November 2026

General Brock Elementary Newsletter

4860 Main St, Vancouver, BC V5V 3R8 ~ 604-713-5245

School Website: Brock@vsb.bc.ca

Safe Arrival – 604-713-5159 #14 or brkAttendance@vsb.bc.ca

Principal: Hope Sterling
OAA: Tassy Beretanos
Head Teacher: Eddie Cruz
Director of Instruction: Amy Van Vliet
Trustee: We are awaiting assignment
PAC Chair: Meagan Kowaleski

Dear Brock Community,

Thank you to NESTERS AND OUR PAC!
On Monday, October 26th some of our parents volunteered to place about 275 pumpkins, donated by NESTERS, on our front field - creating our 2026 pumpkin patch! Each division was then called to pick a pumpkin. Students were so excited to have their very own pumpkin patch! Some took them home; some decorated them at school and some of our older students carved them. A huge thank you to NESTERS and to our parents for organizing and setting it up.



Gratitude
Thank you for making the time to meet with our teachers at our fall conferences to help us better understand how to support your child's learning journey. And a huge thank you to the PAC for providing dinner to all the teachers who were working the long shift on Wednesday! We so appreciated the treat.

PAC Meeting & Movie Night Wednesday Nov 25th

Thank you Nesters



For all the Pumpkins!



allergy AWARE

For Nuts & Fish

September Paperwork

A huge thank you to our families who have completed the September package of paper forms and online forms. We are only waiting on a very few families. If you have any questions or still need to complete any form, please visit https://myforms.vsb.bc.ca/. Remember, if this is not completed, your child will not be able to use technology, participate in any walking fieldtrips or have their picture in the school newsletter.

Brock Clubs and Teams

A huge thank you to our dedicated staff for stepping up to offer a variety of lunch hour clubs, leadership positions and extracurricular sports teams—your commitment makes a real difference in our students' lives.

👏 **Well done to all 59 of our Cross-Country runners** for proudly representing Brock!

🥉 **Congratulations to our Senior Girls Soccer Team** for placing 1st in the entire district! Well done! This is no small achievement!

🥇 **And a big shout-out to our Senior Boys Soccer Team** for finishing 3rd in the district.

We're excited to share that the following clubs and leadership roles are now up and running:

- **Chess Club**
- **Crochet Club**
- **Hockey Club**
- **Soccer Club**
- **Library Monitors**
- **Office Monitors**
- **Peer Helpers**

🏐 Both our **Senior Boys and Junior and Senior Girls Volleyball Teams** have kicked off their season this week under the guidance of Mr. Mitchell, Ms. Tassy, and Ms. Ubial.

🏀 **Basketball** will begin in January—stay tuned!

After-School Programs

The Little Mountain Neighbourhood House **Schools Out** free after school program is now running on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays out of Building A basement and our Brock Library. This program is now full.

Kindergarten Registration Time!

If you have a child or know of a child who is born in 2022, it is time to register them for Kindergarten. Registration runs from November 1st until January 31st. Please visit the VSB website for more details.



School Assemblies

Our student-led assemblies have been very fun and creative so far. On Friday, October 30th, along with our Halloween parade, we learned about Halloween safety. On Tuesday, **November 10th at 11 AM** we will be holding our annual Remembrance Day assembly. If you are a member of the PAC Executive or a veteran, please feel free to join us in the gym at 11 AM.

Remembrance Day Poppy Fund



This year, our poppy fund donations will be collected via School Cash Online (just like school fees). Families can choose the amount they would like to donate. A cheque will be sent to the Poppy Fund on behalf of Brock Elementary. Thank you in advance for your donations. Each child will receive a poppy on **November 10th** for our Remembrance Day Ceremony. If your child belongs to an organization such as Cadets, Scouts and Guides,

etc. please encourage them to wear their uniforms that day and we may have them participate in the flag procession.

Student and Staff Safety

We have had two close calls in our staff parking lot already this year! Please **DO NOT PULL INTO THE STAFF PARKING LOT** to pick up or drop off your children. Please also **remind your children they can not cut through the lot before or after school.** Thank you for your support with this.

Vandalism in the VSB



I want to encourage all our families to report any vandalism or suspicious activity around the school. Please call 911 if you see someone on the roof, throwing objects at windows or doors, partying, lighting fires or participating in any other suspicious acts. The VSB spends over $500,000 per year repairing damage done to schools by vandalism. This eats up a lot of our budget, so your vigilance is appreciated.

District Programs at Brock

General Brock Elementary School is unique in that it serves not only our school community but also hosts several district programs, including an Elementary Learning Support Program, a Social Emotional Learning class, two Gifted Outreach programs, and two Intensive French classes. These programs were established at Brock when student enrollment declined. Currently, the school has one vacant classroom; however, district programs could be relocated if enrollment were to increase significantly. A key benefit of hosting these programs is our access to highly trained specialized teachers. These educators provide support to Brock classroom teachers, lead professional development opportunities for Brock staff, and offer valuable expertise around assessment tools, ideas for support students' behavioural and learning needs. Overall, the presence of these district programs enriches our school community and provides valuable resources and expertise that benefit all Brock students and staff.

Who is the man behind the name?



Major-General Sir Isaac Brock, known as the “Hero of Upper Canada,” was a British Army officer whose leadership and alliances were pivotal in defending Canada during the War of 1812.

When the **War of 1812** broke out between Britain and the United States, Brock quickly prepared Upper Canada for defense, training local militias and organizing regular troops. He forged crucial alliances with Indigenous leaders, most notably **Shawnee Chief Tecumseh**, whose forces were instrumental in early victories. Brock’s leadership led to the capture of Detroit and other strategic successes, demonstrating his ability to inspire troops and coordinate complex operations despite being outnumbered.

New School Mission Statement

On October 22nd the entire staff met to review our Mission Statement, School Code of Conduct and School-wide Goals. We decided to keep our Code of Conduct the same – Be Safe Be Fair Be Kind. We also decided to keep our two school wide goals the same. 1) To improve our student’s literacy skills and 2) Students and staff will learn more about Indigenous culture and do our part on the pathway toward reconciliation. We did, however, after thoughtful discussion completely rework our Mission Statement. Our new mission statement is: **To encourage and support all learners to think critically, act compassionately and contribute positively to an ever-changing world.**

Support

One final note again…I know the cost to live in Vancouver is very high. If your family is in need of support, please reach out to me. There is not a large pot of money available at Brock, but I will do what I can to find support in our community. We also have access to bursaries and scholarships for tutoring, arts programs or sports activities. Finally, we can also assist you with applying for a leisure access pass to our local community centres. Please reach out to me if you would like more information.

Warm Regards,
Ms. Hope Sterling, Principal

November/December Dates to Remember

Wednesday, November 11th	Remembrance Day Holiday – School Closed
Friday, November 20th	Professional Development Day – No School for Students
Wednesday, November 25th	Movie Night and PAC Meeting
Tuesday, December 15th	Reports go Home
Thursday, December 17th	Winter Concert 6 PM
Friday, December 18th	Last day before Winter Break (We return on Jan 4th.)

Brock Cross Country Team



Congratulations to Everett who was First Overall in the District!



Congratulations to the Senior Girls Soccer Champions



Congratulations to Senior Boys Soccer Team for placing 3rd in the City Championships



Senior Boys Soccer Teams – A & B



Halloween Parade






THING 2
THING 1






GOAT