Dear Parents,

On Friday, April 20, we held our second Trafalgar Circles of this school year. All students and staff were divided into multi-age groupings and worked on a collective Earth Day activity, for a one hour period. Students worked on a collage which will be soon unveiled! It was wonderful seeing our Grade 7 leaders take on a leadership role with their younger circle members. A big Bravo to them! Trafalgar Circles is another example of how we are working towards creating one community within our school.

Thank you for your ongoing support!

Sincerely,
Jacquie Lavoie
Principal

**UR Strong Workshops**

Thank you to parents who were able to attend our UR Strong workshop on Wednesday, April 18. Parents and students in attendance learned strategies to help put out Friendship Fires, how to put a voice to feelings and how to navigate through unhealthy friendships. To learn more, visit the UR Strong website at [www.urstrong.com](http://www.urstrong.com). A big thank-you to Melissa Cheevers for organizing this important workshop for our community!
2018 Red Cedar Contest

Sprint reading time! We are only a few weeks away from the end of the Red Cedar contest. Read! Read! Read! And don’t forget to update your classroom reading chart which is now displayed in the library. Voting for the best fiction and non-fiction books will take place on April 26, 27 and 30. On those dates, voting ballots will be available in the library. Please note that voters should read a minimum of five books in the category (fiction or information books) that they are voting. The 2017-2018 Red Cedar winners will be announced in May. Stay tuned! In early June, prizes will be given to the class has read the most books and 10 students who have read the most books – there will be a draw.

Big One at Two-Earthquake Drill

A reminder that the district wide earthquake drill will take place on Thursday, May 3 at 2:00 pm rain or shine. All students and staff will be outside on the grass field between 2:00-3:00 pm. We are still looking for parents to participate in the Parent Reunification part of our drill.

*** Parent Drill Notification for Earthquake Drill on May 3 ***

Thursday, May 3 is our annual BigOne@2:00 earthquake drill. We invite up to 20 interested parents/guardians to come to school at 2:30 pm to participate in a mock student-parent Emergency Reunification. Interested parents are asked to RSVP with the School Office if you wish to participate or e-mail Mme Lavoie at jlavoie@vsb.bc.ca

There is a Student Reunification Information form to fill out. Those who agree to participate will:

- Arrive at 2:30 pm and participate until 3:00 pm on May 3.
- Bring a piece of picture identification with you.
- Expect chaos. This is a practice!
- And if you drive, please do not block the roadway.
  You must follow the posted parking regulations.

The drill will end at 3:00 pm and our regular dismissal will proceed after that. The VSB uses the same Reunification process as most other school districts. It involves parents reporting to a Check-in desk, showing personal identification (ID), and our staff confirming the person picking up a student is listed with the school as an Emergency Contact of the student. It does take some time, but bringing ID and being patient and polite make it go much faster. Also, filling out the Reunification form in advance will expedite the process.

Visitors from Quebec

Beginning Wednesday, May 9, you may notice and extra 29 students around our school. These students, along with four staff members, will be visiting from Ecole Polyvalente La Samarre in Quebec from May 9th to May 16. It is our turn to host the Quebec students, and we are very excited to be given this opportunity to share with them our beautiful city, our school and our community. They will have a jammed packed week with outings to Grandville Island, Grouse Mountain and even Victoria, just to name a few, as well as a BBQ at the beach. One of the objectives of the exchange is for the Quebec students to practice their English, so if you see them around, feel free to say “hello.” A big thank-you to parents and staff for making this once in a lifetime opportunity a reality for our students.
2018-19 General School Fees

The 2017-18 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 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.

**Ready, Set, Learn!**
See the poster attached.

**Coffee Morning**

Please join us for our next Coffee Morning on Friday, May 4 from 9:00 am to 10:00 am in the activity room. Come share a cup of coffee with other parents, meet new parents, chat and socialize, as we continue to foster an inclusive, cohesive community. A big thank-you to Christiana Luo for championing our Coffee Mornings this school year. Hope to see you there.
Loonie Toonie Sale

Thank you to the Trafalgar community for supporting the Loonie Toonie Book Sale this week. Your book donations and support are truly appreciated. The sale netted $325 for the BC Children’s Hospital in memory of Liam Law who passed away in 2013 when he was in Grade 2. Thank you to our generous and caring community.

*** Important Dates ***

- Tuesday, May 8: PAC meeting at 7:00 pm in the library
- Thursday, May 17: Sports Day - Early Dismissal at 2:00 pm
- Friday, May 18: No School - School not in session district wide
- Monday, May 21: Victoria Day - No School
- Tuesday, May 22: Professional Development Day - No school for students