

# SEXSMITH STARS NEWS



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**NEWSLETTER #24** **December 2019**

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

**Happy December !**

Time seems to be moving very fast this fall, as we are now winding down to the winter break. A reminder that **written report cards** go home at the end of January. Continuing from last year, the report card format has been updated to better reflect progress in the revised BC curriculum. The focus is to highlight student strengths, areas for growth, and ways to support learning. A Student Competency Scale (see below) is included for each subject area and takes the place of grades at the intermediate level. A reminder that like other forms of communication about your child’s progress, written reports are a snapshot and meant to inform both you and your child how they are doing and where more effort or attention is needed. Two written reports will be sent home, in January and June. For more detailed information please see this [link](#).

### Explanation of the Student Competency Scale New Item

BEGINNING	DEVELOPING	APPLYING	EXTENDING
to acquire knowledge, skills, strategies and processes.	the ability to apply knowledge, skills, strategies and processes.	knowledge, skills, strategies and processes consistently.	knowledge, skills, strategies and processes creatively and strategically.
<b>The student:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ with assistance can...</li> <li>▪ has a beginning understanding of...</li> <li>▪ sometimes is able to...</li> </ul>	<b>The student:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ is developing independence...</li> <li>▪ is beginning to...</li> <li>▪ is aware of...</li> <li>▪ has a basic understanding of...</li> </ul>	<b>The student:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ is able to ...</li> <li>▪ most of the time is...</li> <li>▪ is generally independent in...</li> <li>▪ is capable and competent at...</li> <li>▪ consistently</li> </ul>	<b>The student:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ goes beyond...</li> <li>▪ has a comprehensive understanding of...</li> <li>▪ has fully demonstrated...</li> <li>▪ independently...</li> <li>▪ is innovative when...</li> </ul>

### Internet Safety/cyber bullying

The use of the internet by children is both a fantastic learning opportunity and an activity that has many possibilities for problems to occur. We regularly emphasize with students that online and in school behaviour needs to be safe, respectful and friendly but this does not always happen. We encourage parents to monitor home computer use and set firm limits on the use of the internet. For more specific information on home use of the internet by children please see the article/brochure links below:

<http://www.parenting.com/article/keeping-your-child-safe-on-the-internet>

<http://mediasmarts.ca/sites/mediasmarts/files/guides/digital-citizenship-guide.pdf>

## Pick Up and Drop Off Concerns



Check out this link for an explanation of the rules for no parking in school zones.

<https://vancouver.ca/streets-transportation/school-zones.aspx>

1. **There is NO parking on 59<sup>th</sup> avenue in front of the school between 8:00am – 5:00pm on school days.** Parents who violate this rule are forcing other parents to stop in the middle of 59<sup>th</sup> avenue to pick up or drop off students creating a dangerous situation where children need to exit vehicles into oncoming traffic and run between cars. **Parents are allowed to drop off and pick up their children but they are not allowed to park and leave their vehicle unattended.** Please respect the parking rules and keep our kids safe.
2. Please do not go past the roundabout adjacent to our parking lot when dropping off or picking up students and do not park in the limited spots we have available for school staff.
3. Go slow anywhere near the school and respect all parking and traffic rules.

## Sexsmith Afterschool Winter Term Programs

### CST-RUN PROGRAMS

**Art Attack**– THURSDAYS / January 16 – March 5 (8 sessions) / 3:00 – 4:30 PM/ Grade 1 – 3 / LIBRARY / \$65

This program is a combination of art and literacy. Students will be able to explore their creativity and make a variety of exciting projects based on a children's book. This is a fun program for younger students who love story time and to be creative. **(max 10 students)**

**Bake O'clock** – FRIDAYS / January 17 – March 6 (7 sessions) / 3:00 – 4:30 PM / Grade 4– 6 / STAFF ROOM / \$75

Join our baking program where you will prepare, design and eat delicious - but healthy! - sweet treats each week; and, you can easily make again at home! Participants will learn the fundamental baking skills such as how to use various kitchen utensils, measure ingredients, and simply how to crack an egg.

**(max 10 students)**

### On-Site Registration – School Office Foyer

To register, please bring completed forms and payment during the registration period – **Friday, December 13 at 8:30AM and 2:45PM (ONLY if there's space available).**

Registration for this program is **IN-PERSON** only. Pay by EXACT CASH or CHEQUE to **VANCOUVER SCHOOL BOARD**. Please contact Lovelle Castro if you need assistance paying for the programs at 604-803 1143 or [lcastro@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:lcastro@vsb.bc.ca)

### CST PARTNER-RUN PROGRAMS

**Moresports Active Imagination** – FRIDAYS / January 17 – March 13 (8 sessions) / 3:00 – 4:00 PM / Grades K-1 / Gym / \$40

Polar bear Freeze tag, Fireball Dodgeball, Pirates and Ninjas, 4-corner countries soccer & more! Keep your mind and body active with Moresports Active Imagination Gym Games on Fridays. Moresports Active Imagination Games focuses on

developing your fundamental movement skills, team-building, and having fun. Participants are to meet in your elementary school gym at 3:00pm.

☐ **Moresports Dodgeball** – FRIDAYS / January 17 – March 13 (8 sessions) / 4:00 – 5:00 PM / Grades 4-7 / Gym / \$40

Moresports is introducing a new dodgeball program due to popular demand! This is a great opportunity to meet new friends and have a ton of fun. Our coaches will teach you how to properly throw, catch, and most importantly DODGE! Game styles include: classic, doctor, bench and many more!

Registration opens December 3<sup>rd</sup>

Online: [ca.apm.activecommunities.com/vancouver/Activity\\_Search](http://ca.apm.activecommunities.com/vancouver/Activity_Search)

Or by Phone: Marpole-Oakridge CC: 604-257-8180 ext. 1

\*Moresports programs have a “Pay What You Can Policy” For more information, please call Anntuaneth at 604-718-5879.

## Kindergarten Registration for 2020-21



**Kindergarten registration for children born in 2015 begins on November 1<sup>st</sup>.**

All Kindergarten applicants are required to submit an application to their English catchment elementary school. This includes families who wish to apply for choice programs (French Immersion, Montessori, etc.) and/or a cross boundary placement.

The priority registration period for Kindergarten opens on **Friday November 1<sup>st</sup> and closes at 4 pm on Friday January 31<sup>st</sup>**. Students who submit an application within this priority period will be accommodated before late applicants.

Applying for Kindergarten is a **2-Step process**:

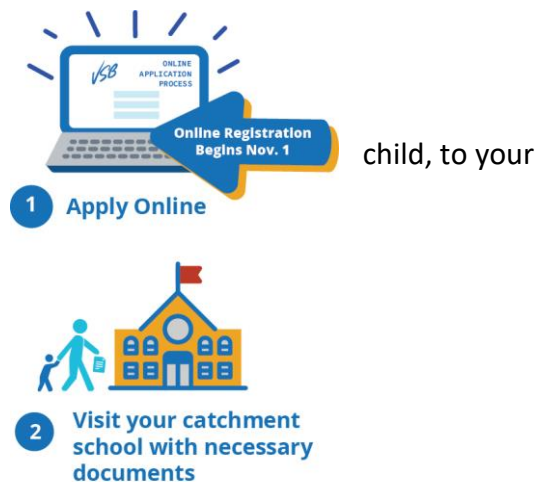
**Step 1:** Completion of an online application form.

**Step 2:** Bringing supporting documentation, along with your neighbourhood English catchment school.

**Supporting Documents Needed:**

1. Proof of residence in Vancouver
2. Child's birth certificate
3. Immigration documentation (if applicable)
4. Immunization records
5. Court Orders/Documents (if applicable)

If you want to apply for a Choice program or cross-boundary, you must first apply to your English catchment elementary school. Applications for Choice programs and cross boundary placements will begin to be accepted in early 2020.



In the event there are more in-catchment applicants than available space\* at the school, the following process will be used to prioritize enrolment:

### **Kindergarten Applications Received Between November 1<sup>st</sup> and January 31<sup>st</sup>**

1. **In-catchment** Kindergarten applicants with siblings in attendance at the school (and who will be attending next year) will be placed first.
2. The names of all other in-catchment registrants will be entered into a **random draw** for the remaining Kindergarten spaces.
3. Students who cannot be accommodated will be placed on a waitlist in the order in which their name was drawn.
4. Between January 31<sup>st</sup> and the second Friday in June students on the ordered waitlist will be accommodated as space becomes available.

### **Kindergarten Registrations Received AFTER January 31<sup>st</sup>**

In-catchment Kindergarten students who apply **after** January 31<sup>st</sup> will be accommodated if there is space. If there is no space their names will be added to the bottom of the existing waitlist.

**Note:** There will be **no priority** given to registrants with siblings if they register after January 31<sup>st</sup>.

**For more information on kindergarten registration visit:** <http://www.vsb.bc.ca/kindergarten>

\* Available Space includes physical capacity, resources, staffing, or educational programs available or planned for a school as defined by the district. (Administrative Procedure 300)

## **Safe Arrival Procedures Reminder**

### **Reporting Student Absences:**

Student safety is of paramount importance at the Vancouver School District. Ensuring student safety is a shared responsibility. In order to assist schools, we ask parents to notify schools of student absences. **If your child will be absent from school, please phone the school to report this absence as early as possible. Parents should leave a message on the answering service by calling 604-713-4901 choose option #1.** Messages can be received before the office is open. School offices are busy places: consistently notifying the school in advance of your child's absence will significantly improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Safe Arrival Morning Routine.

To Report Your Child's Absence – Please call **604-713-4901 choose option #1** prior to 9 am on the first day of the absence

### **Student Sign out Procedure:**

**When you pick up your child during the school day, please ensure that you sign them out at the school office.** If you do not sign out your child, they will be unaccounted for, and the school will identify your child as a 'missing' student and will commence a search of school grounds. **If the school staff do not locate the child, and are unable to reach a parent promptly, the school will call the Vancouver Police Department.** Therefore, clear communication is essential for ensuring the safety of your child and to prevent unnecessary searches.

Thank you for helping us keep your children safe!

## **Online School Fee Payment System (including school fees)**

A reminder to register for online payments— a simple process that takes only a few minutes – by visiting <https://vsb.schoolcashionline.com> or visiting our website at <http://www.vsb.bc.ca/online-payment> and following directions to the School Cash Online page. You will need your child's usual first name, last name, and birth date to register. A **"Pay Fees"** button is now installed on our school website for easy access to the system. Cash and cheques will continue to be accepted for

school fees, but we encourage everyone to use the new system as it is more secure and efficient. Please note that field trip permission notices will continue to be sent home for a signature and to indicate that you have paid online.

## **PAC Gift Card Fundraiser (see attachment)**



Have you started your holiday shopping?

Still looking for that perfect gift for your family, friends, teachers, or coaches?

**Gift cards** are the perfect gift and you can help support your child's school when you buy one!

Shop from the comfort of your home when you purchase gift cards through Fundscrip, and **Sexsmith** will receive a percentage of the gift card sale.

Choose from over 100 popular retailers like **Toys R Us**, **Gap**, **Cineplex**, **Metropolis at Metrotown** etc.

Please see the **attachment** on how you can start your holiday shopping today!

Don't forget, get your orders in by **Dec 13<sup>th</sup>** to ensure you receive your gift cards before Christmas!

Please use this link: <https://www.fundscrip.com/Sign-Up.aspx?IID=2CBHHR>

## **PAC News**

The last PAC meeting was held on Thursday November 7 at 6:40pm. Several parents attended. Minutes will be posted on the PAC tab of the school website. The next meeting is on **Thursday December 5** at 6:40pm in the library. All parents are welcome to attend. If you would like to contact PAC or volunteer to help out with a program please email [sexsmithvolunteers@gmail.com](mailto:sexsmithvolunteers@gmail.com).

## **School Closure for Snow and other Emergencies**

Information regarding school closures in the event of snow, or other emergency situations, will be provided to the following radio and television stations by 6:00 a.m. on the morning of the closure.

CBC (690 AM or 105.7 FM), CKNW (980 AM), CKWX (NEWS 1130 AM),

FAIRCHILD Radio (CJVB AM 1470/CKHG FM 96.1),

BCTV (Global) (cable channel 11), CITY TV (cable channel 13)

## **Bookmarks for Sale by Division 1 – Wednesday December 4<sup>th</sup>.**

Division 1 will be selling bookmarks to raise money for the Me to We charity. Pre-orders will be held on December 4 in front of the office. There are 5 themes which are: Disney, sports, videogames, patterns, and Sexsmith. Each bookmark is \$1.50 each.

Custom bookmarks will cost \$2.00 each. If you buy 2 bookmarks\* you only pay \$2.50 and if you buy 3 bookmarks you get a custom bookmark for free. You will not receive your bookmarks on December 4. They will be given to you after all pre-orders are completed.

\*Deals exclude custom bookmarks

### Important Dates in December

Mon. Dec. 2	Hot lunch orders for term 2 due by 3:30pm today – <b>no late orders accepted</b>
Wed. Dec. 4	Kindergarten Hearing Screening
Wed. Dec. 4	Bookmark sale by Division 1 (in front of the office)
Thurs. Dec. 5	PAC meeting @ 6:40pm in library
Fri. Dec. 6	Prizes announced for chocolate sales
Fri. Dec. 6	On site promotion in classes for Winter afterschool programs
Wed. Dec. 11	Several classes attending “Mixed Nuts” performance
Fri. Dec. 13	Community Schools Afterschool Winter program in person registration @ 8:30am/3:00pm
Dec. 16-19	Winter Sing-a-long each morning 9-10am in gym
Fri. Dec. 20	Breakfast with Santa
Fri. Dec. 20	Last Day before Winter Break
Dec. 21 – Jan. 5	Winter Holiday

### Upcoming Important Dates in January

Mon. Jan. 6	Classes resume at 9:00am
Thurs. Jan. 9	PAC meeting @ 6:40pm in library
Mon. Jan. 20	Professional Development Day – no school for students
Tues. Jan. 21	Performance – Opera “Flight of the Hummingbird”
Fri. Jan. 31	Written Reports go home

Please check our website [sexsmith.vsb.bc.ca](http://sexsmith.vsb.bc.ca) for the regularly updated school calendar