

SEXSMITH STARS NEWS



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NEWSLETTER #15 **January 2019**

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Happy New Year!

I hope everyone had a great holiday and are ready for another term of learning at Sexsmith! I want to again thank the parents and Rotary club for the great Breakfast with Santa last month. A special thank you to all of the volunteers for their efforts in putting on a great event. Also a special thank you to Mr. Coelho and his holiday helpers for the daily sing-a-long. With regards to the alleged incident at Sexsmith on December 5, I want to thank the many parents who contributed ideas to increase the safety and security of Sexsmith. Immediately following our meeting on December 13, as requested, all primary classes now line up inside the building and extra adults are outside during recess and lunch. School and district staff are working on longer term suggestions and I will update you as they are implemented. Again, I want to reassure everyone that the safety of the students is our first priority and we will continue to re-evaluate our practices and procedures to ensure that we are doing everything possible to keep students safe.

This month we will be sending out forms for you to indicate whether it is your intention for your child to continue attending Sexsmith next year. Please fill it out and send it back to the school. It is very important that we have that information so that we can begin to plan for next school year. As noted below, kindergarten registration ends on January 31. After that date students are placed on a priority list by time and date of registration. The cross boundary application process runs from February 1 – 28. More detailed information can be found on the VSB registration page <http://www.vsb.bc.ca/school-registration>. A reminder that mid-term reports go home on Friday Feb. 1. I hope you have a great month.

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>

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

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.

PAC News

The PAC meeting was held on Thursday December 6 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 January 10** 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

Kindergarten Registration for 2019-20



Kindergarten registration for children born in 2014 began on November 1st.

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 **Thursday November 1st and closes at 4 pm on Thursday January 31st**. 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. (link available Nov. 1)

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

Supporting Documents Needed:

Proof of residence in Vancouver, Child's birth certificate, Immigration documentation (if applicable)
Immunization records, Court Orders/Documents (if applicable)

Sexsmith Afterschool Winter Term Programs

Drawing Classes: Gr. 1-6 (Young Rembrandt)

Program Theme: Cartooning

Thursdays, Jan 17 - Mar 7 @ 3:05 - 4:15PM

Library

Registration Methods: Online. <https://www.youngrembrandts.com/metrovancouver/view-classes-enroll.aspx>

Moresports

Fridays, Jan 11- Mar 15 (No Program Jan. 25 & Feb 15); GYM

3:00 - 4:00 - **Active Imagination Games: Gr. K-1**

4:00 - 5:00 - **Volleyball: Gr. 4-7**

Registration Methods:

1. **Phone:** Marpole-Oakridge Community Centre - (604) 257-8180 ext.1

2. **Online:**


https://ca.apm.activecommunities.com/vancouver/Activity_Search/192118

https://ca.apm.activecommunities.com/vancouver/Activity_Search/192124

Phone and Online registration will open on December 20 **(As of Dec. 21 Moresports program are full)**

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

Parent Education Series - Child and Youth Wellbeing Workshops

FREE series (register with password: vsb)

Depression in Children and Youth: January 10th, 2019 [register here](#)

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 January

Mon. Jan. 7	First Day after winter break
Thurs. Jan. 10	PAC meeting @ 6:30pm in library
Fri. Jan. 11	Moresports programs start in the gym
Wed. Jan. 16	Chess program starts in library @ 3:00pm
Thurs. Jan. 17	Young Rembrandt Drawing lessons start in library
Mon. Jan. 21	Professional Day – no school for students
Fri. Jan. 25	BC Lion's Energy Smart Assembly
Tues. Jan. 29	PAC sponsored Performance – Inclusive Improv

Upcoming 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

Please check our website sexsmith.vsb.bc.ca for the regularly updated school calendar