



## Beaconsfield Banter

3663 Penticton Street, Vancouver, V5M 3C9

Phone: 604-713-4605 • Fax: 604-713-4607

Principal: Mr. Tony Romano

Office Administrative Assistant: Ms. Tracey Bell

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

Director of Instruction: Ms. Janis Myers

Official Trustee: Mr. Christopher Richardson

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

**NEWSLETTER NO. 3**

**NOVEMBER 2024**

### Principal's Message

October was an eventful and exciting month at Beaconsfield Elementary. Parents had a chance to meet with teachers to get an update on their child's progress. If you missed this opportunity, please contact your child's teacher to make an appointment. Outside the classroom, our soccer and cross-country teams wrapped up their seasons. The cross-country team had their final meet at Trout Lake. We would like to extend a special thank you to Mr. Thomas, Ms. Bredin and Ms. Lougheed for volunteering as coaches. The soccer team ended their season with a series of games. We also want to thank Mr. Myers and Mr. Thomas for their time and dedication in coaching the team. Our PAC's initiative to bring the Vancouver Extracurricular Music Society back to our school has been successful, as there are enough numbers to run both junior and senior choirs. The last week of October was filled with Halloween activities, including pumpkin carving, a costume parade and fun station activities in our gym sponsored by Ms. Wallace's class.



On Friday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, we will hold our annual Remembrance Day Assembly. Over the years, I have always been very proud of how students have shown respect and honour to the many Canadians, past and present, who serve our country. Ms. Wallace's class will be organizing and leading this event.

Looking ahead, our students will now start preparing for the winter performance, which will feature a Hip-Hop theme. We are aiming to hold an evening performance for parents just before the winter break. More details will follow as we get closer to December.

## **Dressing for The Weather**

Although we've enjoyed some beautiful fall weather with many warm, sunny days, the true fall season has now arrived. As temperatures continue to drop, it's important that students come to school dressed in outerwear suitable for the cold, wet, and windy conditions. On the West Coast, rain is just part of daily life, and most days, students will be outside during recess and lunch. Only in cases of extremely poor weather do we declare an "inside day," where students remain indoors and play quietly in our lunchrooms. We try to avoid this when possible, as it's essential for students to get fresh air and stay active before returning to class.

To fully enjoy their time outdoors during recess and lunch, students need to be dressed warmly. Additionally, proper outerwear is crucial in case of emergencies or unexpected building evacuations. Unfortunately, many students are still arriving at school without jackets or wearing shorts and hoodies—even on the coldest, rainiest days. Please ensure your children come dressed appropriately for outdoor activities (e.g., boots and a coat). Since our field gets quite muddy and wet this time of year, packing an extra pair of socks and pants in your child's backpack is also recommended.



## **Flu Season Is Coming What can parents do?**

1. Arrange for your family to have an annual flu shot if your child has a chronic health condition (call the Health Unit for more information).
2. Prevent illness by maintaining good health habits...frequent hand washing, eat a variety of foods, exercise and get enough sleep.
3. Recognize flu symptoms—stuffy nose, cough, sore chest, fever, chills, muscle and joint pains. Vomiting and diarrhea are not usual symptoms of Influenza but may be seen in young children.
4. Keep your child at home away from others and treat the symptoms with bed rest, plenty of fluids and acetaminophen (i.e. Tylenol) for fever and aches.
5. Call your doctor if your child has a rash, high fever, earache, severe vomiting and/or diarrhea. If the school finds it necessary to send your child home because of illness, please make sure you have made alternate arrangements when you are not available. Inform the school of these arrangements.

## **Our Lost and Found is very full**

If your child is missing a jacket, shoes etc, please stop by the school and have a look at our lost and found. Our lost and found is located in the main hall right next to the library. All unclaimed articles will be bagged and donated to charity in two weeks' time.

## PAC News

The last PAC meeting was held on Tuesday, October 10 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 **November 5 at 6:30 pm** in the staff room. Childcare will be available. All parents are welcome to attend. If you would like to contact PAC or volunteer to help out with a program, please email [beaconsfieldschool@gmail.com](mailto:beaconsfieldschool@gmail.com)

## Kindergarten Registration for 2025-26

**Kindergarten registration for children born in 2020 begins on November 1<sup>st</sup>.**

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.

**PRIORITY KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION NOV 1 - JAN 31**

**VSB Vancouver School Board**

**TIMELINE**

**1 AGE**  
When your child is 4 years old by December 31

**2 APPLY ONLINE**  
[govsb.ca/kindergarten](http://govsb.ca/kindergarten)

**3 VERIFY YOUR INFORMATION IN PERSON**  
Contact your neighbourhood catchment school to make an appointment

**NOV 1 - JAN 31**  
PRIORITY KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION  
For children who are 4 years old

**JAN 7 - FEB 4**  
DISTRICT CHOICE PROGRAM REGISTRATION  
Optional programs offered by the District includes: French Immersion, Mandarin Bilingual, Fine Arts, Indigenous Focus and Montessori

**FEBRUARY**  
CROSS-BOUNDARY REGISTRATION  
For families who wish to attend a school outside of their catchment area

**MID FEBRUARY**  
WAITLIST NOTIFICATION  
Only families registered in identified full schools and District choice programs will be notified

**LATE APRIL**  
KINDERGARTEN ENROLMENT CONFIRMED

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](mailto: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
- 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 31<sup>st</sup>](#)

In-catchment Kindergarten students who apply **after** January 31<sup>st</sup> 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 31<sup>st</sup>.

## **Head Lice**

Head lice are parasites that only infect human scalps. They are spread by head-to-head contact but do not cause disease. However, they do “cost” families in terms of having to buy and spend time on treatment, generate frustration, unnecessary embarrassment and sometimes education time lost. Here are some “facts of lice”:

- Having lice does not mean a lack of cleanliness
- Lice do not jump or fly
- Lice bites make the scalp itchy
- Nits are lice eggs, which are attached to the hair, close to the scalp. They are as tiny as dandruff or about 1/3 the size of a sesame seed
- You can't get rid of nits by brushing, or with a hair dryer
  - After the head lice hatch, the shell of the nit stays stuck to the hair. If it is more than 12 mm (1/2 inch) away from the scalp, it is probably empty
- Lice are spread by head-to-head contact and by sharing brushes, hats, or other items that come in contact with the head
- Head lice are common where children play or work closely together
- Lice do not cause disease....they just bug us! How to prevent lice/the spread of lice?
- Routinely check your child for lice even if he/she is not scratching their head
- Check your child for lice if a friend/classmate has head lice
- Teach your child to not share hats, brushes, helmets, hair barrettes and towels
- Keep long hair tied back

• If you discover that your child has lice, it is important that you notify the school. This way, we can send a notice home with students in your child’s class, advising their parents to also check their children for lice. Your child will not be identified. Confidentiality will be respected, as this can be a sensitive issue for many families. Please check the following link for information on lice:

<https://www.healthlinkbc.ca/healthlinkbc-files/head-lice>

## Student Forms

A reminder to please complete your child’s student forms. You can access these forms by following the link below:

- Go to <https://myforms.vsb.bc.ca>
- Enter your child’s Personal Education Number PEN and birthdate
- Accept the consent for each of the forms. Not accepting or completing implies decline

## Important Dates in November

Tues. Nov. 5	PAC meeting @ 6:30pm in the staff room
Fri. Nov. 8	Remembrance Day Assembly
Mon. Nov. 11	Remembrance Day ~ No School
Fri. Nov. 22	Pro D – no school for students

## Important Upcoming Dates in December

Tues. Dec. 10	PAC meeting @ 6:30pm in staff room
Fri. Dec. 16	First term learning updates go home
Dec. 17-18	Hip-Hop dance workshops
Thurs. Dec. 19	Hip-Hop student performance afternoon and evening (time TBA)
Fri. Dec. 20	Last Day before Winter Break
Dec. 21– Jan. 5	Winter Break
Mon. Jan. 6	Students return to classes

Please check our website [Beaconsfield.vsb.bc.ca](https://www.beaconsfield.vsb.bc.ca) for the regularly updated school calendar