



Tecumseh Elementary School

1850 East 41st Avenue, Vancouver, B.C. V5P 1K9
Phone: (604) 713-5390 Fax: (604) 713-5383

October 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians of Tecumseh Students,

It seems like in a blink of an eye, we see the leaves changing colour and feel a slight chill in the air. Autumn is upon us!

The school year is well underway as students are settling into their new classes and getting to know their teacher(s)! With the many cheerful greetings we receive in the hallways and outside, it is clear students are becoming comfortable with their new school environments!

The pulse in our school grows stronger each day.

Teachers are looking forward to meeting with parents/guardians virtually over Microsoft Teams for Parent/Teacher/Goal Setting Conferences on October 19th and 20th, 2021. Please be reminded, all students will be dismissed at 2:00 pm on each of these dates to allow for these important meetings to take place.

We continue to be grateful for all of our supportive families as we navigate this school year with ever changing provincial health orders. We continue to work together to ensure the safety of all students and staff at Tecumseh.

Thank you for your contribution to this wonderful place.

Sincerely,

Mr. V. Edwards
Principal, Tecumseh Elementary School

VSBC Education Plan 2026

The Vancouver School District's Education Plan 2026 will be a roadmap that will lead the District to improve outcomes for students. Your voice is important! Please see more details and links to provide your voice to the shaping of the upcoming Education Plan 2026.

[Education Plan 2026 Website](#)

Artist in Residence at Tecumseh

This year, we are grateful to continue our working relationship with artist, Julie McIntyre (<https://www.juliemcintyre.org/>). Julie is a Canadian print and fibre artist who will be working with Tecumseh students once per week. One of the classrooms in our South Portable will be transformed into a printmaking studio!

This program has built momentum over the past 3 years. Three years ago, 3 classes worked with Julie. Last year, 6 classes worked with Julie, virtually, to create beautiful paper quilts. This year, we are happy to announce, Julie will have an opportunity to work with all 18 Divisions! We are thrilled to continue our working relationship with Julie!

Terry Fox Fundraiser and Run

“I’m not a dreamer, and I’m not saying this will initiate any kind of definitive answer or cure to cancer, but I believe in miracles. I have to.”

Terry’s words inspire all of us to believe. Through the money we raise for cancer research, we support Terry’s dream, and we teach our kids to believe in themselves as agents of change.

The Terry Fox Run at Tecumseh will be on Thursday, October 7, 2021. This year, the organizing committee has staggered the run as follows to avoid excessive crowding of students outside.

9:15 to 10:05 Div 1, 2, 3 with Div 16 ,17, 18 (inclusive of warm up activity)

11:00 to 11:50 Div 4, 5, 6 with Div 13, 14, 15 (inclusive of warm up activity)

1:30 to 2:20 Div 7, 8, 9 with Div 10, 11, 12 (inclusive of warm up activity)

Our Primary classes will do their run on the grass field and the Intermediate students will run on the sidewalk around the school’s perimeter, cutting across the school grounds to avoid running on East 41st Avenue sidewalk.

The run will go ahead rain or shine. If the rain is HEAVY, we will still participate in this important, symbolic run, but we will look at shortening the time outside.

Thank you for the generous donations that continue to flow for the Terry Fox Foundation to support cancer research. We have a new goal of \$2300! If we reach \$2300, Mr. Edwards will get doused with water balloons by Mr. Landreth! Should the school successfully reach this goal, we’ll film the dousing, and stream it into each classroom via Microsoft Teams. The students are excited to see their principal get soaked!

Some useful links:

<http://www.terryfox.ca/TecumsehElementary>

<https://terryfoxschoolrun.org>

[Terry's virtual classroom](#)

Covid-19 Updates

Please see the following links for up-to-date information regarding Public Health Orders and VSB updates:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/covid-19-safe-schools>

<https://www.vsb.bc.ca/COVID-19/updates/Pages/default.aspx>

Traffic around Tecumseh

Please remember, there is **NO STOPPING on Commercial Street immediately adjacent to the school** (north of the driveway ramp). This area is designated by the City of Vancouver as a **NO STOPPING** zone so that it remains clear for emergency vehicles, and to reduce bottleneck congestion at the very busy intersection of Commercial Street and East 41st Avenue. City of Vancouver By-Law enforcement will sometimes be present for enforcement duties as they typically do around the schools in the city. We never know when they will be present so it is best to pay close attention to the street signage all of the time.

Please also refrain from using the staff parking lot, as this area is for authorized vehicles only. The staff parking lot is not considered a suitable place for drop-off or pick-up of students. There is 3 minute parking on both Beatrice and Commercial Streets and 30 minute parking on East 43rd Avenue. Please consider driving around the school in a clockwise direction, until a spot is available, or, please consider “Drive to 5” (drive to within a 5 minute walk of Tecumseh Elementary—a short morning walk with your child(ren) can be very relaxing and a wonderful time to bond). These steps will help to reduce the amount of vehicle congestion around Tecumseh.

Thank you, to all the families who have heeded the street signage and have refrained from blocking the area beside the school on Commercial Street. We all share in the responsibility to keep our students safe. We appreciate you!

The Great BC ShakeOut Earthquake Drill

On Thursday, October 21st, 2021, Tecumseh Elementary will be participating in the Great BC ShakeOut Earthquake Drill (<https://www.shakeoutbc.ca/index.html>). At around 2:00 pm, we will Duck, Cover, Hold On, and practice a school evacuation as part of our annual earthquake preparedness activities.

This year, we are asking for up to 10 families to participate in the Emergency Reunification process at school. This process allows for schools to reunify students with their family/trusted

adults as indicated on the yellow emergency reunification forms recently sent home. Under separate cover, a letter and a link to a Microsoft form asking for families to volunteer to participate will be forthcoming. The emergency reunification process requires families/trusted adults to provide picture ID at Check-In Gate #1, before being reunited with their child(ren) at Release Gate #2.

Please be on the lookout for a separate letter calling for volunteers to participate in Emergency Student Reunification, so that we can practice our process! We will confirm with the first 10 families to respond in the Microsoft Form. If you volunteer, but do not receive a confirmation from us, please come to the school at 3:03 pm for the regular end-of-day dismissal.

Important upcoming dates

October 7, 2021	Terry Fox Run (rain or shine)
October 11, 2021	Thanksgiving Day—School closed
October 18, 2021	Fire Drill #1
October 19 and 20, 2021	Parent/Teacher/Goal Setting Conferences— early dismissal at 2:00 pm each day —these meetings will likely be virtual (on Microsoft Teams) or by telephone. Please be on the lookout for information from your child(ren)'s teacher(s).
October 21, 2021	Great BC ShakeOut 2021 Earthquake Drill and small scale Emergency Reunification at 2:00 pm
October 22, 2021	Provincial Professional Day—School is not in session for students
October 26, 2021	Lifetouch is at Tecumseh for Individual Student Photos
October 29, 2021	Wear Your Costume Day! -students who wish to come to school in costume, are welcome to do so! Many staff also dress-up too! -This is an optional activity—please participate at your comfort level. -Weapons of any sort (even toys) are not allowed at school. If your costume has a gun, knife, sword, etc, please leave these items at home and save them for October 31 st ! Light sabers are ok! -For our older students whose costume may be a bit scary, please be mindful of our younger students at school. We want this day to be fun and memorable, and not terrifying for them!