

Victoria West Elementary

E-Bulletin

October 21, 2022



Dear Families of Vic West,

Next week is already the final full week of October!

Our school year together can be compared to as a long-haul flight. Our school year 'takes off' in September with energy and speed and as we fly into October, we continue to climb to reach for heights and cruising altitude!

At this time, our climb may be less steep, be we continue to put processes in place so that our year can reach a steady trajectory – participating in conferences with teachers, continuing to learn about our students' learning needs and profiles and furthering our conversations with school staff and families on how best to provide that wrap-around support and care for all our young learners.

At times, we may face a few bouts of turbulence but we may also experience stretches of smoothness – it just a natural course to our journey together!

We hope everyone enjoys the flight!

With Thanks,
Mr. Chiu – Principal
Mr. Galhon – Vice-Principal



Drop Everything And Read (DEAR)

DEAR day will take place province wide this Monday, October 24.

At Vic West we plan to drop whatever we are doing and take 15 to 30 minutes, age dependent, to put our noses between the pages and enjoy some good books.

We will also celebrate the event with a Vic West wolves video that features students and staff reading around our school.

Consider taking the time to read with your child this Monday as your own celebration of **DEAR**.



IMPORTANT DATES

October 24 - DEAR Day

October 24 - Cross Country Practice Meet

November 5 - Bottle Drive

November 11 - Remembrance Day

November 14 - Pro-D Day (No School)



Halloween Guidelines

Costumes:

- Wearing of Costumes and Halloween Colors is a definite yes!
- However, please be mindful that costumes must not include:
 - Blood or gore
 - Themes of violence
 - Weapon/Weapon-like props
 - Masks/Face Coverings
 - Please ensure that costumes are culturally appropriate and respectful for all

Food:

- All food must be pre-packaged/individually wrapped
- Be allergy-aware
- Store purchased
- Distributed by an adult/staff member in the classroom

Cross-Country

Our Vic West Wolves cross country team will be participating in a practice meet, essentially a race against 13 other schools, at Lambrick Park on **Monday October 24**.

All students who have attended practices and submitted a waiver will be coming to the event.

The cross-country finals is set to take place at 1:00 on November 4 at Uvic.

Go Wolves!



Homestay required for our Greater Victoria International Education Program

It is a great opportunity for your family to share in an intercultural exchange of ideas, food and life. To find out more about homestay program or to apply please visit our website:

www.studyinvictoria.com

Check out the poster included in this E-Bulletin

Bottle Drive

Last year the PAC held two successful bottle drives at Vic West and we are looking forward to raising even more funds to support students again this year! The Vic West PAC will be having a no-sort bottle drive:

When: Saturday, November 5th

Time: 10:00 am to 2:00 pm

Refundable containers can be dropped off at the front of the school. The funds raised will be used towards the purchase of **digital microscopes**.



Spirit wear and Grade 5 Hoodies.

Information will be coming out next week...



1000X5 Books Part of October Fun Wee Ones Need Your Books



As you prepare for the end of the month celebrations with fun costumes and food, can you find a minute to locate 3 **gently used books for babies and toddlers** and drop them off in the pink bin by **door C**.

These books will entertain and enrich wee ones long after the October fun has ended.
277,000 books in 12 years!! Thank you.

Start bringing warm clothes to school as weather changes.

Please send your child with clothes for all types of weather.

We will enjoy the West Coast climate throughout the year.

Boots and rain jackets are important.

Students will be outdoors a lot this year – recesses and lots of outdoor learning.



LOST

and

FOUND

We are running out of space in our Lost and Found box.

The Lost and Found is going to be outside the Main Office Door (door C) for the next week.

Please check to see if any “lost” items belong to your child.

Thank you!



Daily School Schedule:

School Starts at 8:45 am

Recess: 10:15 am – 10:30 am

Lunch: Eating: 11:50 am – 12:10 pm

Outside Play: 12:10 pm – 12:35 pm

Dismissal at 2:37 pm

Supervision:

8:30 am – 8:45 am

2:37 pm – 2:52 pm

If arriving late for school, please send your child through the Main Entrance (Door C) to check in at the office.



We are happy that our students are using their bikes, scooters, skateboards, etc., but we do ask them to **walk all wheels on school property** for the safety of all.

Thank you for helping our school to be safe and run smoothly.

Dogs on leash, please.

"There are many parks and beaches throughout Greater Victoria where you can run your dog off leash."

"Public school grounds are NOT Leash Optional Areas at anytime."

Please keep dogs on a leash and be mindful of your pet's behaviors while on school grounds.



For more information about off-leash parks, visit: www.vacs.ca/leash-optional-areas

At Vic West Elementary, we will continue to create an inclusive and culturally responsive learning environment for all students with **an emphasis on the core foundations of learning (Social Emotional, Physical Literacy, Fine Arts, Literacy and Numeracy)** as part of our students' journey of self and their role in their community.



BECOME A HOST FAMILY!



UPCOMING GROUP

Who: Short Term Middle School Group from Stance Dual School in Brazil

When: Jan. 3- Mar. 3

This fun group comes annually to attend middle schools around Victoria.

Enjoy an Unforgettable Cultural Exchange

Why Host?

- Connect your family to the world by hosting an International Student in middle or high school
- Both short term and long term hosting opportunities are available
- 24/7 assistance is available from the homestay office.
- \$1100/month provided for student support (pro-rated for short term groups)



T: 250-592-6871

VICTORIA INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

E: homestay@sd61.bc.ca

www.studyinvictoria.com



Help your school music program...

by shopping at Tapestry Music!

HOW? Sign up for Tapestry Rewards Program! You get a 2% store credit on every purchase of store merchandise. You can use this credit yourself for future purchase **OR you can donate them to your school music program or community music organization!**

When buying any merchandise in one of the **Tapestry Music** stores or online, **just tell them that you wish to donate your credit to Vic West Elementary.**

Why? This Tapestry Music's way of helping school stretch their budgets and encourage supporters to fundraise simply by shopping at Tapestry.

Questions? Call a Tapestry Music Store...

(250) 590-0752 Victoria



Parking Reminders

Just a reminder that **we have two spots for people with mobility challenges;** please do not park in them if you do not need to out of respect for those who do.



Please adhere to the no parking signs, particularly in the curve at the beginning of the drop-off zone. While we understand that parking is a challenge at Vic West, **we also need our Third Wave bus to be able to safely deliver students to school.**

Sometimes the bus is not able to enter the drop-off zone due to the congestion of cars in no parking areas.

We thank you for your cooperation and patience!

IMPORTANT—REPORTING ABSENCES

Please call the office (250-382-9131) OR email the office (vicwest@sd61.bc.ca) when your child will be absent from school.

Thank you.

Please contact us at vicwest@sd61.bc.ca with any questions or concerns.

Please check out the updates of amazing learning and community on our [school website](#).

You can find the school calendar on the website. Please check on a regular basis.

PAC Info

In-person PAC Meeting

We are excited to invite you to our first in-person PAC meeting since 2019 on **Tuesday, October 18th, 6-7:30pm**

It will take place in the school library and we will have tea and snacks to enjoy. We have lots of exciting news to share with you about upcoming events & fundraisers happening at the school. Please [fill out this form](#) so we can get to know you all.

Ongoing Fundraisers

Purdys:

[Purdys Chocolatier Group Savings and Fundraising](#)

Customer # 59825

Sailor Jack's: "Vic West Kids" T-Shirts

Visit Sailor Jack's Consignment (424 Craigflower Rd.), purchase a T-shirt for \$19.95 and \$5 from each sale will be donated to the Vic West Elementary PAC. Various styles and sizes.

Mabel's Labels:

Visit www.mabelslabels.ca and choose **Support a Fundraiser**, scroll down to **Vic West Elementary (Victoria)** near the bottom and choose our school. Get shopping for labels to keep all your kids' stuff organized and Mabel's Labels will donate 20% to Vic West PAC.

Finn & Izzy:

For every pair of regular priced shoes purchased at \$50 or more, Finn & Izzy donates \$5.00 to one of 25 local schools. Let them know you'd like the donation to go to Vic West Elementary and they'll do the rest! Finn & Izzy are located at 2259 Oak Bay Ave. finnandizzy.com

Donate Online: Get a Tax Receipt

Register for an account at <https://sd61.schoolcashonline.com/Registration/ProfileTabs>

Once you have an account you can go to <https://sd61.schoolcashonline.com/Fee/Index>

or click the '**Make a Donation**' button on the Vic West Elementary website <https://vicwest.sd61.bc.ca>

On the donation page choose or enter the amount you would like to donate and the fund destination from the dropdown list. Simply scroll down and choose '**Vic West Elementary - PAC**', fill in the Tribute info or message to the School Board (optional), then click 'add to cart' and proceed to the checkout. These funds will then go to the school but must be spent in consultation with the PAC. You can choose to have the funds go directly to the school however the PAC would have no say in how those funds are distributed or spent.