



## Beaconsfield Banter

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Principal: Mr. Tony Romano

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Director of Instruction: Ms. Janis Myers

Official Trustee: Mr. Christopher Richardson

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

**NEWSLETTER NO. 2**

**OCTOBER 2024**

### Principal's Message

As we approach the end of the first few weeks of school, I wanted to take a moment to share some reflections and updates. It has been an exciting and productive start to the academic year, and we are happy to see our students settling in. Our teachers and staff have been working hard to create engaging learning environments and familiarize students with new routines. We encourage you to help reinforce these routines at home by setting aside dedicated time for reading, homework and organization. Please encourage your child to go to bed before 9:00 PM to ensure they are well-rested and ready for a productive day at school. Establishing these habits early on is key to a successful school year.

We value our partnership with you in ensuring the success of each student. If you have any questions or concerns about your child's progress or well-being, please don't hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher directly. We are here to support you and ensure that every student feels safe, supported, and ready to learn. Thank you for your support during these first few weeks. We look forward to continuing a great year together!

Thank you to everyone who has completed their school forms and paid their school fees. If you have not completed our forms, please follow this link: <https://myforms.vsb.bc.ca/> . School fees can be paid using the following link: <https://www.schoolcashonline.com/>

On Friday, September 27, students and staff were encouraged to wear orange to recognize the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. As with all schools in Vancouver, Beaconsfield is committed to integrating Indigenous knowledge into our teaching and providing all students with opportunities to understand and honour the role Indigenous culture and people have played in our shared Canadian history.

Later this month we will be celebrating Halloween; we encourage everyone to come to school on the 31<sup>st</sup> in costume. Please ensure that children's faces are visible and that the costumes do not include any weapons.

## Terry Fox

Our Terry Fox run was held on Tuesday, September 24. Students used our lower field to complete their run. Thank you to Mr. Thomas for organizing this event. Donations can be made through the Terry Fox website [here](#). Thank you to everyone who donated money for this important cause.



## Parent Teacher - Conferences / Goal Setting

The dates for our conferences are set for Wednesday, Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> from 2:15 onward. On both days there will be an early dismissal at 2:00 pm to facilitate the maximum number of conference spots available. Teachers will be sending out instructions as to how to register and book a conference. Parent – Teacher – Three Way Conferences are the first step in our sharing of how we communicate the learning of your child throughout the year. The dialogue at this meeting is significant as in a 3-way conference the triangle of learning is best articulated with the student present to discuss their goals and challenges that they will work with in the coming year. The conferencing time is short so please be prompt and have your questions and inquiries from yourself and your child ready to go to ensure optimal use of the conferencing session.

## Foundational Skills Assessment Grade 4 and 7

In the coming weeks, students in grades 4 and 7 will participate in the Foundational Skills Assessments (FSA). These assessments focus on students' literacy and numeracy development. As mentioned earlier this week in a message from our superintendent to families of students in grades 4 and 7, the FSAs provide valuable information about how students in Vancouver schools are doing. Individual classroom teachers can use assessment results as one measure of how students in their classrooms are doing and where they need more support. As a school district, **FSA results are used to help make evidence-informed decisions about where we need to focus resources and supports to enhance student learning.**

The Ministry of Education and Childcare has more information about FSAs – available in a variety of languages. Here are links to that information.

- [Foundation Skills Assessment for Parents and Caregivers \(English\) \(PDF\)](#)
- [French \(Français\) \(PDF\)](#)
- [Chinese \(Simplified Chinese – 简体中文\) \(PDF\)](#)
- [Chinese \(Traditional Chinese – 繁體中文\) \(PDF\)](#)
- [Farsi \(فارسی\) \(PDF\)](#)
- [Punjabi \(ਪੰਜਾਬੀ\) \(PDF\)](#)
- [Tagalog \(PDF\)](#)
- [Urdu \(اردو\) \(PDF\)](#)

## Student Threat Risk Assessment Protocol

The link below is for the Student Threat Risk Assessment Protocol that we are required to share with staff and parents each year. Please read through and discuss with your child, where appropriate for their age level. Our goal is always to maintain a safe and inclusive environment.

<https://www.vsb.bc.ca/page/5072/student-threat-risk-assessment-vtra>

## Safe Arrival Procedures

### Reporting Student Absences:

Student safety is of paramount importance at the Vancouver School District. Ensuring student safety is a shared responsibility. In order to assist schools, we ask parents to notify schools of student absences or if your child will be late. **If your child will be absent or late, please phone the school and leave a message on the answering service by calling 604-713-5159 school code 11.** Messages can be received before the office is open. School offices are busy places: consistently notifying the school in advance of your child's absence will significantly improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Safe Arrival Morning Routine.

### Student Sign out Procedure:

**When you pick up your child during the school day, please ensure that you notify the office.** If you do not notify the office, they will be unaccounted for, and the school will identify your child as a 'missing' student and will commence a search of school grounds. **If the school staff do not locate the child, and are unable to reach a parent promptly, the school will call the Vancouver Police Department.** Therefore, clear communication is essential for ensuring the safety of your child and to prevent unnecessary searches.

Thank you for helping us keep your children safe!

## Pick up and Drop off

Families should take note that in front of the school there is a **No Stopping** zone. City Bylaw Section 17.1 states: You cannot stop in a No Stopping zone for any reason, or any length of time. Check out this City of Vancouver [link](#) for more specific parking information.

## PAC News

Our PAC hosted a very successful Meet and Greet event last week. Parents and students met on the back field and enjoyed refreshments by our under-cover area. A special thank-you to all our parents who were able to help set up and take down this event. The last PAC meeting was held on Tuesday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, we had a great turn out. Minutes will be posted on the PAC tab of the school website. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm in our 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)

## Voluntary Student Accident Insurance Plans

The VSB is offering parents access to two voluntary student accident plans which offer coverage for students and their families against accidental injury, unexpected medical/dental expenses and critical illness. The two companies that are offering this product are the IA Family Accident Reimbursement Plan (FARP) and Study Insured. Families can register online to purchase and participate in either of these plans by using the URL's provided below:

<https://www.solutionsinsurance.com/aonbc>

[www.studyinsuredstudentaccident.com](http://www.studyinsuredstudentaccident.com)

## Important Dates in October

Mon. Oct. 7	Foundation Skills Assessment window for grades 4 and 7 students begins
Tues. Oct. 8	PAC meeting @ 6:30pm in our staff room
Mon. Oct. 14	Thanksgiving – school closed
Wed. Oct. 16	Parent/teacher/Student conferences beginning at 2:15, <b>dismissal at 2:00pm</b>
Thurs. Oct. 17	Parent/teacher/Student conferences beginning at 2:15, <b>dismissal at 2:00pm</b>
Thurs. Oct. 17	Earthquake drill (province wide)
Fri. Oct. 18	Immunization clinic for kindergarten and grade 6 students
Wed. Oct. 23	Photo retake day
Fri. Oct. 25	Professional Day – no school for students
Thurs. Oct. 31	Halloween

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