

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

December 22, 2017

Dear Brock Community,

What an amazing and busy term we have had! It is hard to believe that we will soon be busy preparing for term 2! It was wonderful to see so many of our parents in attendance at our conferences. Many thanks to the teaching staff, parents and students for the successful conferences. Teachers enjoyed the opportunity to discuss the enriching activities going on in their classrooms and individual student successes and suggestions on how to improve engagement and achievement. The new "Communicating Student Learning" (CSL) model of reporting emphasizes a variety of ways teachers communicate student progress. CSL report cards will be sent home on Friday, January 26th, 2018.

The past few weeks have been filled with a range of winter and preholiday activities. In addition to their regular classes, students have enjoyed participating in skating, preparing for the Art Gala, attending the "Mixed Nuts" performance to celebrate this special time of year and having lots of fun making Christmas and seasonal arts and crafts.

The Art Gala, spearheaded by Ms. Payson, displayed and highlighted the many talents of our students. The quality of the artwork on display not only demonstrates the artistic abilities of our students, but also exemplifies the fine teaching and learning taking place in our classrooms. Both parents and students enjoyed the Art Gala with many parents commenting on how much they enjoyed the event. A special thank you to Ms. Payson for organizing the Art Gala, teachers and students for their displays and to our staff who help with set up.

Earlier in the week, we held our Winter Assembly and Sing-a-Long. The student decorations created a festive atmosphere and excitement was in the air as students, staff and parents joyously sang carols. Thank you to Ms. Almeda, Ms. Payson, Ms. Sauder and Ms. Mountali for their leadership.

In closing, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our Brock families and staff a wonderful holiday and all the best for 2018. I hope that during the break you will find time to relax, spend time visiting with family and friends and partake in some fun activities. We look forward to seeing all of our students and families back at Brock on January 8, 2018.

Regards,

Nancy Paget

Principal

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Friday, December 22 nd	Report Cards Sent Home
Monday, January 8 th	Last Day of School before Winter Break School Reopens
Thursday, January 11 th	Students in attendance from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm Intensive French Program Night, Library, 5:00 pm PAC Meeting, Library, 6:30 pm
Friday, January 12 th	CST Visits Classes, gr. 2-5, After School Programs
Monday, January 15 th	Kindergarten Hearing Screening, 9:15 am LMHN After School Program Information sent home
Friday, January 19 th	CST After School Program Registration Begins
Thursday, January 25 th	LMNH After School Registration Opens
Friday, January 26 th	CSL Report Cards Sent Home
Monday, January 29 th	Curriculum Implementation Day. No school for students.
Tuesday, January 30 th	LMNH Schools Out After School Program Begins
Wednesday, January 31 st	Last day for Kindergarten Registration Parent Information Night, Tupper Auditorium, 7:00 pm

Staffing

The District continues to hire new teachers and support staff as well as fill daily and longer term absences. This has proved to be very challenging as the increased demand for teachers coupled with the movement between districts has resulted in a reduced number of on-call staff to meet the demands. The District has been actively attending career fairs both in and out of province as well as post and shortlist for jobs on Make a Future, the official job board of British Columbia school districts. Recently, the District has hired new teachers and support staff. Many thanks to all of you for your patience and understanding during these challenging times.

On another note, I am pleased to announce that Ms. Froebe will be returning part-time in January. A special thank you to Ms. Colvin, Division 6's teacher.

Congratulations to Ms. Mildren, District mentorship teacher, on her retirement. We have enjoyed having Ms. Mildren as a staff member at Brock and wish her all the very best as she embarks upon a new journey.

Technology Update



“Today we live in a state of constant change. It is a technology-rich world, where communication is instant and information is immediately accessible. The way we interact with each other personally, socially, and at work has changed forever. Knowledge is growing and information is changing extremely quickly, creating new possibilities. This is the world our students are entering. British Columbia's curriculum is being modernized to respond to this demanding world”.

In today's classrooms, teachers use technology to support their teaching and their students' learning. Teachers are beginning to teach students to code, be information literate, and to effectively use digital tools to facilitate learning activities.

The District is in the process of supplying each elementary classroom teacher with a new laptop as we transition to electronic attendance taking and making greater use of resources on the internet. Brock classroom teachers received their laptops and training and have begun taking attendance electronically. If your child arrives to school after 9:05 am and/or 1:05 pm, they are marked late and must report to the office to sign in and pick up a late slip.

A Reminder Safe Arrival Procedure

To Report Your Child's Absence: Please call **604-713-5159** and use the Brock School Code **14**, prior to 9:00 am on the first day of the absence.

Student Sign-out/Sign-in Procedures: Please ensure that you sign out your child at the school office if you pick him or her up during the regular school hours of 9:00 am – 3:00 pm.

Late Arrival Procedures



The beginning of the day sets the tone and learning environment in the classroom. First thing in the morning is the time when teachers greet students, discuss the *Shape of the Day* and review material and information with students. It is during this time, that changes in schedules are explained to students.

When children arrive late to class they miss important information and often feel upset because they are late. It is very important for students to arrive to class on time, so that they are part of the morning routines and have time to connect with their peers. Please support your child in helping them arrive on time for school.

A reminder that students who arrive late for class are to report to the office to sign in and pick up a late slip. The student brings the late slip to their teacher who then knows the child has signed in at the office.

Student Contact Information

Please notify the school office if your address and/or contact numbers have changed. In the event of an emergency, it is important that the school has up to date information on file. We must be able to contact a parent/guardian and/or a designated emergency contact person at all times. If you do not have designated emergency contacts on file, please provide the necessary information to Ms. Stelmack, in the office, as soon as possible.



Kindergarten Registration for Children Born in 2013

Kindergarten registration **closes at 4 pm on Wednesday January 31st**. In catchment students who have submitted applications by January 31st will be accommodated before late applicants.

When registering your child please bring:

1. Proof of residence in Vancouver
2. Child's birth certificate
3. Immigration documentation (if applicable)
4. Immunization records



For more information on kindergarten registration visit: <http://www.vsb.bc.ca/kindergarten>

Food Bank



A huge thank you to our families for your generous Food Bank donations! As always, the Brock community collected a large amount of items for those in need. Ms. Prasad and Division 2 were instrumental in the success of this project with student leaders making daily reminder announcements, collecting the items from the classrooms and ensuring our donations made it to the Food Bank.

Parent Involvement and Parent Advisory Council

Brock parents are an integral part of our school community. Thank you to our amazing parent community for all of your support this past term. Your contributions make a difference to our students and school and do not go unnoticed!

Research shows that parent involvement has a high impact on student achievement in the classroom. There are many ways parents can become involved in their child's education. For example, reading with your child, supervising on field trips, helping with special events, getting involved with PAC, etc.

All parents and guardians are members of the Brock Parent Advisory Council (PAC). Our PAC hosts events, helps to organize volunteers, set up class parents, raise funds for the school, and connect parents with education issues at the school, district and province levels. Some of the PAC initiatives are: fundraising for the Intermediate playground, organizing events (pumpkin patch, comfort kits, emergency backpacks), sponsoring school programs (Saleema Noon, Hip Hop, Gym Sense) and supporting field trips both large and small.

**THANK
YOU!**

PAC meets once a month at 6:30 pm, in the library. The next PAC meeting is on Thursday, January 11, 2017.

Volleyball

Congratulations to our Senior Boys' Volleyball Team who advanced to the City Tournament at Van Tech Secondary School and finished third! Well done!



We are extremely proud of both our Senior Girls' and Boys' Volleyball Teams. They played hard and did exceptionally well throughout the season. The Senior Girls made it to the City Championships! All of our students were committed, dedicated and maintained a positive attitude both at practice and at games. Thank you to Mr. Doucet and our volunteer drivers!

SCHOOL CLOSURE INFORMATION

***Please do not call the school to see if schools are open. Listen to a radio station or check the VSB website**

Information regarding school closure in the event of snow or other emergency situations, will be provided to the following radio stations by **6:00 am** on the morning of the closure:

- **CKNW (98 AM)**
- **CKWX (1130 AM)**
- **CBC RADIO (690 AM, 105.7 FM)**
- **FAIRCHILD Radio (CJVB AM 1470 / CHKG FM 96.1)**



In addition, information on snow closures will be available on line at www.vsb.bc.ca

