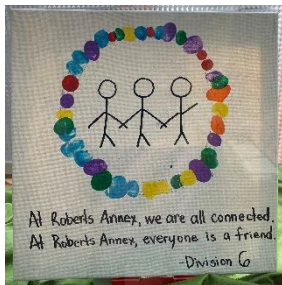
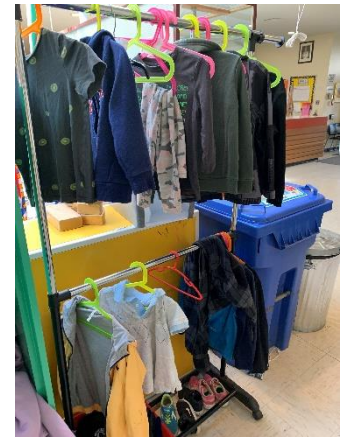


March 4, 2022

Dear Roberts Annex Families,

March arrived like a lion but thankfully, it waited until 4pm on Tuesday to show its colours with thunder, lightning and heavy rain. We hope you were not caught out in the weather on that day – the puddles were still on the playground all day Wednesday.

We are heading into our last week of school before our Spring Break and spring has sprung. As I have said in past years, this is the time of year when our lost and found balloons. Students arrive in the morning with coats, gloves and layers but they often leave in t-shirts. We will be bringing the lost and found out to the school yard next week but in the meantime – take a look at the photo and reach out to the office if you see something you were looking for or didn't know was missing yet!



### Staffing News – Div 6

For those of you who were at our school last year, you may remember that Ms Wharton went on maternity leave around this time. We are excited to let you know that she has started back with us this week. We are so grateful to Ms. Williams for all her work with Division 6 since September – students and staff will all miss her. We are grateful to have her with us for a few more days until Spring Break and wish her well at her next school!

### Outdoor Education

This year staff have chosen to include an Outdoor Education goal as part of our school plan. We have already started this work by applying for and successfully acquiring a district sustainability grant, classes have started to take advantage of the changing weather by doing some local walking field trips and we are looking forward to a fun family scavenger hunt over spring break. As part of our learning and growth, we want to know what students already think and feel about learning out of doors. Elyssa will be sitting down with a few (randomly selected) students from each class next week to gather some baseline data. We are looking forward to hearing their experiences.



### School Ventilation Improvements

From the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic the District has prioritized the health and safety of students, staff and families. Several layers of protection were implemented in all schools, in compliance with public health guidelines, including the requirement for daily self-health checks, increased hand hygiene, enhanced cleaning, and the wearing of masks. The District also undertook several large initiatives to

enhance and improve ventilation at all schools and to upgrade faucets and install additional sinks in schools. All mechanical ventilation systems were adjusted to run for longer and to maximize the intake of outdoor air into classrooms. In addition, the District upgraded systems with MERV-13 filters which provide for greater air filtration.

Information on school ventilation systems was posted to the District website in November of 2021 and was recently updated to reflect ongoing improvements. School by school information can be found at: [https://www.vsb.bc.ca/COVID-19/Ventilation/Documents/VSB\\_Ventilation\\_System\\_Overview\\_Feb2022.pdf](https://www.vsb.bc.ca/COVID-19/Ventilation/Documents/VSB_Ventilation_System_Overview_Feb2022.pdf)

### **Excitement is Building – School Scavenger Hunt**

Keep a mark in your calendar for some days over Spring Break. The information about how to participate in our school wide PAC sponsored scavenger hunt will be released end of next week. Students and their families should plan to use a few of days over the break to participate by visiting local favourite spots for students. VSB and West End Community Center are helping us out with prizes for the draw – entries will be collected after March 28. Watch for details coming soon!

Have a safe weekend and enjoy each other,

Elyssa

March 8	Kindergarten Hearing screening
March 9	PAC meeting (6:30)(Zoom)
March 11	Last day of class before Spring Break – Scavenger Hunt begins
March 28	First day back to school after Spring Break
March 30	School Group/class photos