

GRENFELL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

3323 WELLINGTON AVENUE, VANCOUVER, V5R 4Y3

Phone: 604-713-4844

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

PRINCIPAL: Maureen McDonnell	DIRECTOR OF INSTRUCTION: Chris Wong
OFFICIAL TRUSTEE: Jennifer Reddy	PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (PAC) CHAIR: Julie Ali



NEWS FROM DIV. 1, 2, 3, & 4: GRENFELL JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT BUSINESS SHOW

On December 15 from 1:15-2:15, Divisions 1, 2, 3 and 4 will be hosting the Winter Marketplace in the school gymnasium. The marketplace will feature crafts and items created by the students. Ten percent of the proceeds will be donated to local charities. We encourage you to join us and help support the children's business ventures. We hope to see you there!

WINTER CONCERT TO CELEBRATE THE SEASON



All parents and guardians are invited to attend the Winter Concert performed by students on **Thursday, December 21 at 1:30pm**. Doors will open at 1:15pm. Parents/guardians who arrive prior to 1:15pm are reminded to line up outside the main entrance. This year we would like to invite each family that attends the concert to bring two cans of food or make a donation to the Food bank at the door. Student leaders will be collecting the food and/or food bank donations in the lunchroom. We are looking forward to seeing parents and guardians at the concert and supporting the Food Bank at the same time.

FROM GRENFELL STUDENT COUNCIL

FOOD BANK



The Student Council are planning two holiday activities: food bank collection and Festive Friday. For the Food Bank donations, we will be collecting donations and canned goods at the Winter Concert. Families can also donate online (instruction below).

Click on this link: <https://vsb.schoolcashionline.com/Fee/Details/1869/196/false/true>

Select an amount

Fund Destination: select **E-Sir Wilfred Grenfell**

Add To Cart then Continue

You will receive a tax receipt. Grenfell School will send all money received through Online Donation by December 22, 2023 to the Greater Vancouver Food Bank. Thank you for your support.

FESTIVE FRIDAY



To celebrate the holiday season, students are invited to join in the fun by wearing seasonal pajamas, or ugly x'mas sweaters, green, red, santa hats, reindeer antlers, fancy party dresses etc on the last day of school on Friday, December 22, 2023. The staff have planned for a dance party in the school gym for primary students at recess and Intermediates dance at 12:25 for Intermediate students.





GRENFELL SCHOOL SONG

Some families have asked about our school song. We were fortunate to have musician Laura Kosh work with students to create a school song to align with our Grizzly school logo. Below is the link to the Grenfell School song. Check it out!

<https://youtu.be/KYZ4aTRJc2Q>

or on Spotify:

<https://open.spotify.com/album/0Th5Lcj7Hhmreikul2wrJZ?si=fxEvEiAVQlieZml1zgoGjA>



VANCOUVER POPPY FUND

We have collected \$226 to send to the Vancouver Poppy Fund. Thanks you for your support. Thank you to the students from Division 1 for collecting the loonies and toonies from the classrooms.



WINTER HOLIDAY DIVERSITY IN SCHOOLS

At this time of year there are many celebrations in Vancouver. We are very rich in cultures who have found a home here. The diversity team of the Vancouver School Board has compiled the following list of important events being celebrated at this time.

- Month of December - Indigenous Spirituality - *Thithikopiwipisim* - (Hoar Frost Moon/Month of getting ready for winter). Christmas Month in Cree.
- Dec 10 - Human Rights Day
- Dec 13 Aga Khan IV's birthday
- Dec. 8 to 15 - Hanukkah
- Dec. 21 - Winter Solstice
- Dec. 25 - Christmas Day
- Dec. 26 to Jan 1 - Kwanzaa



RAINY AND COLD SEASON IS HERE

Students are reminded to dress warmly for outdoor activities during recess and lunch. Rain gear and winter clothing are recommended at school. For younger students, it's a good idea to send a set of spare clothes to change into in case they get wet. For older students who need to wear shorts for gym classes and after school sports: please have them bring a pair of pants for outside at recess and lunch. Thank you for your support.



LOST AND FOUND

Our Lost and Found is filling up with winter clothes and accessories left behind by students. We will move Lost and Found to the Lunchroom on the day of the winter concert to make it easier for parents to retrieve their child's lost items. School Lost and Found is in the hallway outside the Library. Please feel free to check it out if you happen to be at school. A reminder to label your child's belongings! Items such as clothes, hats, mitts, water bottles or umbrellas can be easily returned if they are labeled. A simple way to label your child's items at school is to put your child's name and div # on a piece of masking tape and stick to their belongings.

FROM VSB COMMUNICATIONS



[VSB: After The Bell Podcast](https://www.vsb.bc.ca/ci/p/69553) The 13th episode of VSB: After the Bell podcast *breaking down district elementary choice programs and kindergarten registration* is now live. This month, we talk about all things kindergarten. We answer questions about the kindergarten registration process, talk about the different programs available, provide tips on preparing for kindergarten and answer questions submitted via our social media channels. To listen:

<https://www.vsb.bc.ca/ci/p/69553> Remember to subscribe wherever you get your podcasts.



PURDY'S CHOCOLATE PICK UP

Thank you for supporting the Purdy's chocolate PAC fundraiser. Orders will be ready for pick up next Thursday, December 14 between 2:30 to 3:30 in the Activity Room (by the office). Thank you to Grenfell PAC for organizing this fundraising event to support our school!

***Next PAC meeting is Thursday, January 11 2024 at 9:00 AM in the library. Hope to see you there!**

COMMUNICATING STUDENT LEARNING (CSL) REPORT CARDS

Beginning this year students will receive three reports from the teachers. The three reports include two Learning Updates and one Summary Report in June. The first Learning Updates were sent home last Friday, December 1. The next Learning Updates will go home on March 12, 2024. In addition, there are two conferences with families to discuss your child's progress. Please be reminded that you're welcome to connect with your child's teacher or myself anytime regarding your child's progress at school. If you have any questions about the Learning Updates that went home last Friday, please do not hesitate to connect with your child's classroom teacher.

SNOW CLOSURES DUE TO WEATHER CONDITIONS

When the school is closed due to the bad weather, the Board will post information about snow closures by 6:00 am on the website at www.vsb.bc.ca and will inform local media stations, including:

- CKNW (980 AM)
- CBC (690 AM, 105.7 FM)
- BCTV/Global (Cable channel 11)
- CITY TV (Cable channel 13)
- CIVB (1470 AM)
- CFHG (96.1 FM)
- CKWX (1130 AM)



Parents are encouraged to check the VSB website or listen to the radio/TV stations listed above to learn about school closures.

SAFE ARRIVAL



If your child will be absent for school, please call the Safe Arrival line to report their absence. Safe Arrival: (604) 713-5159 Ext. 34 or email: greatattendance@vsb.bc.ca.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Thursday, December 14	Purdy's chocolate pick up between 2:30 and 3:30 in Activity Room (Lunchroom)
Thursday, December 14	PAC Hot Lunch (White Spot)
Friday, December 15	Junior Achievement Business Show in the gym 1:15-2:15
Thursday, December 21	Winter Concert at 1:30 pm
Friday, December 22	Festive Friday/ Last day of instruction before winter vacation
Monday, January 8	School re-opens after winter break
Thursday, January 11	PAC meeting in the library at 9:00 am
Wednesday, January 24	Pro-D Day (students do not attend)



We wish you a peaceful and joyful holiday season. All the best for 2024!

Best wishes from Grenfell Staff