



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT PW

Some Highlights over the month....



Thank you to Leadership, Stagecraft and Music classes for planning a very moving Remembrance Day Ceremony.



Band playing at the District Band Festival lead By Mr. Wilson



Congrats to Ms. Guraliuk in participating in the Field Hockey World Cup in New Zealand!



1st Place- KPU Science Challenge (Jr Team)



Sr. Boys Soccer Team-City Champs!



Thanks to Student Council for planning an amazing Winter Week!

PAC INFORMATION

We invite all parents/caregivers of PW students to join us for PAC meetings!

Parent advisory Council (PAC) meetings are an opportunity for folks to hear from, and ask questions of, the school administration, plan workshops for parents to support their high school aged children and support school events and clubs. We welcome suggestions for topics for future meetings. More information can be found on the [PAC webpage](https://www.pwpac.org) along with notes from previous meetings. To sign up for PAC newsletters please visit <https://www.pwpac.org/contact/>



PAC Meetings, 7:00 PM- 9:00 PM (Library & Online)
Monday February 3, 2025
Monday June 2, 2025 (AGM)

We encourage all parents to get involved either in attending PAC meetings or volunteering or contributing to events. Please mark these dates in your calendar!

We need your SUPPORT! We are hoping to achieve our goal of raising \$50,000 for PW! These funds will support student learning through technology resources, community learning opportunities and field studies and upgrading equipment across subject matter areas and extracurricular areas (clubs, athletics, outdoor learning spaces, etc.). A tax receipt can be issued for donations of \$20 or more. You can donate through "SchoolCashOnline". [INFORMATION](#) [DONATION LINK](#)

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

Supporting Students to Arrive On-Time

We have noticed an increase in students arriving late to classes. Students are expected to arrive on-time for their classes, prepared and ready to learn. There is a place for families and caregivers to be involved in supporting students make it to school on-time below are some ways that families can help support students to arrive on-time:

Tips for Punctuality:

1. Rethink the meaning of "on time." If classes start at 8:40, students should be seated in the classroom at 8:35.
2. Understand the importance of being on time – the first 10 minutes of class are the most important
3. Get enough sleep
4. Give yourself a realistic amount of time to dress and groom
5. Communicate any problems. If your bus is always late or you have to take your little brother to school and it always makes you late, communicate this to your teacher
6. Follow traffic updates. If you depend on public transportation to get to school, always keep an eye on schedule interruptions
7. Have a backup plan for your transportation.
8. Set your clocks forward by ten minutes. This is a little psychological trick that really works!

Daily Bell Schedule:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
FIT	8:40 – 9:20		8:40 – 9:20		
Break	9:20- 9:25		9:20- 9:25		
Period 1	9:25- 10:25	8:40 – 10:00	9:25- 10:25	8:40 – 10:00	8:40 – 10:00
Break	10:25 – 10:35	10:00 – 10:15	10:25 – 10:35	10:00 – 10:15	10:00 – 10:15
Period 2	10:35 – 11:35	10:15 – 11:35	10:35 – 11:35	10:15 – 11:35	10:15 – 11:35
Lunch	11:35 – 12:20	11:35 – 12:20	11:35 – 12:20	11:35 – 12:20	11:35 – 12:20
Period 3	12:20 – 1:40	12:20 – 1:20	12:20 – 1:40	12:20 – 1:20	12:20 – 1:40
Break		1:20- 1:22		1:20- 1:22	
FIT		1:22- 2:02		1:22- 2:02	
Break	1:40 – 1:45	2:02-2:05	1:40 – 1:45	2:02-2:05	1:40- 1:45
Period 4	1:45 – 3:05	2:05-3:05	1:45 – 3:05	2:05-3:05	1:45 – 3:05



GRADUATION ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

On January 17th, 2025 all Grade 10 students will write the Numeracy 10 Graduation Assessment. This is a mandatory assessment required for graduation. On this day, classes for grade 10 students will be paused to allow for the writing by students and invigilation of the assessment. Grade 10 students will only be expected to be at school for their assessment session listed below. Please visit the [Ministry of Education website](#) for more information on the assessment and practice assessments. We remind families to review the email sent out to Grade 10 families or the post on the PW Student Hub on the Grade 10 Channel for more details.

Last Name	Time
Adhab → Mullen	8:40 – 11:40 AM (arrive by 8:30 AM)
Ngan → Zhu	12:05 – 3:05 PM (arrive by 11:55 AM)

COURSE PLANNING

Course Planning will begin with students right after the winter break. An overview is as follows:

Date	Event
January 13-16	Elective Information Sessions (FIT, Grade 8-11- Auditorium)
January 21	Parent Information Session, 6:30- 7:30 pm
January 31	Student Course Information Sessions (P1: Gr. 9, P2: Gr. 10, P3: Gr. 11, P4: Gr. 8)
February 12- 27	Students Course Requests Input OPENS (Sessions during FIT)
February 28	Course Requests CLOSED for student input

January 13-16: Elective Information Sessions

Departments will share information with students in the auditorium about all the options for electives. Students will have an opportunity to ask questions. All Grades 8-11 will be expected to attend.

Monday January 13 (FIT: 8:40 AM – 9:20 AM)	Tuesday January 14 (FIT: 1:22 PM- 2:02 PM)	Wednesday January 15 (FIT: 8:40 AM – 9:20 AM)	Thursday January 16 (FIT: 1:22 PM- 2:02 PM)
Science Math	PE English	ADST Language	Fine Arts Social Studies

January 21: Parent Information Session

The PW Counselling Department will be hosting one-hour sessions for students, parents and families to learn more about the course offerings for the 2025-26 school year and the course selection process. This is a great opportunity to learn about available classes, grade requirements, and post-secondary information (particularly for current grade 10 and 11 students) and to ask questions.

Grade 8 (Grads of 2029)	Grade 9 (Grads of 2028)	Grade 10 (Grads of 2027)	Grade 11 (Grads of 2026)
6:30- 7:30 pm		6:30- 7:30 pm	6:30- 7:30 pm
Auditorium with Mr. Morgan		Library with Mr. Tse	Room D101 (TREK Room) with Ms. Baerg

January 31: Course Information Sessions

Counsellors will be meeting with grade groups during the following periods. The purpose of this presentation is to learn about course offerings, graduation requirements and an opportunity to ask questions. All students are expected to attend their grade presentation in the auditorium.

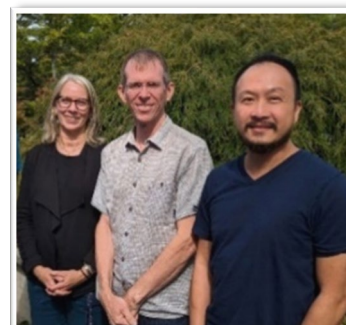
Period 1: 8:40 AM- 10:00 AM	Period 2: 10:15- 11: 35 AM	Period 3: 12:20- 1:40 PM	Period 4: 1:45- 3:05 PM
9 (Grads 2028) Counsellor: Mr. Morgan	10 (Grads 2027) Counsellor: Mr. Tse	11 (Grads 2028) Counsellor: Ms. Baerg	8 (Grads 2029) Counsellor: Mr. Morgan

February 12- 27: Course Request Input

Grades 8-11 will be scheduled alphabetically during FIT to input their course requests into MyEd. They will meet their counsellor in one of the computer labs. A detailed schedule will be provided to families in the new year.

Please contact your child's grade- based counsellor with any questions:

Counsellor Name	Grade	E-mail
Julie Baerg	8/9 (A-H) and 11	jbaerg@vsb.bc.ca
Chris Tse	8/9 (I-R) and 10	ctse@vsb.bc.ca
Scott Morgan	8/9 (S-Z) and 12	samorgan@vsb.bc.ca





SEMESTER TURNAROUND DAYS

Monday January 28 and Tuesday January 29, 2025 are our "Semester Turnaround Days". Although these are days of instruction, no new material will be taught by your child's semester 1 teachers. Students are welcome to attend classes (during their regular semester 1 schedule class times), but attendance will not be taken on MyEd. **Teachers will request specific students to attend their class for academic recovery.**

As well, the Counselling Team will be available for course changes by appointment.

Note: Last day for course changes for Semester 2 is Wednesday February 5th, 2025 @ 3 pm

REMINDER OF EXPECTATIONS OFF CAMPUS

Safeway (as well as other local businesses) is a valued lunch option for our students, and we want to ensure it remains a welcoming space for everyone. Recently, there have been a few concerns raised by the store regarding student behavior during the lunch hour. To maintain a positive relationship with Safeway, we kindly ask for your support in sharing the following reminders with your child:

- Please only enter the store if planning to make a purchase, as unnecessary crowding affects everyone's shopping experience.
- After making purchases, students should use the seating areas provided or exit the store in an orderly manner.
- Avoid gathering in large groups while shopping to allow other customers to move around the store comfortably.
- Always behave respectfully—no yelling, running, or roughhousing in the store.
- Seating areas are reserved for customers who have purchased food or drinks.

We are confident our students will represent the PW community positively, and we thank you for helping reinforce these expectations. Let's work together to maintain a strong partnership with Safeway and all our neighbors!

WEATHER RELATED SCHOOL CLOSURES

VSBC has procedures in place for when severe weather, like heavy snowfall or extremely high winds, may affect schools. During severe weather events, all schools in the Vancouver School District will remain open, if possible. If a District-wide closure is necessary, that will be decided and publicized by 6:30 a.m.

District-wide school closures will be announced through the media, the [District website](#), school websites and social media channels.

Follow VSBC socials for updates:

Facebook: [Vancouver School Board](#) Instagram: [@vsb39](#) X: [@vsb39](#) VSBC website: [vsb.bc.ca](#)

How are decisions made about school closures?

We monitor forecasts and conditions, and work with the City of Vancouver and other partners to assess safety when there may be:

- heavy snowfall
- extreme cold
- freezing rain
- extreme heat
- other hazardous weather/emergency conditions that pose risks to student and staff safety

We coordinate with neighbouring school districts to align our decisions where possible. The decision to close schools is made in consideration of safety, equity and well-being.

We consider other impacts weather conditions may have, like transit delays, meal programs for students, other essential student supports and impacts to learning. If weather conditions begin or worsen during a school day, usually, schools will remain open until the end of the school day.

Except under extreme circumstances, all schools and offices will remain open, if possible. Typically, no announcement will be made that schools are open. Only cancellations, closures or delayed school openings will be announced.

Extra-curricular activities, school events and field trips may be cancelled because of weather – even when school remains open.

Remember to dress for the weather and take extra care when traveling between school and home. Drivers are reminded to slow down and remain alert in and around school zones.

What if I don't think it is safe for my child to go to school due to weather conditions?

Student safety is our top priority. If for any reason a parent/guardian feels that a child cannot travel safely to/from school, they can notify their child's schools about the expected absence. Students will not be penalized.

Stay Informed!

You can find PW news at:

- www.vsb.bc.ca/princeofwales
- [@pwsecondary](#)
- princeofwales@vsb.bc.ca
- PW STUDENT HUB