

February 2023

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

Director of Instruction: Janis Myers

Trustee: Carmen Cho

Dear Brock Community:

Congratulations to all for making it through 'Blue Monday'! The third Monday of January has been awarded the gloomy title of 'Blue Monday', due to a combination of post-Christmas blues, cold dark nights and the arrival of unpaid credit card bills. Now we are heading to the busy month of February. Basketball season continues, Lunar New Year celebrations are planned, the Peter Pan Performance, Family Day and Conferences are a few of our upcoming events!

Report Cards are coming home on Friday, January 27th. They are just a snapshot of your child's progress and provide a good roadmap for term 2. Teachers are continuing to use the *Communicating Student Information* software, but reports may look a little different from last year. I have gleaned feedback from many parents over the years and have met with Brock teachers this year to create more consistency throughout the school. I have worked with teachers to ensure reports are clear, concise, and content based. If you have any questions about your reports, please reach out to your child's teacher to set up a meeting. Remember, we will be holding our next parent conferences on February 27th and 28th.

We now have our own **ping pong/table tennis table!** I was able to pick one up for free as another VSB school had no room for it. All we are missing are the paddles and balls. If anyone is able to donate a set of 4 paddles, we would be grateful.



Next PAC Meeting
Wed, Feb 22
Zoom Online

Saleema
Noon body science™
Online

PARENT WORKSHOP

Monday, Jan 30th
6:30 PM on Zoom



Happy
Year of the Rabbit
& Year of the Cat!

Sexual Health is often a difficult and uncomfortable topic for parents, children and even teachers. We are thankful to our PAC for sponsoring **Saleema Noon**. Saleema Noon and her team conduct online parent sessions and come into schools to help kids live healthier, happier, safer lives by providing them with the information and skills they need to make smart decisions about their sexual health. For more information, you are welcome to visit [Saleema Noon's website](#) here. Julie Prodor will be conducting two days (Feb 1st and 2nd) of in-school sessions with our students with individual sessions for each grade level.

The **General Brock Parent Session** will take place via zoom **Monday January 30th at 6:30pm with Julie**. This session will not be recorded for privacy reasons. I have attached Saleema's Sexual Health Checklist as a backup document that outlines all the relevant information for those that cannot attend the zoom session.

Julie Prodor (she/her) is inviting all parents to join the scheduled zoom meeting:

Topic: General Brock Parents - Talk Sex Today with Julie - Mon January 30th 2023 - @ 6:30 pm

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85326610633?pwd=ME1zUWZyRnRMNXVUSDhXL1NtSkIxQT09>

Meeting ID: 853 2661 0633

Passcode: 718487

I wanted to make a brief note explaining the **Parent Concerns Protocol**. If you ever have a concern about one of your child's teachers, please reach out directly to your child's teacher and set up a meeting to discuss your concerns with the teacher. If you feel your issue was not resolved at that meeting, please reach out to me, the principal. If you have a concern about the broader Brock community or have a school concern, please reach out to me directly to set up an appointment. You can email brock@vsb.bc.ca or call 604-713-5245.

Staffing Changes

Ms. Doran, our teacher librarian, will be starting her maternity leave as of Thursday, February 2nd! We are excited for her and her family but will miss her. We wish her and her family all the best and look forward to seeing her back again in about a year.

Ms. Eve Foster, who is currently working as an **SSA in our SELC program**, will also be leaving us to take a job as a teacher with the VSB. Congratulations Eve!

I want to thank **Ms. Joanne Sharples**, who has been filling in as our **school counsellor** for the last few months. We thank her for all her care and support for our students and wish her well in her new school. As soon as I am informed, I will introduce you to our new counsellor. **Mr. Yu Shan He**, our night engineer, has also accepted another job and January 27th will be his last day. We thank him for keeping our school so clean over the past year.

Bits and Pieces

I am happy to report that through our Winter Concert ticket sales and donations, we raised \$645 for the Greater Vancouver Food Bank. This money has been donated in Brock's name. Thank you for supporting our community. Our Brock donation link will remain open for the remainder of the year. Here is the link: <https://vfd.foodbank.bc.ca/fundraiser/brock>

Also, we still have space available in our free **Thursday Intermediate Schools Out program** that runs from 3:05 to 4:30 pm.

As many of you know, our librarian recently sent home **overdue notices**. Thank you to families for searching high and low for any missing library books.

Wishing all our families a fabulous February full of good fortune!

Hope Sterling, Principal

February Dates to Remember

Monday, January 30	1:30 Earth Rangers Assembly 6:30 Saleema Noon Presentation to Parents
Friday, February 3	Lunar New Year Parade 2:15 – Wear Red
Wednesday, Feb 8	Peter Pan Performance for students
Wednesday, Feb 15	Immunizations for Kindergarten & Grade 3
Friday, February 17	Professional Development Day - No school for students
Monday, February 20	Family Day – School Closed
Wednesday, February 22	PAC Meeting 7:00 PM on Zoom
Monday, February 27	Parent Conferences – 2 PM Dismissal
Tuesday, February 28	Parent Conferences – 2 PM Dismissal