



THUNDERBIRD



School Newsletter

IMPORTANT NOTICE - PLEASE TRANSLATE!

ĐÂY LÀ ĐIỀU QUAN TRỌNG, XIN NHỚ NGƯỜI THÔNG DỊCH DỪM

AVISO IMPORTANTE! POR FAVOR PIDA QUE SE LO TRADUZCAN

這是重要的通告，希請人譯讀。

February 2, 2018



Issue #6



Message from the Principal:

Dear Families:

It has been an exciting and busy start to 2018 here at Thunderbird. First of all, I would like to thank everyone for their understanding since we have had to temporarily relocate our main office space to the library. Thank you for respecting the students and staff who are working in the library space when you need to visit the office area. At this time, we are waiting for insurance adjustors to complete quotes for the work that needs to be done and hope that repairs will start soon.

It was wonderful to see so many of you at the student led conferences this week. As you know, several of our classes are in a pilot project looking at different ways to communicate student learning that matches with the recently updated BC Curriculum. Some of our teachers will be asking you to sign up for Fresh Grade, an app that allows students and teachers to share the work that your child is doing in the classroom. A lot of parents have enjoyed seeing their child present their work online and find it very informative when used alongside the new report cards.

Our classes are enjoying many programs this term. Next week each class will have a coding workshop taught by the UBC Engineering Department and our Artist in Residence, Rebecca Graham continues to work with Divisions 1-4 on Fridays using natural materials to weave and create structures. Rebecca will be attending our next PAC meeting to share her work with parents.

Our basketball teams have been training hard and have enjoyed much success. Well done to each of our teams for their commitment to training, to their team mates and for showing good sportsmanship at their games. Thank you very much to Mr. Costea and Ms. Lee for giving their time to coach. Also thank you to staff and parents who support at the games and drive the teams.

Regards,

Cathy Thomas

Flu Season is here:



A reminder that we are now in Flu season and many children have or may be exposed to influenza ("the flu"). Influenza is a highly contagious, respiratory disease caused by a virus.

Symptoms of the flu begin suddenly and include fever, headache, chills, body/muscle aches, extreme tiredness, dry cough, and sore throat. Young children may also have nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea.

Please keep your child home during the first few days of illness when symptoms are most severe and the infection is most contagious.

Children should remain home until they have been fever free for at least 24 hours.

**PLEASE CALL
SAFE ARRIVAL
before 9:00am
604-713-5159
Press 81**



**IF YOUR CHILD WILL
BE LATE
OR
ABSENT FROM
SCHOOL**

***Please do not call
the office***

Important Dates

- Feb. 12th Family Day (no school)
- Feb. 16th Ready Set Learn Event
11:15-12pm (for Pre-K)
- Feb. 19th Pro-D Day (no school)
- Feb. 22nd Lion Dance Perform.
- Feb. 28th Pink Shirt Day
- Feb. 28th Deadline to Apply Cross
Boundary for Sept. 2018
- Feb. 28th PAC Meeting 6pm
- Mar. 2nd Ready Set Learn Event
11am (for Pre-K)
- Mar. 11th Daylight Savings begins
Turn clock ahead 1hr.
- Mar. 26 1st Day of Spring Break
- Apr. 3rd 1st day back after Spring
Break

Code of Conduct

At Thunderbird we
are Safe and
Respectful with:

- ✓ Ourselves
- ✓ Others
- ✓ The Environment



THUNDERBIRD



Pro-D Camp at Laura Secord School – Feb. 19th:

The Van Tech Community Schools Team is offering a program for Grade 1-4 students on the Feb. 19th Pro-D Day. It will be at Laura Secord School (Gym) from 9am to 3pm. The cost is \$30 per child. Subsidies are available if needed. A snack is provided but students are to bring a bagged lunch. Activities include: baking, arts & crafts, scavenger hunt & games. Parents can pick up a registration form at our school office.

PAC News:



The next PAC Meeting is **Wednesday, February 28th** in the Library. Child care is provided and a light meal is also available at 5:30pm. The meeting will start at 6pm. There will be a presentation from Rebecca Graham, our Artist in Residence, who is working with Divisions 1-4 this term.

Student Lates & Absences:

We have noticed that a lot of our students are regularly absent for a day or two every couple of weeks. Although this may not seem like a lot, especially in Elementary School, evidence shows that absences such as these have a direct impact on a child's learning. Graduation may seem a long way off for you and your child but all absence at any stage leads to gaps in your child's learning. This in turn can:

- mean that they fall behind in work
- affect their enjoyment of learning
- affect their desire to attend school regularly
- mean they miss out on the social life of school and extra-curricular opportunities and experiences
- affect their ability to have or keep friendships.
- affect their motivation
- lead to poor behaviour
- affect their confidence in school

If you are having trouble getting your child to school and would like advice or help with how to reduce your child's absences, please speak to one of our staff. A lot of us are able to help- your child's teacher, Gene Beaton our Youth and Family Worker, Godwin Barton, our Aboriginal Education Enhancement Worker, Patti McVey, our Community School Teams worker, the Area Counsellor, Kathy Froncisz, our Neighbourhood Assistant and Cathy Thomas, the Principal.

Pink Shirt Day

On Wednesday 28th February we will be wearing pink to school to school Pink day began in 2007 when two high school students in Nova Scotia decided to create a 'sea of pink' to support a Grade 9 boy who was called homophobic names when he wore a pink shirt to school. By wearing pink, our school communities give a message of inclusiveness- a place where staff, students and family members who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer can feel valued and supported.

Pink Day is also an opportunity to talk about inclusiveness in general. In assemblies this month we will be talking about how to recognize bullying and how to be a 'helpful bystander' if we see or hear someone being bullied. Research shows that if a peer tells a student that their behavior is unacceptable then this has a greater impact than if an adult intervenes. Therefore it is important that we teach children:



1. How to recognize bullying behavior
2. How to speak assertively but respectfully to the bully if they feel safe to do so
3. When it is time to get help from a trusted adult.

Of course, Pink Day is not the only day of the year that we talk about how to make our school a safe and welcoming place for everyone in our school community and we refer regularly to our school code of conduct.

Ready, Set, Learn

Our first Ready, Set, Learn event was very well attended last week. Ready, Set, Learn is a program for children aged 3-5 years old and their parents. We are looking forward to our next Ready, Set, Learn event on Friday 16th February at 11:15 in the Strong Start room. The topic will be healthy eating and your child will have the chance to sample some healthy snacks and receive a snack container. Dietician Carmen Gorlick will be presenting and available to answer questions about healthy eating and portions.

