

# SEXSMITH STARS NEWS



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<b>NEWSLETTER #16</b>		<b>February 2019</b>

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Today you will receive the written mid-term report for your child. We hope that the new format makes sense to you and contributes to your understanding of how your child is progressing. If you have questions or concerns, please contact your child's teacher for more information.

Later in the month we will be recognizing Lunar New Year with a student presentation on Tuesday, February 12<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am. Thanks in advance to Stan Tam for organizing this event.

Towards the end of the month the intermediate students will have an opportunity to display their science research during the Science Fair scheduled for the afternoon and evening of Wednesday, February 27<sup>th</sup>. This is a celebration of learning and we encourage families to attend from 5:30-6:30pm.

As mentioned at recent PAC meetings, Sexsmith is part of the Heart-Mind Well Being project facilitated by the Dalai Lama Center. This project provides professional development to staff to support our school goal of improving social emotional learning. Information on the project and ideas for educators and parents can be found on their website:  
<https://heartmindonline.org/>

I hope you have a great month.

### Cross Boundary Registration during the month of February

The cross boundary application process runs from February 1<sup>st</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>. Students must be registered at their home school before any cross boundary applications can be accepted. **The application process is now online.** More detailed information can be found on the VSB registration page [https://www.vsb.bc.ca/School/School-Registration/Cross\\_Boundary/Pages/default.aspx](https://www.vsb.bc.ca/School/School-Registration/Cross_Boundary/Pages/default.aspx)

### PAC Gift Card Fundraiser

A reminder that gift cards can be purchased all year long and a percentage will be given to Sexsmith for future school projects. There is no additional cost to the purchaser. Please use this link: <https://www.fundscrip.com/Sign-Up.aspx?IID=2CBHHR>

## Pink Shirt Day

On **Wednesday, February 27<sup>th</sup>** the school will recognize “Pink Shirt Day”. This event started several years ago after some students in Nova Scotia were teasing another boy about wearing a pink shirt. In response and to support the affected boy, a group of students at the school all came the next day wearing pink. Pink Shirt Day has evolved into an opportunity to speak to children about respecting each other and emphasizing that bullying, homophobia, and gender stereotyping behaviour is never acceptable. If possible, please have your child wear pink on the 27<sup>th</sup> to participate in the positive message that all people deserve to be treated with respect and kindness.

## 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. (School closure information is also available online at <http://www.vsb.bc.ca/severe-weather>.)

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)

## Ongoing Pick Up and Drop off Concerns

- 1. Some parents continue to utilize our parking lot to drop off and pick up students during the busy times of 9:00 and 3:00. Outside of these times, it is not a concern, but at the busy times the actions of these few parents creates an unsafe situation as there is limited space for cars to turn around and an increase in students in the area. Please do not go past the roundabout and do not park in the limited spots we have available for school staff.**
- 2. We have had several complaints from parents that cars are stopping on 59<sup>th</sup> and blocking traffic as they drop off their child as well as having their child cross between cars. Children must not be crossing the road in the middle of the street. Please remember to go slow and respect traffic rules at all times, particularly when dropping off and picking up students.**

## PAC News

The PAC meeting was held on Thursday, January 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. Many parents attended. Minutes will be posted on the “Families” tab of the school website under “Parent Advisory Council”. The next meeting is on **Thursday, February 7<sup>th</sup>** at 6:30pm 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)

## Family Day Extra-Long Weekend

The Family Day long weekend will be extra-long for students with a professional day (curriculum implementation) on Friday, February 15<sup>th</sup> followed by the Family Day holiday on Monday, February 18<sup>th</sup>.



## Ready Set Learn at Sexsmith Friday March 8 @ 11:00am in the gym

If you are 3 OR 4 years old we would like to invite you to a special concert with singer Will Stroet. This concert is part of our Ready Set Learn activities planned for this year. Your child will have the chance to come and spend some time in the school with some of our primary students. The concert will last approximately 45 minutes.


Information from the Vancouver Public Library will also be made available for parents/guardians.

Hope to see you there. For more information about the artist you can visit: <https://www.willsjams.com/live-shows>

Please RSVP by contacting the office at 604 713-4901 or email [studentrecordssexsmith@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:studentrecordssexsmith@vsb.bc.ca)

## JOIN US FOR A MAGICAL CHESS ADVENTURE FROM VANCOUVER CHESS SCHOOL!

This comprehensive and progressive program allows students to learn how to play chess in the optimal manner by gradually increasing complexity. Within 1.5 class hour we will teach our students different chess concepts, solve a large variety of tactical exercises, play practice games and tournaments. In addition, our students can use a wide range of our own unique on-line resources and software for homework, class material and games.

 <p><b>VCS</b> Before &amp; After School Chess Program</p>	<p><b>Why Chess?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Exercise both sides of your brain</li><li>• Enhance academic skills of reading and mathematics</li><li>• Improve your memory and concentration</li><li>• Boost your creativity and problem-solving skills</li><li>• Develop long term planning and foresight</li><li>• Foster critical thinking and life skills</li></ul>	<p><b>Program Dates</b></p> <p>9 Wednesdays, Jan 16<sup>th</sup> - Mar 13<sup>th</sup>. <b>Join any time!</b></p> <p><b>Time:</b> 3 pm – 4:30 pm</p> <p><b>Room:</b> Library</p> <p><b>Program Fees:</b> \$ 15 per class paid in full upon registration</p> <p><b>Registration</b></p> <p>Register online at <a href="http://www.vanchess.ca/groups">http://www.vanchess.ca/groups</a> -&gt;Vancouver-&gt;Chess in Schools -&gt; J.W. Sexsmith ES</p>
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**HAPPY LUNAR NEW YEAR!!!**

## Events and Activities for Parents

**Parent Education Series - Child and Youth Wellbeing Workshops**

**FREE series (register with password: vsb)**

Responding to Challenging Behaviour: February 12th, 2019 [register here](#)

Supporting Your Child with ADHD: April 16th, 2019 [register here](#)

Encouraging Healthy Eating in Children: May 22nd, 2019 [register here](#)

## Important Dates in February

Fri. Feb. 1	Mid-term reports go home
Thurs. Feb. 7	PAC meeting @ 6:30pm in library
Mon. Feb. 11	Right to Play – assembly and workshop
Tues. Feb. 12	Lunar New Year Celebration
Fri. Feb. 15	Curriculum Implementation Day – no school for students
Mon. Feb. 18	Family Day – no school
Wed. Feb. 20	Performance – Shayna Jones
Wed. Feb. 27	Pink Shirt Day – assembly @ 11:00am
Wed. Feb. 27	Science Celebration Day – 5:30 – 6:30pm

## Upcoming Important Dates in March

Thurs. March 7	PAC meeting @ 6:30pm in library
Fri. March 8	Ready Set Learn with Will Stroet @ 11:00am
Mon. March 11	Dental screening for kindergarten students (am)
Fri. March 15	Last day before spring break
March 18-29	Spring Break Vacation
Mon. April 1	Classes resume

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