providing another way to share your child's progress with you.

I'd like to express my gratitude for your support of our Scholastic Book Fair. It was a successful event, and I want to extend my thanks to Ms. Wong and her student helpers for organizing and running the book fair. This event was a fundraiser for our school, enabling us to acquire new books to enrich our school's library!



This picture was captured in our school gym. Special thanks to the PAC for hosting the Halloween event tonight. The gym looks fantastic!

Wishing you all a great weekend!

Warm regards,
 Mrs. Monrad

"Honoured to be working together on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territories of the *xwməθkwəy̓ə m|Musqueam*, *Sk̓wxwú7mesh|Squamish* & *səlilwətał |Tseil-Waututh Nations*"

Information Items:

1. Inclusion Club News – A Message from Ms I and Ms Lucas

At Tyee, we are proud to say that we have an inclusion club. Inclusion club members are leaders in our school who work together with Ms I and Ms Lucas to provide opportunities to learn about and accept individual differences, lessening the impact of harassment and bullying and to develop friendships with a wide variety of other children, each with their own individual needs and abilities.

Our mandate is to support students to include others, embrace diversity, and help to bring our school community together with social justice announcements, cultural celebration announcements as well as "fun" school wide events. Students will also be writing monthly posts for the PAC blog.

These are some of our school wide events coming up:

October

Thursday October 26 - Our Inclusion club spirit event is nature art day.

Friday, Oct 27 - Halloween safety announcements and the PAC dance

Tuesday, October 31 - Our Inclusion club spirit day is come dressed up if you wish.

November

Transgender awareness day, Diwali and Day of the Dead

Friday November 17

Our inclusion club spirit day will be Pajama Day and board games at lunch

December

Chanukkah

Friday December 22

Our inclusion club spirit day will be "holiday wrap up" and chess games at lunch.

Holiday wrap up is wear anything fun for the holidays.

2. Cross Country - Message from Ms I and Ms Lucas

The cross country team had a great season. After 5 weeks of training and mini meets, we participated in the big district meet. Everyone ran hard and did their best. Special thanks to our parent volunteers who helped at practices, mini meets and at the district meet. See you next season!

3. Family Erase Sessions for Safe, Caring and Respectful Digital Communities

There are three free virtual erase learning sessions for families held on November 8, 28, and 30, focusing on establishing safe, caring, and respectful digital communities. These sessions are best suited for families and youth aged 10 and above. Please contact erase@gov.bc.ca with any questions or for more information.



Questions regarding general erase training may be emailed to: erase@gov.bc.ca

Training Offering	Dates	Delivery	Registration Link
Family Session: Establishing Safe, Caring, & Respectful Digital Communities – Everyone Welcome! Recommended for Parents/Caregivers/Grandparents and youth aged 10 and up as a way to facilitate the conversation of safe and caring use of technology at home and in the community. This session covers all things digital, from how to be a good digital citizen, the criminal consequences of cyberbullying, and how to report and receive support in cases of sexting/sexortion. Some of the most prominent concerns currently surrounding use of social media platforms, smartphones, and artificial intelligence will be discussed.	November 8, 2023 6:30pm – 7:30pm	online	https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/732334942527?aff=oddtcreator
	November 28, 2023 7:00pm – 8:00pm	online	https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/732343096917?aff=oddtcreator
	November 30, 2023 6:30pm – 7:30pm	online	https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/732346587357?aff=oddtcreator

4. Upcoming Dates:

- October 30th – VCH Kindergarten Hearing Screening
- October 31st – Inclusion club spirit day come dressed up if you wish
- November 13^h – Remembrance Day Statutory Holiday (in Lieu)
- November 24th – District Pro-D Day

October 2023

OUR VSB



VSB - INDIGENOUS EDUCATION

CULTURE IS NOT A COSTUME HOW TO NOT CULTURALLY APPROPRIATE HALLOWEEN

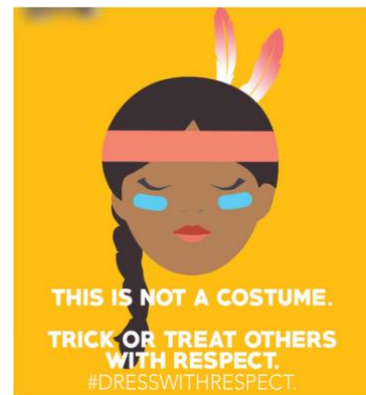
The autumn season is upon us, and soon it will be Halloween. This time of year brings with it many costume choice decisions. While dressing up is meant to be fun and exciting, it also runs the risk of offending others if costumes are offensive to other cultures. Halloween offers the opportunity to discuss costume choices with both colleagues and students. It is important not to inadvertently mimic culture by culturally appropriating racial or ethnic groups.

CULTURAL APPROPRIATION

1. The taking - from a culture that is not one's own - of intellectual property, cultural expressions or artifacts, history and ways of knowledge (Ziff & Rao, 1997).
2. Any instance which means commonly associated with and/or perceived as belonging to another are used to further one's own ends (Shugart, 1997).
3. To take parts (symbols, artifacts, dress, words, practices, etc.) from a culture that is not your own. This can happen in a variety of forms but often around Halloween it involves wearing 'costumes' that may have some significance to other cultures.
4. A particular power dynamic in which members of a dominant culture take elements from a culture of people who have been systematically oppressed by that dominant group.

Engage in dialogue

Bring up subjects like cultural appropriation with your colleagues and students. Listen to their views and share your own knowledge and experiences. Dialogue is collaborative and about people working together to find a common understanding. It is about exploring, listening, and re-examining your positions, values and assumptions.



Examine your own practices

Are you wearing a costume during Halloween? Ask yourself some critical questions about your costume. "Is my costume based on someone's race, ethnicity, or culture? Am I reinforcing stereotypes with the image I am portraying? Is my costume exploiting another culture?"

Be an advocate

If you see a costume that doesn't sit right with you, start a conversation. Begin a respectful dialogue with that person at an appropriate time and place. Ask them about their costume choice. Your conversation should be about having the person think through their choice, not about right and wrong.

Links

[CBC: Teacher finds teachable moment about cultural stereotypes](#)
[Huffington Post: Student group takes a stand against racist costumes](#)
[My Culture is NOT a Costume](#)