

Beaconsfield Banter

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<http://beaconsfield.vsb.bc.ca>

NEWSLETTER NO. 3

NOVEMBER 3, 2017

Library News by Ms. Quinlan

BOOKS, BOOKS, and more BOOKS! The library has been a bustle of activity this fall. The biggest event was the **Adopt-a-Book** campaign sponsored and supported by the PAC. There are now **113 new books in the library** for all ages, subjects and grades! The total contribution in book donations is over \$1200. A big thank you to parents for their contributions and to Kidsbooks who loaned us the books for purchase and gave us a 15% discount on all books sold.

School Plan

Every public school in British Columbia is expected to have a School Plan. Beaconsfield School is no exception. In the Spring of 2017, Beaconsfield staff determined two goal areas to focus on for the next three years. The first goal is to improve our students' ability (K-7) to 'create and communicate', to write, speak and represent their learning. The second goal area which is also a district wide goal is to increase knowledge, acceptance, empathy, awareness and appreciation of Aboriginal histories, traditions, cultures and contributions among all students. On our Professional Days and Curriculum Implementations Days, Beaconsfield staff are actively working on strategies to support student learning related to these goal areas and to the new BC Curriculum.

Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten Registration for the 2018-2019 school year began at Beaconsfield on November 1st. Please go to the following helpful website for more detailed information about the registration process: <https://www.vsb.bc.ca/kindergarten>

Beaconsfield's Code of Conduct

Every day as part of our Grade 7 daily announcements, the students of Beaconsfield school are reminded of our three-part Code of Conduct. At Beaconsfield School we expect students to "Be Responsible, Be Respectful and Be Ready to Learn." Thank you for your support with reminding your child/children of these important expectations

Grade 7 Mini Schools

Please check the VSB website: <http://www.vsb.bc.ca/programs/mini-school-registration> as it has all the updated information for parents and students about the School Information Nights, programs and deadlines. Please attend carefully to deadlines and test dates.

Halloween Dance

On the afternoon of Tuesday, October 31st, the Grade 7's organized a very fun Halloween Dance for our whole school. The Grade 7's decorated the gym, ran several contests, organized a class pumpkin carving event, and sold food items and glow sticks. MANY thanks to the Grade 7's for their effort and enthusiasm and for leading this positive school wide event.

Communicating Student Learning - A Pilot Project

The Vancouver School Board has initiated a pilot project this year on Communicating Student Learning. Teachers in sixty-two schools across our school district are involved in this exciting project. This is an effort to align reporting and assessment practises to the new BC Curriculum. It is a move away from 'reporting to parents' to 'communicating student learning' to parents on a more regular and ongoing basis. I am pleased to report that at Beaconsfield School, many of our teachers will be participating in this pilot project. By mid-week next week, letters will be sent home to parents notifying them that their child's teacher is participating in this pilot project.

If your child's teacher is participating in this project, TWO written reports (instead of three) will be provided to parents during the 2017-2018 school year. There will be a mid-year report sent home in January 2018 and a final report in June 2018. In addition, teachers are expected to communicate student learning and progress to parents/guardians at least THREE other times throughout the school year. A significant change at the intermediate level is that grades (A's, B's and C's etc.) will not be noted on the report. In place of letter grades, there will be a new way of communicating student growth and progress to parents in the different subject areas. Parents can still request this information from teachers. If your child is considering applying for a mini school program, this change in reporting will not impact your child's application.

Cross Country Team

Students in Grades 4-7 have had the opportunity to participate in Beaconsfield's Cross Country Team this term. Students who participated on the team and their skilled coaches practised and attended meets. The final track meet which is annually held at Trout Lake was washed out but it was rescheduled and the weather fully cooperated. Congratulations to all Cross Country Team members for a great season. Thank you to the following staff members for all the time and energy they spent supporting the Cross Country Team - Ms. Joe, Mrs. Billingsley, Mr. Pickett and Mrs. Ikeda.

Soccer Teams

There have been two soccer teams this term. Mr. Craig Thomas has been coaching the Grade 6 Junior Boys' Team. Mr. Paul Myers has been coaching the Grade 6/7 Senior Girls' Team. Our Senior Girls Team were selected for and participated in the City Championship. Congratulations to ALL of the players and many thanks to the two coaches for an excellent season.

Volleyball Season

Volleyball season has just started. Mr. C. Thomas is coaching the Grade 7 senior girls' volleyball team, Mr. Paul Myers is coaching the Grade 6 girls' volleyball team, Ms. Wallace is coaching the Grade 6 and 7 boys' volleyball team. Thank you to the students who are actively participating this season and for the coaches for all of their time and effort.

Skating Field Trips

Beaconsfield students will once again be given the opportunity to go skating this winter at Trout Lake Community Centre. Two classes typically go skating together each time. Please watch for more information from your child's classroom teacher about skating dates and times so that your child is dressed properly for this fun and active field trip. Thank you to Mr. C. Thomas, our PE specialist, for working closely with Beaconsfield classroom teachers to provide this opportunity for our students.

Gladstone After School Programs

Each term at Beaconsfield, our Gladstone Community School Team (GCST) provides a variety of after school activities for our students in Grades 1-7. These low cost activities are funded by a variety of sources, located at our school for easy access, and are intended for students who would not otherwise have these extra-curricular opportunities. As such, in terms two and three, we will be taking a slightly different approach to registration so that we are meeting the program mandate. First, we will be filling the programs with students who are referred by school staff for the programs and then we will be opening up registration on a first come, first served basis to all others. Registration dates and times will be provided to parents and run by the Gladstone CST. Welcome Scott Deyell, our new GCST Coordinator.

Walkathon News

Thank you to the many, many parents, caregivers, friends and family who generously donated money for the Walk-A-Thon this year. It is because of YOUR generosity that we raised a total of **\$3,102.85**. All money raised will go towards defraying spring camp costs for the Grades 6/7 students and field trips for our primary students. Special thanks to Mrs. Billingsley for organizing this year's Walkathon and for the tremendous support of our community - students, parents and staff in making this fundraising event such a HUGE success.

Traffic Safety

As winter weather is underway and days are shorter and darker, please be advised that all drivers **MUST** follow traffic safety and parking rules and regulations around Beaconsfield School. **Traffic and parking rules and signage apply to everyone and are in place for the safety and well-being of all members of our school community.** Following traffic, speed and parking rules is not optional. We are currently looking into the possibility of designating a drop off zone near our school. Speeding in safety zones, distracted driving, parking in undesignated areas and U turns are all illegal and subject to fines. Please remind your child to cross streets at corners and look both ways before crossing. Safety is a responsibility that all of us need to take very seriously. Thank you to all those drivers and pedestrians who are following the rules.

Veteran Affairs Canada - Poppy Fund

Next week, students will have the opportunity to donate to Veteran Affairs Canada. On the morning of November 9, 2017 at 11 am, students will be given a poppy which they will wear to our Remembrance Day Assembly. Parents are welcome and encouraged to attend. Thank you to the Grade 7's who are organizing this assembly for our school.

Photo Re-Takes

If your child missed the original photo day or you are not happy with the first picture, your child can have their pictures taken again on Thursday, November 16th at 1 pm. If your child is having a re-take photo, please have him/her bring back the original photo order form.



Warm Clothing for Outside Days

Just a reminder to parents that students will be playing outside to get fresh air and exercise during recess and lunch on most days. The only time they will be staying inside is when it is raining or snowing heavily. As the days become colder, please make sure your child is wearing a warm coat and appropriate footwear as he/she will be sent outside to play.



Daylight Savings Ends

A reminder that our clocks fall back next weekend, Sunday, November 5. Please set your clock back one hour on Saturday before you go to bed as Daylight Saving Time has come to an end.

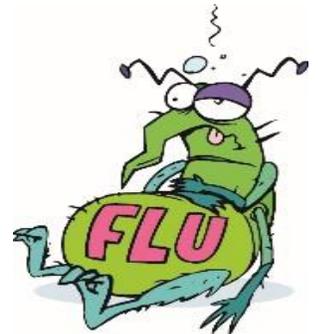
FLU SEASON IS HERE!!

Influenza (the flu) is a very contagious respiratory disease caused by a virus. It is passed from person to person by sneezing and coughing. Most healthy people who get the flu recover within two weeks. The flu can be a serious illness for infants, older adults and people with chronic illnesses. ***Handwashing Prevents the Spread of Germs!*** Germs are invisible and they are everywhere. When you touch a doorknob, pick up a book, or pet a dog, your hands pick up germs. Hand washing prevents the spread of germs. Take a few minutes and review these important hand washing steps with your family.

- Wet your hands under running water.
- Scrub with soap for twenty second (the time it takes to sing the alphabet song). Don't use antibacterial soap; it can lead to germs that are resistant to it.
- Be sure to wash between each finger and under the fingernails.
- Rinse your hands under running water until all the soap is washed off.
- Dry off your hands on a clean towel.

Sick students

Over the past few weeks, we've had a number of students being sent to school when they were clearly very sick, i.e. coughing, sneezing, and with fevers. Please be courteous to the other students and staff members in our school; if your child comes to school sick, he/she may infect others and we do not want to make more people sick!



Safe Arrival Program

All Beaconsfield parents/caregivers are asked to call a dedicated answering service at 604-713-5159 extension 11, before 9am on the day your child will be late or absent.

Notes From the Desk of PAC, November 2017

Happy Halloween Beaconsfield Families!

October was a busy month for PAC! A very huge thank you to all parents who contributed to PAC this year via direct donations; your contributions totalled \$ 1,220 and will go directly to funding programs and activities at our school! **Did you know that PAC funds field trips? PAC budgets \$15 per child in all divisions at Beaconsfield totalling \$3, 795 for 253 students and these funds go towards reducing costs for all children at our school to participate in exciting experiences beyond the classroom.**

Thank you also to all who participated in October's Adopt-A-Book event; PAC's Coffee and Baked Goods table raised \$332 and directly purchased 23 new books for our school library! The biannual free PAC Clothing Swap this Fall was also a success; plenty of "new to you" coats and costumes were traded and we hope that all kids are happy with their new warm gear!

Thank you everyone who came to our October 11 PAC meeting.

New this Fall: we are excited that our District PAC Representative, Stephen Filbey, will be encouraging greater communication and advocacy at the district level with our newly elected Vancouver School Board; please bring your ideas and concerns to our PAC meetings so that Stephen can voice these at the District PAC meetings! Also new this Fall, our PAC is pleased to welcome a Beaconsfield Teacher Representative to our monthly PAC meetings; we look forward to more collaboration amongst the fantastic team of parents, teachers and admin in our school community!

Stay Tuned: PAC will soon be sending out an email invite to our new **Beaconsfield Facebook Page**; this page will be private (Beaconsfield families only) and another avenue for parents to stay up to date on school events and activities. We will be partnering with **Crayola Recycling** this year to offer a recycling program at our school for markers; watch for the new box in the main hall and please bring all your empty markers/felt pens from home to be recycled rather than garbaged. Also, PAC is excited to partner with the BC Teachers Federation this year to offer free presentations for our parents on topics of concern; our first presentation will be **Social Media 4 Parents, Wed, Nov 29**, stay tuned for more details!

1. **PAC Earthquake Kits Forms due Tues, Oct 31 Pick-up Wed, Nov 8-** A reminder that Order Forms for Earthquake Survival Kits are due. This year, the Beaconsfield PAC has partnered with a local earthquake supply company, EarthquakeKit.ca, in order to offer home earthquake kits for sale to all our students' families or networks. EarthquakeKit.ca has generously offered to donate 25% of all sales at our school to the Beaconsfield PAC to support programs at our school.

2. **November Hot Lunch Tues, Nov 21 Orders due Tues, Nov 14** - PAC is pleased to offer monthly hot lunch by Foodie Kids. Foodie Kids is a local, North Vancouver lunch catering company that serves over 90 schools in the lower mainland. Their mission is to provide healthy and delicious food for kids but not kids' food! Please contact Jennifer jennifer@sgr.ca or Penny pmeichan@yahoo.com if you have any questions or would like to help on Hot Lunch Day! New this Month - Penny and Eileen have translated the ordering info into Mandarin, thank you both and we will be sending this out by email shortly. We welcome other parents who would like to translate any of our PAC communications into other languages also!

3. **Purdy's Chocolates Tues, Nov 14** - PAC will be offering Purdy's chocolates for sale to Beaconsfield parents again this year in the weeks before Christmas. Some families share this fundraiser with their offices, neighbours and networks. Other families purchase boxes of chocolates for gifting throughout the holiday season. Happy shopping!

4. **Spud.ca Boxes** - Once again, PAC is supporting our year-round Spud.ca fundraiser. Spud.ca is an online grocery delivery company that emphasizes fresh, local, organic and sustainable food choices. They have partnered with Beaconsfield PAC and will donate 25% of funds raised from a wide array of Produce Boxes that you may order. Please consider this option for your family's shopping and/or share this with your networks, friends/family/coworkers; anyone can support our school by entering LORD BEACONSFIELD in the fundraising promo menu at checkout!

Thank you to all parents, teachers and admin for helping the Beaconsfield PAC support our school. Extra Special thanks to Ms. Tracey Bell, without her constant help, advice, detailed admin work and joyful smile, our PAC community events and fundraising activities would not be possible; Thank you Ms. Bell!

Bree Cropper and April Davies, PAC Co-Chairs

The Lord Beaconsfield Parent Advisory Council (PAC) is your opportunity as a Beaconsfield parent to have a voice in your child's education. We meet in the Staff Room on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 6:00 and childcare is provided by Ms. Wallace's Grade 7 Leadership Team in the Library. At meetings, we discuss new initiatives at the school and in the curriculum, parent concerns and ideas, fundraising plans to support extracurricular activities and the many ways all of us can enrich the lives of families in our school community. Please join us!

Next PAC Meeting: Wednesday, November 8 @ 6:00pm-8:00pm

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Sunday, November 5	Daylight Savings Ends - fall back one hour
Wednesday, November 8	Gladstone Community School Team After School Programs Begin (and run on Wednesdays until Dec 13 th)
Wednesday, November 8	PAC Meeting @ 6:00 p.m. in the staffroom
Thursday, November 9	Remembrance Day Service @ 11:00 a.m. in the gym - parents are welcome to attend
Friday, November 10	CURRICULUM IMPLEMENTATION DAY - <u>NO SCHOOL</u> FOR STUDENTS (No Sport Ball After School Program)
Saturday, November 11	Remembrance Day - STATUTORY HOLIDAY
Monday, November 13	<u>SCHOOL CLOSED</u> in lieu of Saturday, November 11 th
Tuesday, November 14	Last day to order PAC Lunch (for Tuesday, Nov. 21)
Wednesday, November 16	Photo re-takes and also for those who missed the first photo or want another photo taken starting at 1:00 p.m.
Monday, November 20	Paul Silveria Square Dancing (all day) K-7
Tuesday, November 21	PAC Lunch: Foodie Kids - International/Pasta
Wednesday, November 29	PAC Social Media Presentation - info to follow - save the date
Friday, December 1	PROFESSIONAL DAY - <u>NO SCHOOL</u> FOR STUDENTS
Tuesday, December 12	Last day to order PAC Lunch (for Monday, Dec. 18)
Wednesday, December 13	PAC Meeting @ 6:00 p.m. in the staffroom
Monday, December 18	PAC Lunch: Foodie Kids - Asian/Pasta
Wednesday, December 20	Winter Concert and Café Noel - 6:30 pm
Thursday, December 21	Winter Concert Matinee - 1:15 pm
Friday, December 22	Last day of school before Winter Break
Monday, December 25 to January 5 th	School Closed for Winter Break

Please check our website regularly for updates: beaconsfield.vsb.bc.ca