

# Brock Elementary School

4860 Main Street, Vancouver, B.C. V5V 3R8  
Telephone: 604-713-5245 <http://brock.vsb.bc.ca>

**Principal: Mrs. Nancy Paget**

**PAC Chairperson: Ms. Krista Knight**

**Director of Instruction-Field Services: Mr. Aaron Davis**

**Liaison School Trustee: Mr. Ken Clement**

## **April 26, 2018**

Dear Brock Community,

We had two wonderful school performances this month with the City of Vancouver's Clean Up Your Act for our grades Kindergarten to 3 students and The Dancers of Damelahamid for the entire school. Clean Up Your Act was a perfect kick off to our upcoming Keep Vancouver Spectacular Event in May when we participate in a school-wide neighbourhood clean up.

The Dancers of Damelahamid supports our Aboriginal school goal. Students were treated to a performance where they learned about the Gitksan Nation's traditions and teachings through storytelling, dance and music. The word Damelahamid means paradise. The theme of the performance was to remind us to treat one another with kindness, create empathy for all things and take care of our environment.

The Big One at Two Earthquake Drill is next week on Thursday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> starting at 2:00 pm. Once again this year, we will practice our Student Emergency Reunification process. Only those students whose parents are participating in the Reunification process will be released early from school. Please take the time to carefully review the drill information contained in this newsletter.

Regards,

Nancy Paget

Principal

### **IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER**

Friday, April 27 <sup>th</sup>	Professional Development Day, no school for students
Monday, April 30 <sup>th</sup>	Gym Sense Begins
Monday, April 30 <sup>th</sup>	Photos Orders Due
Thursday, May 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Bike Safety, Divisions 2 and 3
Thursday, May 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Big One @ 2:00 pm
Thursday, May 10 <sup>th</sup>	PAC Meeting, Library, 6:30 pm
Monday, May 14 <sup>th</sup>	Jump Rope for Heart Day, Gym, 11:00 am – 12:10 pm
Tuesday, May 15 <sup>th</sup>	Spirit Day ~ Favourite Animal Day
Thursday, May 17 <sup>th</sup>	Welcome to Kindergarten, MPR, 1:15 – 2:30 pm
Friday, May 18 <sup>th</sup>	School Closed
Monday, May 21 <sup>st</sup>	Victoria Day
Friday, May 25 <sup>th</sup>	Sports Day, students in session from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm
Monday, May 28 <sup>th</sup>	Dance Program, Gym, Kindergarten – Grade 3
Monday, May 28 <sup>th</sup>	Bike to School Week
	Dance Program K - 3

*Don't  
Forget*

## District-Wide Earthquake Drill

The District-wide Earthquake Drill will be held on Thursday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 2:00 pm. On Thursday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, all students and staff at Brock Elementary will be participating in our annual District-wide Earthquake Preparedness Drill. In the event of a real emergency, where we are required to evacuate the buildings, it is important that we have a process for a safe, calm and effective reunification of children with parents.

Once again this year, we are requesting up to 30 interested parents/guardians to volunteer to come to the school at 2:30 pm to participate in a mock student-parent Emergency Reunification Release. If you are available to pick up your child at 2:30 pm to assist us in our drill we would appreciate your help. If you are able to assist us in this drill, please let the office know in advance by calling 604-713-5245. Please be prepared to wait as it may take some time for us to work through releasing students. The drill will be completed by 3:00 pm and our regular dismissal will take place.

To assist us in a smooth reunification process please make sure that your contact information is up to date in the office. This includes family members/guardians and/or specified designates who have permission to pick up your child(ren). In the event of a real emergency please make sure you or your specified designate bring identification to present to school staff.

To ensure the safety of your child after an emergency we require that your child be picked up by a parent/guardian and/or a specified designate. In the event of an emergency all parents/guardians will be required to show identification to school staff before being able to pick up your child(ren).

This is a wonderful opportunity for families to review their own safety plans and ensure that all family members know what to do in the event of an emergency.



## Extended Student Absences

On occasion families may request that their child be absent from school for an extended period of time due to a family emergency, an opportunity to travel, temporary work out of the city, etc. It is practice within Vancouver Schools that space be held for up to 30 school days at the written request of a parent/guardian. Families requesting an absence of more than 30 school days will be informed, in writing, that space at the school/program cannot be held, however, should space be available upon their return your child would be re-enrolled.

## School Fees 2018-2019

### 2018-19 General School Fees

The 2017- 2018 School Fees notice sent home in May of last year stated that this school year would be the final year that school supplies would be purchased for a set fee by the school district and that starting in September 2018, parents would need to purchase items on their own.

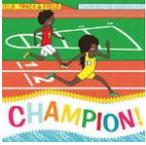
**Please note that the general school supplies fee will still be charged for the upcoming 2018-19 school year.**

The Vancouver School Board will continue its service of purchasing basic school supplies in bulk at wholesale prices and passing the cost savings on to families. The School Supply Fee for 2018-2019 will remain at \$25.00 per student.

This fee covers basic consumable school supplies used for students' personal use such as paper, writing tools, glue sticks, erasers, exercise books and art supplies. Supplies are provided for the full year.



## Track and Field



Track and Field, sponsored by Mr. Doucet and Ms. Almeda, began on Tuesday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, for students in grades 4-7. Practices will take place on Tuesdays from 3:00 – 3:45 pm and on Thursdays from 8:00 – 8:45 am. Students are expected to attend all practices and to arrive on time. Mr. Doucet will coach the Tuesday practices and Ms. Almeda will coach the Thursday practices.

**Parent volunteers are needed to help at practices and drive to the meet.** If you are available to volunteer at practices and/or to drive to the meet, please contact Mr. Doucet [jmdoucet@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:jmdoucet@vsb.bc.ca) and/or Ms. Almeda [kalmeda@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:kalmeda@vsb.bc.ca). The Track Meet is on Thursday, June 7<sup>th</sup> at Eric Hamber Secondary from 9:30 am to 2:30 pm. Please mark these dates on your calendar.

Thank you in advance to Mr. Doucet and Ms. Almeda for their dedication and to our parents for encouraging your children to join the Brock team and getting them at school early to practice.

## VSB Dog Policy



Please take some time to review the VSB's Dog Code, posted on the bright green signs along the fences. Dogs are only allowed on School Board property under the conditions noted on the signs.

Our school grounds and buildings are very active places with many children playing and moving about. Some children are afraid of dogs and/or allergic to them. School age children may put themselves at risk without thinking and get hurt by a dog. Unfortunately, dog feces have been left on our playgrounds, which is a concern for our students safety and hygiene when they engage in healthy outdoor play and as you can imagine it creates unpleasant odours. Allergic reactions, unhygienic situations arising from pet feces, and the possibility of unpredictable aggression contribute to the School District's decision to prohibit dogs in/on school properties during the school day.

Thank you for your cooperation and for making our school grounds and playfields safe for all our students.

## VSB/Staff Parking Lot

Safety is of paramount, please remind your children not to walk through or ride their bikes in the staff parking lot. Parents are not to drop off or pick up children in the lot. Please allow enough time for you to park your car a few blocks away from the school. Walking to and from school with your child is a wonderful way to start the day, get in some exercise and engage in conversations with your child about their day.

Recently we have had a number of parents and Main Street shoppers parking in the lot. A reminder that the parking lot is for VSB staff and employee use only. We have VSB employees who arrive at our school, throughout the day, and have been unable to park in the lot. Often they are carrying supplies and/or needing to get supplies from their vehicles, so it is important that they are able to park in the lot.

Thank you for your support in keeping our parking lot available and accessible to VSB employees. Your cooperation helps ensure the safety of our students and proper access for all VSB vehicles.

## Technology at School

We have had an increase use of personal electronic devices at school during non-instructional time. At Brock, we recognize the value of students bringing Personal Electronic Devices (PED) to school. However, to preserve a safe and productive learning and social environment, between the warning bell at 8:57 am and the conclusion of supervision at 3:15 pm, students are only allowed to use their devices when given permission by a staff member. PEDs include cell phones, iphones, ipods, MP3 players and other electronic devices used for communication.

While not in use, electronics devices are to be stored safely in a student's backpack and turned off. The safe storage of the PED is the responsibility of the student; the school assumes no responsibility for the safety, security, loss, repair or replacement of PEDs.

Students are not allowed to access the internet, watch videos, play video games or use the devices to take photos, video photos or make sound recordings, unless given permission by a staff member. If a student needs to make a call during recess or lunch they should report to the office and call from the school phone. If a student needs to use their cell phone to call home they must ask for permission from a staff member.

If a student's use of their electronic device infringes on the safe and productive learning environment of students, a staff member may take possession of the device until the end of the day or longer, if necessary. Parents will be informed if the school takes possession of a student's device for more than one school day.

## Student Engagement and Learning

### Van Gogh Sunflowers

Ms. Johal and Ms. Sauder's, Division 5 class have been studying sunflowers using still life and Van Gogh as an inspiration. The students used watercolours and black relief as their mediums.



### BC Skills Competition Fair

Ms. Mountali's, Division 10 and Ms. Prasad's, Division 1 classes had the opportunity to attend the BC Skills Competition Fair. The field trip was sponsored by the VSB Career Programs Department. Career Programs appreciates the "start them young" approach to help schools raise student awareness of non-traditional career options.



Skills BC hosts a provincial competition in skilled trades and technology for secondary, post-secondary and middle school students: Hairdressing, Baking, Culinary Arts, Welding, Auto Service, Refinishing, Landscape Horticulture, Public Speaking, Workplace Safety, Graphic Design, Film and TV production, Spaghetti Bridge Building, Gravity Vehicle Races, and many more. <http://skillscanada.bc.ca/>



It was a great venue for our students, as observers, to see all the wonderful future career choices and amazing talent of the student competitors. There were many hands-on activities to keep the students focussed as well as seeing the competitors in action. Thank you to the VSB Career Programs' Department for sponsoring the field trip!



## Bike Safety



The lovely weather is now upon us and we are seeing more children riding their bikes and/or scooters to school. Please remind your child that riding a bicycle/scooter on the school grounds is not permitted. If you are cycling to school with your child, please continue to serve as role models by dismounting before entering the school grounds. RIDE SAFE!



## VSB BUDGET 2018-2019

This year VSB has adopted a new financial planning process that is intended to focus budget discussions on the concept of a balanced budget. The process has involved district staff meetings with stakeholder representatives individually and an extended timeline to allow for feedback. A preliminary draft operating fund balanced budget was shared at the Plenary Committee III/V meeting on April 18<sup>th</sup> and was informed by consultation meetings with stakeholder groups.

The Board of Trustees will discuss the budget bylaw at the May 28<sup>th</sup> public Board meeting, with final deliberations happening at the public Board meeting on June 25<sup>th</sup>. Information regarding the 2018-2019 Budget Timeline can be found on the VSB Website at <http://www.vsb.bc.ca/20182019-budget>

## Temporary Modular Housing Information

There is a **second community information session** about the proposed housing on **Tuesday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, from 4:00 – 7:00 pm.**, at the Immanuel Baptist Church 109 East 40<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Some additional information is as follows:

- A notification postcard has been mailed to the local community
- The development permit application has been submitted to the City for this proposed temporary housing – the draft site and building plans can be found here: <http://development.vancouver.ca/155e37hvaha/index.htm>
- The information boards from the April 5 info session can be found here: <http://vancouver.ca/files/cov/temporary-modular-housing-little-mountain-information-boards-march-2018.pdf>
- More info on the Little Mountain project, and temporary modular housing across Vancouver, here: <http://vancouver.ca/people-programs/temporary-modular-housing.aspx>

