



Welcome to Renfrew!

We Care for Self, for Others, and for our Surroundings

3315 E. 22nd Ave. · Vancouver, BC · V5M 2Z2 · 604-713-4851 · 604-713-4854

Director of Instruction: Mr. Chris Stanger
Principal: Ms. Janine Lamb
Vice Principal: Ms. Kamala Coughlan
PAC Chairpersons: Ms. Maya Toews
School Liaison Trustee: Mr. Alan Wong

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Renfrew Families,

It is hard to believe that the month of September is already behind us! September was a wonderful month as classes settled into new routines with their teachers.

There have already been a number of significant events and learning opportunities at Renfrew. Thank you to Ms. Salter and Ms. Hepburn for volunteering to support Renfrew's Cross Country Team. It is great to see students out in the mornings running together. Students voted at Renfrew on September 20, thank you to Mr. Wong for organizing this activity. This was a great way to get students engaged in conversation about what matters to them. Our Terry Fox Run went ahead, in a modified way, on September 28th. Terry's message of hope, of looking for opportunities within times of challenge, continues to resonate today.

Orange Shirt Day was held at Renfrew on September 29th. This day is one that all students and staff engage in to witness and honour the healing journey of Residential School Survivors and their families. As a school we built a 'Tree of Reconciliation' that will be displayed for all to see and will be featured in the next newsletter. As a district, all schools are focussed on the goal: To increase knowledge, acceptance, empathy, awareness and appreciation of Aboriginal histories, traditions, cultures and contributions among all students. More than ever, Renfrew teachers understand the importance of leading students in this critical work. We have our first PAC meeting of the year on October 5, more information on how to join is contained in this newsletter.

Kind regards,
Janine Lamb
Principal



Daily Health Check:

Please ensure that you complete the daily health check with your child every day before they come to school.

<https://www.k12dailycheck.gov.bc.ca/healthcheck?execution=e1s1>

A reminder to parents:

When dropping off and picking up students from their division's line, please DO NOT approach your child in the line. We request that you call your child from the line if necessary, in order to keep a safe distance from other students. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Meet the Teacher Night

Teaching staff opened their classes virtually to families on September 28th. I hope that all families had a chance to connect and hear about what is happening in their child's class. A request that parents do not record meetings with the teacher, without the teacher's knowledge and consent.

Renfrew School Photo Day



The School Photo Day is scheduled for **October 12, 2021**.

🔗 [Click Here](#) to view "How to Prepare for Photo Day" (please scroll to the bottom).

🔗 [Click Here](#) to visit "Frequently Asked Questions" (FAQ) about Photo Day.

Terry Fox Run 2021

Congratulations to the Renfrew community for participating in this run!



LEGO Wall

During a fundraising drive last school year we were able to raise enough funds to install a Lego Wall in the library for student use. We are still working on getting it up and running. Students are very excited and looking forward to using it in the near future!



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY

Mark your calendars! Our second Professional Development Day is Friday, October 22nd, 2021. School will not be in session for students on that day. The next Professional Development Day will take place on Friday, November 26th, 2021.



VERIFICATION FORMS

Verification Forms has been sent home with students in September. In the event of an emergency, these are the forms that school staff refer to contact you. In an emergency situation, if your child is picked up at school by a listed contact that does not speak English, please ensure that they know your child's grade and the name of their teacher. Please review and make any necessary corrections and return your forms as soon as possible to the class teacher. Mark changes in coloured pen. Also, it is extremely important that any health issues be brought to our attention as additional forms may be needed.

Student/ Parent Information and resources:

Responding to Cyberbullying: A Guide for School Communities

https://www.vsb.bc.ca/Repository/SBAttachments/0d22e0e1-2135-427f-bc4f-7eed1615b5fa_RespondingtoCyberbullying-AGuideforSchoolCommunities.pdf

VSB Parent Pamphlet on What is the Difference? Peer conflict, mean behavior and bullying.

https://www.vsb.bc.ca/Student_Support/Safe_Caring/bullying/Documents/sbfile/180828/VSBParentBookletconflict-bullying.pdf

Ministry of Education ERASE (expect respect & a safe education) Resources

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/erase>

The ease|Report It tool is for students

<https://erasereportit.gov.bc.ca/#:~:text=The%20erase%7CReport%20It%20tool,during%20your%20school's%20operational%20hours.>

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION PROCEDURES FOR 2022-2023

Applications for Kindergarten for the 2022-2023 year will begin on November 1st. Catchment students applying for registration between November 1st, through the last weekday in January (January 31st) will be given first consideration over those who apply later. Montessori Kindergarten will be determined by a District run lottery. If you have a child born in 2017 or know someone that will have a child attending Kindergarten in September 2022, please register them during the above time frame in order to help guarantee your child's placement in their home school.



[Vancouver School Board \(vsb.bc.ca\)](https://www.vsb.bc.ca)

SUPERVISION OF STUDENTS

Students are supervised before school from 8:40am to 9:00am and after school from 3:00pm to 3:20pm. Children should not arrive before 8:40am or stay after 3:20pm unless specifically requested to do so as part of an organized/supervised activity, otherwise they will be unsupervised.

TRAFFIC SAFETY

Please remember to exercise caution when dropping off or picking up children from school. Familiarize yourself with restricted areas and avoid double parking and U-turns. Remind your children not to run between cars to cross the street. Please acknowledge and respect all traffic signs and parking regulations. Thank you for your cooperation in not doing student drop off in the staff parking lot.



ASSEMBLIES

We held our first virtual assembly on Friday, September 17, and will continue with virtual assemblies monthly. As all of us know, the virtual world is not the same as in person. We endeavor to keep the assemblies relevant, to showcase students and weave in some fun. We cover topics like Pink Shirt Day, Black History Month, Orange Shirt Day and Terry Fox. Remaining connected as a school community is more important than ever, and assemblies are one of the tools we use to bolster connection.

Orange Shirt Day at Renfrew

On Wednesday, September 29th, Renfrew Elementary wore orange in acknowledgement of the harm the residential school system caused to Indigenous Peoples.

Renfrew had a number of activities that took place throughout the week. Students watched videos, heard stories and participated in art activities as a way to recognize and remember. One of the school wide activities we embarked on to mark the day was our 'Tree of Truth and Reconciliation'. Each leaf represents a division at Renfrew, and their commitment to learning from the past to move forward in a good way into the future. It was fascinating to see how each class chose a unique way to represent their learning on Orange Shirt Day. We will feature the completed tree in an upcoming newsletter.

Parents, if you ordered orange shirts in June and have not received a refund, please contact the office at 604-713-4851, or Sue Barts at sbarts@vsb.bc.ca.



RENFREW PAC

Hello Renfrew families,

Our first PAC meeting will be Tuesday October 5th at 6pm via Zoom. Please RSVP to renfrewschoolpac@gmail.com. We email out the Zoom link and meeting documents the day of the meeting.

We have set up a PAC Facebook group for a way to connect parents and the community. A series of questions will be asked when you request to join and all

postings will be approved and monitored. We are excited to connect with fellow Renfrew families!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/renfrewpac/>

Thank you!
- Renfrew PAC

MARK YOUR CALENDARS



WHAT'S GOING ON AT RENFREW

Tuesday, October 12	Individual Student Photo Day
Monday, October 11	Thanksgiving Day – School not in session
Thursday, October 21	The Great Shake Out Earthquake Drill
Friday, October 22	Province-wide Pro-d – no school for students
Thursday, November 11	School Closed for Remembrance Day
Monday, Nov. 15	Photo re-takes
Wednesday, Nov. 17	Parent Conferences students dismissed at 2pm
Thursday, Nov. 18	Parent Conferences students dismissed at 2pm
Friday, Nov. 26	Professional Day – No school for students

Opportunities for Students

Connections Community Services Society will resume the **Generations Homework Club** (GHC) in October. Registration is now open to all **grade 4-7** students and is **free**. Since pandemic, they have moved the homework club from classroom to virtual. For more information, see the [attached poster](#) and [registration forms](#).

Community Services

[Vancouver's first zero-waste rescued food market opens October 1 - BCBusiness](#)