

Britannia Elementary School News



KINDNESS INITIATIVE: WINTER GIFT CARD DRIVE TO SUPPORT BRITANNIA FAMILIES

We are collecting gift cards and funds to support some of our families. There are many families amongst us who for a variety of reasons need a little support and extra kindness.

If you wish to help with **gift cards**, we are trying to target **Visa or MasterCard cards** as they provide flexibility for choice. Other card ideas are drug stores, grocery stores, dollar stores, movie passes - as well as to places such as McDonalds, A & W, Tim Hortons, White Spot, and 7-11. (cards that are about fun!)

Cash donations are equally appreciated, and can be made online: (Please select **Britannia Elementary School**)
<https://vsb.schoolcashionline.com/Fee/Details/1869/196/false/true>

Whatever your choice might be, all donations are gratefully accepted. There is a **Kindness Gift Card** box and envelopes at the office for your convenience.

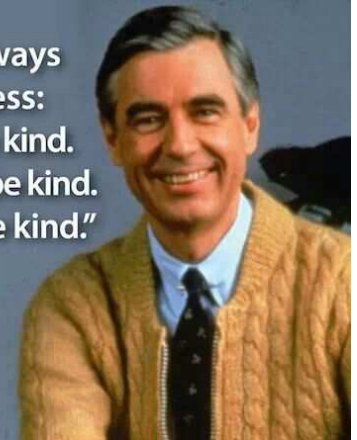
Quote:

“Today in an auditorium full of parents my child scanned the room looking for me. When he saw me his face lit up the room. He wasn't looking for the perfect parent. He was looking for his mom/dad. Don't ever forget the power of simply being their parent.”

Rachel Marie Martin

“There are three ways to ultimate success:
 The first way is to be kind.
 The second way is to be kind.
 The third way is to be kind.”

Mr. Rogers



ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

- ◆ Wednesday, December 4th—Skate with Santa from 2-3 at Britannia Rink
- ◆ Friday, December 13th—Spirit Day—Crazy Hat/Sweater day—Wear your crazy hat and/ or sweater to school
- ◆ Thursday, December 19th—Annual Winter Concert @ 1:15 pm
- ◆ Friday, December 20th—last day of instruction before the Winter Break
- ◆ Winter Break—No school from December 21st to January 5th
- ◆ Monday, January 6th—first day of instruction after the Winter Break

Principal: Ms. Tricia Rooney

Administrative Assistant: Miss Cecilia Mason



Kindergarten registration for children born in 2015 begins 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 **Friday November 1st and closes at 4 pm on Friday 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.

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

Supporting Documents Needed:

Proof of residence in Vancouver—Rental or Lease agreement + Recent Bill / or Property Tax statement

Child's birth certificate—Long form with parent's names

Immigration documentation—if applicable

Immunization records

Court Orders/Documents—if applicable

Supporting Documents—IEP's, Assessments etc .

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.

CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

Staff take great pleasure when we can send a hamper or a little extra kindness to families prior to the winter break. When and if we can support, staff carefully select with our best judgement.

The following are some agencies that can potentially support you should you need assistance:

- **Christmas Bureau:** 604-253-7191 <http://www.lmcb.ca/register/>
- **Salvation Army:** 604-872-7676
- **Quest:** info@questoutreach.org
- **Union Gospel Mission:** http://redbookonline.bc211.ca/service/9492088_9492088/christmas_hamper_program

Micro Footie registration is open.

Please see or email Stephanie for registration forms and if needed email sdigiacombo@vsb.bc.ca.

The expectations this year are: 100% commitment, \$74 pro-rated rate per child (this rate reflects 50% of the total cost). Upon registration, forms must be complete and submitted with cash or a cheque (made payable to the City of Vancouver). 45 spots are available for the students here at Britannia Elementary.

When we have full registration, a waitlist will be started and at that time we will direct you to the Britannia Information Centre.

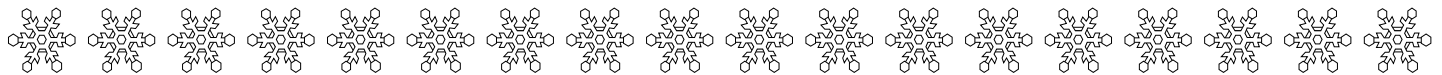
Forms are due by Thursday, December 12, 2019 and may be handed in directly to Stephanie or to the Family Activity Room mailbox. (located near the office door)

Thank you.



Secret Santa

Again this year our students will be on the receiving end of our five days of Secret Santa. You may notice your child will come home with a gift, prize or treat. We ask for you to join us in celebrating Christmas Kindness for our students.



Severe weather



Vancouver School District has procedures that are followed in situations where severe weather, like heavy snow-fall or very high winds, might be affecting schools.

All schools in the Vancouver School District will remain **open** if at all possible during severe weather events. Any district-wide closure will be decided by 7:00 a.m. at the latest. Details of district-wide or individual school closures will be announced through the media and the district website front page (www.vsb.bc.ca).

Please note that no announcement will be made stating that schools are open. Only closures and delayed openings will be announced.

Information about any district-wide closures will be sent to Metro Vancouver radio and television stations. Please check the following stations for school closure information (but do not call them):

Radio

- CBC AM 690 radio, 88.1 FM
- CKNW AM 980 radio
- News AM 1130 radio
- Fairchild AM 1470 radio

Television

- Global BC
- CBC TV
- CTV BC
- City TV

House Keeping Items:

- **Please remember to check the lost and found. All items not picked up by December 13th will be donated.**
- ***Please bring all forms and fees to the school as soon as possible. Thank you***
- ***Please remember to label your child's items (coats, bags, water bottles etc.)***
- **Student Absences & Late Arrivals—Parents should leave a message on a dedicated answering service by calling 604-713-5159 Our school code is 13. If your child arrives late they must sign-in at the office before going to class.**

SPCA

The SPCA accepts new and gently used towels, blankets & pillow cases. They cannot use items such as sheets, sleeping bags or pet beds. If you have clean gently used blankets or towels that you wish to donate please bring them in for this drive. Look for the labeled bin located outside the Hub. This donation drive will be continuing until the end of the school year.

Parent Advisory Committee (PAC)

The Next PAC meeting December 5, 2019 —Thursday @ 5:45 p.m. ALL PARENTS WELCOME

TOYS—ELECTRONICS—CARDS ETC—FROM HOME

Whether it's stuffed animals, trading cards, toy cars, or video games, many kids like to bring toys to school. Staff find that toys can cause problems in class and on the playground. It is best to keep them all at home. Please tell your children to keep trading cards and other games and toys at home. That way, everyone will be able to focus on learning.

Student Supervision

Supervision is provided by school staff at the following times:

Monday—Friday

8:45 - 9:00 am 3:00 - 3:15 pm

In order to ensure your child's safety, students should not arrive before 8:45 am and should be picked up no later than 3:15pm.

School Office Hours
8:00 am—3:30 pm