

GRENFELL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

South Hill Swing Space 5987 Prince Albert Street

Phone: 604-713-4844

Website: <https://www.vsb.bc.ca/sir-wilfred-grenfell/>

PRINCIPAL: Maureen McDonnell	DIRECTOR OF INSTRUCTION: Chris Wong
OFFICIAL TRUSTEE: Christopher Richardson	PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (PAC) CHAIR: Caitlin Glass

With deep gratitude and respect, we are honoured to be learning and unlearning on the ancestral and unceded lands of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation) & səlilwataʔ (Tseil-Waututh Nation).

NOON HOUR CLUBS:

We are currently running several noon hour clubs for the students who would like to participate during lunch hour.



Dance Club: led by Ms. Massis for Grade 6 and 7 students on Fridays. In addition to regular meets, students will participate in the Elementary Afternoon of Dance Festival, which will take place on April 23, 2025, from 1:15 PM to 2:30 PM at Gladstone Secondary. This event is a non-competitive celebration of dance, bringing together VSB elementary schools to perform and enjoy the art of dance.



Origami Club: led by Ms. Kinzel. The club is open to all primary students at lunch on Thursdays. Students are provided with paper to fold their origami pieces. Students are also provided with an iPad to follow the online tutorials to learn the art.

Noon Hour Games: hosted by Youth & Family Worker, Ms. Parmar. Students of all ages are welcome to drop in to play board games, build using Lego or building blocks, play chess or beading. Noon Hour Games are open every Monday and Tuesday at lunch.



Thank you to the staff who volunteer their lunch time to support students!



RELAX THE RULES DAY

We had another successful and fun Break The Rules Day on March 13. Students were well-behaved even on the day when they were supposed to break the rules! It says a lot about Grenfell students. We raised over \$1400 towards outdoor education. As a result of the Break The Rules Day, students were rewarded with an additional 20 minutes of recess on Friday, April 11. Thank you to Ms. Cho for organizing this fundraiser. Thank you to the Grenfell families for your support.



FROZEN YOGURT FUNDRAISER: Thank you for supporting this fundraiser! This year we are fundraising for the Grenfell Music Program. The current order has been posted on School Cash Online and open for ordering, the next order will be delivered on Wednesday April 23rd.

Due to the bussing situation, yogurt will be delivered at **lunchtime** for the students to enjoy with their lunch. There are six flavour options, and the 6oz cups will be \$4. Deadlines for the current order and future orders on School Cash Online:

- Wednesday April 15th for Wednesday April 23rd delivery
- Wednesday May 6th for Wednesday May 14th delivery
- Wednesday May 20th for Wednesday May 28th delivery
- Wednesday June 3rd for Wednesday June 11th delivery
- Wednesday June 17th for Wednesday June 25th deliver



EARLY DISMISSAL DAYS (PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES)

Conferences will be held on **Wednesday, April 30 and Thursday, May 1**. A reminder that students will be dismissed at **2:00 pm** on both days. Students will board the school bus an hour earlier. **Buses 1, 2, 3, will leave South Hill at 2:08; Buses 4, 5 will leave South Hill at 2:18.**

Please send your reply form back to your child(ren)'s teacher as soon as possible to schedule a meeting with them. All meetings will be held at South Hill Swing Space (5987 Prince Albert Street). Families who cannot attend an in-person meeting can request for a Teams meeting with their child(ren)'s teacher(s).

KINDERGARTEN WELCOMING EVENT



We will be hosting a kindergarten welcoming event to work with the incoming Kindergarten students and families on **Thursday, April 24 from 11:00 to 12:00**. The meeting will take place in the Swing Space at 5987 Prince Albert Street. All families who have registered their child for Kindergarten at Grenfell will be invited to attend. The

kindergarten event provides a great opportunity to share information about what a typical kindergarten day looks like. Community partners such as Vancouver Coastal Health, Vancouver Public Library as well as the district's multi-cultural workers, school counsellor and the Grenfell Kindergarten team will be at the meeting to meet with the new kindergarten families to answer any questions. Students and families will rotate through different Kindergarten activities that foster Kindergarten skills. All participants will receive a Welcome Bag packed with kindergarten resources to practise at home.



BIG ONE AT TWO AT 2:00 PM ON THURSDAY, MAY 8th

As part of the preparations for an earthquake, we will be holding the full-scale annual earthquake preparedness practice on Thursday, May 8th at 200 PM. This school-wide drill will include the following activities:

1. Drop-Cover-Hold On

Students will practice Drop-Cover-Hold on in the classroom

2. Evacuation of the school

All students will exit the school building and congregate in the grass field adjacent to the school building.

3. Student-Family Reunification Practice

We would like to invite volunteer parents/caregivers to help us streamline the student release procedure by picking up students at around **2:30 pm (South Hill 5987 Prince Albert Street)**. Please report to the **Parent Check in** the basketball court (on Prince Albert St.) once arriving at school. To help us organize, please let the office know by May 5th if you can pick up your child(ren) at school as part of the student-Family Reunification drill. Please call (604)713-4844 or email Ms. Conte at the office rconte@vsb.bc.ca. **All other students will be dismissed at the usual time at 2:58 pm to get onto the school buses following their usual bus schedule.**



VSΒ SUMMER LEARNING 2025

Registration for **Elementary** Programs will open on Wednesday, April 23, 2025 at noon (12:00 PM) and will close on Wednesday, May 21, 2025 at 11:59 PM. Feel free to contact your child's teacher for course recommendation.

Registration for **Secondary** Programs will open on Wednesday, April 30, 2025 at noon (12:00 PM) and will close on Wednesday, June 11, 2025 at 11:59 PM. To register: <https://summer.vsb.bc.ca/>

SCHOOL FEE 2025-26: this is the time of the year when we set the school fee for the next school year. As with the current school year, the board will be charging \$35 as the school supply fee. This fee covers basic consumable school supplies used for students' personal use such as paper, writing tools, glue sticks, erasers, exercise books and art supplies. Supplies are provided for the full year. We will charge \$12 for a student planner for each student from Grade 1 to 7. There will be a \$15 performance fee to bring performing arts into the school. There will be a \$15 fee for ADST (Applied Design, Skills and Technologies) related supplies for ADST projects. **Financial Hardship:** as a reminder, the Vancouver School Board will not deny a child access to the school supplies required for their educational program because of financial hardship. Nor will any child be excluded from activities where a fee is charged. Please let the principal know if at any time there is a financial challenge.



GRADE 7 CAMP UPDATES

This year we are sending 38 Grade 7 students from May 21 to 23 to Camp Cheakamus in Squamish for a two-night camp. Students will have an opportunity to experience outdoor education in a rural setting in the company of friends. We hope the Grade 7 camp will provide our Grade 7 students some fond memories of their Grade 7 year before moving on to high school. Thank you to Grenfell PAC for supporting the Grade 7 Camp paying for the coach bus transporting students from Grenfell School to Camp Cheakamus. The Grade 7 Team has been running the Snack Shop at lunch to fundraise for Grade 7 Camp and the Playland fieldtrip. Thank you to Grade 7 parent, Jasmine Sanchez

who has been tirelessly shopping for snacks to stock the Snack Shop!

DATES TO REMEMBER

Friday, April 18
Monday, April 21
Thursday, April 24

Monday, April 28
Wednesday, April 30
Thursday, May 1
Thursday, May 8
Thursday, May 15
Monday, May 19
May 21-23
Thursday, May 29
Thursday, June 5
Friday, May 6

Good Friday (school closed)
Easter Monday (school closed)
Kindergarten Welcoming Event (11:00-12:00)
PAC Hot Lunch (pizza)
District's Indigenous Focus Day (students will not attend school)
Early Dismissal Day at 2:00 pm (Parent-Teacher Conferences)
Early Dismissal Day at 2:00 pm (Parent-Teacher Conferences)
Big One @2:00 pm
PAC Hot Lunch
Victoria Day holiday
Grade 7 Camp at Cheakamus
PAC Hot Lunch
Class Photo and Grade 7 Group Photo
Grizzlies Games Day (Sports Day)