



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.

May 1st, 2017

Issue 8



Message from the Principal:

Dear Families

I can't believe that it is May already and that we are in the final two months of the school year!

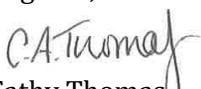
Since starting here at Thunderbird, I have been amazed at how busy the school is and at the opportunities we are able to provide for our students. Since our return from Spring Break, we have our final two Ready, Set, Learn events hosted by Ms. Lee and Ms. Ting, Field Trips to the Planetarium, the Vancouver Art Gallery and Renfrew Firehall and Library and the Arts Umbrella group visited the school for three days last week. Thanks to funding from the Vancouver section of the National Council of Jewish Women of Canada, our grade 6 and 7 students participated in two workshops from the West Coast LEAF organisation.

In May our grade 3 students and Division 5 students will have five swimming lessons as a follow up to their Swim to Survive program earlier this year. These lessons are being subsidised by PAC, the VSB Community LINK fund and CLICK- a charity that has generously supported several projects in our school, including the Aboriginal carving project. Our carving project is well underway- our carver, Art Bolton has been working with our students in the classrooms creating Aboriginal art. We are excited to start carving soon!

Finally, I would like to say well done to our badminton team who have represented our school over the past few weeks and to wish them good luck in their end of season tournament tomorrow at Van Tech. Track and Field season is underway and I am looking forward to watching our TBirds compete at the track meets- I am always very proud of how responsible our students are when they are competing. Thank you to Mr. Costea for organising these sports teams.

There will be many events and field trips throughout May and June, so please check your child's planner and the school website for dates and information.

Regards,


Cathy Thomas

Class Placements 2017-2018

At Thunderbird Elementary, the staff works very hard on making the best possible class placement for your child(ren). Factors considered are academic progress, individual learning styles, interactions between classmates, specific learning needs in different areas, gender balance, a balance of students requiring English Language support, and other insights provided by the current teachers who work with your child.

School organization and classroom makeup are also determined by many other factors such as: numbers of students registered in a grade, combinations of grades, staff allocation and teacher contract limits. Placing students is not an easy task and the professionals in our school invest a great deal of time and thought into the process.

If you have concerns/information which you feel the school does not already know please write a short note to Ms. Thomas (Principal) sharing this information by Friday, May 26th, 2017. Letters naming staff members will not be considered. Please do not make appointments with teachers to discuss class placement at this very busy time of year

**PLEASE CALL
SAFE ARRIVAL
604-713-6000
Press * 2510**



**BY 9:00 AM,
IF YOUR CHILD
WILL BE LATE
OR
ABSENT FROM
SCHOOL**

Important Dates

- May 4th Big One at 2:00
Earthquake Drill
- May 5th Pro-D Day
No School for Students
- May 10th PAC Meeting
- May 19th Sports Day
- May 22nd Victoria Day
School is Closed
- May 29th Immunizations #2

Code of Conduct

At Thunderbird we
are Safe and
Respectful with:

- ✓ Ourselves
- ✓ Others
- ✓ The Environment

**This Friday
Pro-D Day
*No school for
students***



THUNDERBIRD



Late Return to Thunderbird in September:

If your child is going to be returning to school LATER THAN noon on **Tuesday, September 5, 2017** but prior to **September 30, 2017, you must notify the office before June 30th**. If the school cannot verify your child's attendance at school by Wednesday, September 6, 2017, we cannot guarantee a space for your child when they return.

Parents can pick up a Notice of Late Return form from the Parent Bulletin Board outside the office, or print a copy from our school website.

If your child will NOT be returning to Thunderbird in September, please let the office know as soon as possible.

Earthquake Drill - Big One at Two

On **Thursday 4th May**, the school will be participating in the Vancouver School District's earthquake drill. Staff will be conducting a full evacuation onto the gravel field and setting up the earthquake equipment as they would in the event of an earthquake actually occurring. This year at 2:30pm we will be releasing students from division 8 and 9 and their siblings. We are going through this process of reunification for just these two classes so that as a school we can practice what we need to do and also to prepare parents for what the process will look like for them.

In the event of an emergency such as an earthquake where students have to be released to an adult, **the school's priority at all times is the safety and well-being of the child. We will not release a student into the care of a relative, friend or neighbor who is not on the emergency contact list.** I'm sure you understand that making sure that we get all children into the care of the right adult will take time and we appreciate your patience while we do this. You will be required to show a piece of identification- even if you are a parent. This is because it may not be your child's teacher who is with your child or handing your child to you. Please make that that the information held by the school in the event of emergency is up to date- especially which adults are allowed to collect your child. If you need to update any emergency contact details, please write a note to the class teacher, call the office or come to the office to let us know.

Just so you know, if there were to be a major earthquake children will be supervised by school staff for 72 hours before being placed in the care of the Ministry if they have not been collected by an adult on the emergency contact list. We will initially be onsite at Thunderbird and then we would relocate to Van Tech High School. Please take the time to develop a family emergency plan or to review your existing plan. This website may be useful <http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/preparedbc>



PAC News:

The next PAC Meeting is **Wednesday, May 10th** in the Library. Child care is provided and a light dinner is also available at 5:30pm. The meeting will start at 6pm.

Sports Day

Please keep your fingers crossed for great weather for our Sports Day on Friday 19th May. Activities will start outside just after 9:00 am. Thank you to Mr. Costea for taking the lead in organizing the day and the rest of the staff who support the students in helping the day to run smoothly. The following Monday 22nd May will be a holiday and there will not be any school.



Warm Weather

As the weather (hopefully) gets warmer and the sun becomes stronger, please remind your child to drink water regularly during the school day. Students are encouraged to bring water bottles to school, to wear hats and sunscreen and to seek shade for part of their lunch break.

New to You Clothing Event:

On Thursday, May 11th from 2:00- 4:00pm, and Friday, May 12th from 8:00-9:00am in the library, there will be lots of gently used, good quality clothing available for children and adults. Everyone is welcome to stop by.



Summer School Registration 2017 Opens May 5th

You can register online at summer.vsb.bc.ca or call 604-713-4550. You can also fill out the registration form from the brochure and mail directly to the Vancouver School Board.