

Beaconsfield Banter

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http://beaconsfield.vsb.bc.ca

NEWSLETTER NO. 3 NOVEMBER 2026

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), Sḵwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation) & səlilwətaɬ (Tsleil-Waututh Nation).

October was a busy and exciting month at Beaconsfield Elementary! Families had the opportunity to connect with teachers during our parent-teacher conferences and learn more about their child's growth and progress. We appreciate the strong partnership between home and school and encourage any families who were unable to attend to contact their child's teacher to arrange a meeting.

Outside the classroom, our cross-country season came to a successful close with a spirited final meet at Trout Lake. More than 40 Beaconsfield students participated, demonstrating determination, sportsmanship and school pride. A special thank you to Mr. Thomas for generously volunteering his time and coaching our runners throughout the season.

As we look ahead, excitement is already building for our upcoming Winter Performance. We look forward to sharing details with families in the coming weeks.

Cross Country Meet – Trout Lake



Halloween Festivities

The month concluded with plenty of Halloween fun and school spirit. Students enjoyed a variety of festive activities, including pumpkin carving, door decorating, a colouring contest, a lively costume parade and activity stations in the gym. Many thanks to Ms. Wallace's class for their leadership and hard work in organizing these memorable events and helping create a fun-filled celebration for our school community. 🎃👻🍂





Arts Umbrella Visit

We were delighted to welcome artists from Arts Umbrella to Beaconsfield Elementary. Through engaging, hands-on activities, students had the opportunity to explore their creativity, develop new artistic skills, and express themselves through the arts. The workshops were inspiring, interactive, and enjoyed by students across participating classes. We thank Arts Umbrella for providing this enriching learning experience and helping spark our students' imaginations.





On Tuesday, November 10th, we will gather for our annual Remembrance Day Assembly. This meaningful event provides our school community with an opportunity to honour and remember the many Canadians, past and present, who have served our country with courage and dedication. Each year, I am deeply proud of the respect and thoughtfulness our students bring to this occasion. This year, Ms. Wallace's class will be leading and organizing the assembly. We look forward to their contributions in helping us reflect and pay tribute. Donations to the Remembrance Day fund can be made through the School Cash online using the following link: https://vsb.schoolcashonline.com/ . Once logged in, please look for the **Poppy Donations 2026** item to make your contribution. Cash donations can also be made directly through your child's teacher.

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 medication 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.

PAC News

The last PAC meeting was held on Tuesday, October 13 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 Tuesday, **November 10 at 6:30 pm** in the staff room. Childcare will be available. All parents are welcome to attend. If you would like to contact our PAC or volunteer to help out with a program, please email beaconsfieldschool@gmail.com

Kindergarten Registration for 2026-27

Kindergarten registration for children born in 2022 begins on November 1

All kindergarten applicants are required to complete an online application for their English catchment elementary school. This includes families who wish to apply for District Choice programs and/or make a cross boundary application to attend a non-catchment school. The priority registration period for kindergarten opens on **November 1** and closes on **January 31**. Students who submit an online application within this priority period will be accommodated before late applicants.

Applying for kindergarten is a **2-step process**:

Step 1: Online Application (ApplyNow)

- Completion of an online application form (https://applynow.vsb.bc.ca/) for the school year **2026-27**

Step 2: Verification of documentation

- After applying, you will receive instructions on how to schedule your in-person appointment.
- Bring supporting documentation during your scheduled appointment for verification.



Supporting documents needed:

1. Proof of residence in Vancouver
2. Child's birth certificate
3. Immigration documentation (if applicable)
4. Immunization records
5. Court orders/documents (if applicable)

If you want to apply for a District Choice Program or cross boundary, you must **first apply to your English catchment elementary school**. District Choice Programs and cross boundary applications will be accepted in early 2027. For more information, go to: govsb.ca/kchoice and govsb.ca/crossboundary

In the event there are more in-catchment applicants than available space at the school, the following process will be used to prioritize enrolment:

Kindergarten Applications Received Between November 1 and January 31

1. **In-catchment** kindergarten applicants with siblings in attendance at the school (and who will be attending next year) will be placed first.
2. The names of all other in-catchment registrants will be entered into a **random draw** for the remaining kindergarten spaces.
3. Students who cannot be accommodated will be placed on a waitlist in the order in which their name was drawn.
4. In the event there are more in-catchment registrants than can be accommodated at their catchment school, students will be placed at another school as close to the catchment as possible until space becomes available.

Kindergarten Registrations Received AFTER January 31st

In-catchment kindergarten students who apply **after** January 31 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: Sibling priority **does not** apply for registrations received after January 31.
In the event there are more in-catchment registrants than can be accommodated at their catchment school, students will be placed at another school as close to the catchment as possible until space becomes available.

For more information on kindergarten registration visit the VSB website: govsb.ca/kindergarten
* Available Space includes physical capacity, resources, staffing, or educational programs available or planned for a school as defined by the District (Administrative Procedure 300).

Applying to a school outside your catchment

Families may also apply to a school outside their catchment from February 1 to 26. You must first register your child at their catchment school before applying cross boundary.
Visit our cross boundary webpage for more information.

Counselling Corner

Here are some **free resources** that support children, youth, and families in navigating mental health and well-being:

🌟 **Family Smart®**

Family Smart connects parents and caregivers with others who "get it." Their programs, videos, and workshops are created by families and professionals with lived experience in child and youth mental health. Their motto — *"Children and youth do better when the adults who care about them are supported"* — reflects their commitment to compassionate, community-based care.
👉 Explore resources and events at familysmart.ca

💚 **Kelty Mental Health Resource Centre**

Located at BC Children's Hospital, Kelty offers **free, province-wide information and peer support** for families, children, and youth up to age 24. Their team helps families find services, understand the mental health system, and access trustworthy information on topics such as anxiety, ADHD, substance use, sleep, and more.
👉 Visit keltymentalhealth.ca or call 1-800-665-1822 to connect — no referral needed.

These two organizations work together to ensure that families don't have to navigate mental health challenges alone. Whether you're looking for guidance, peer connection, or practical tools, both Family Smart and Kelty are here to help.

School Visit - Administrative Procedure 156 – Visit Protocol

Ensuring your child's safety at school is our highest priority. With that in mind, we would like to bring the following district administrative procedure to your attention:

General Visits

- Visitors must report to the main office
- Principal grants permission to remain
- Principal determines access rights and may restrict or deny entry

References

- School Act: Sections 20, 22, 65, 85, 177
- Provincial and Federal Government Protocols

Important Dates in November

Tues. Nov. 10	PAC meeting @ 6:30pm in the staff room
Tues. Nov. 10	Remembrance Day Assembly at 11:00 am
Wed. Nov. 11	No school - Remembrance Day
Fri. Nov. 20	Pro D – no school for students

Important Upcoming Dates in December

Tues. Dec. 1	PAC meeting @ 6:30pm in staff room
Tues. Dec. 15	First term learning updates go home
Week of Dec. 14	Hip-Hop dance workshops
Thurs. Dec. 17	Hip-Hop student performance afternoon and evening (time TBA)
Fri. Dec. 18	Last Day before Winter Break
Dec. 19 – Jan. 3	Winter Break
Mon. Jan. 4	Students return to classes

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