

# Victoria West Elementary

## E-Bulletin

October 28, 2022



### Dear Families of Vic West,

As we move into the weekend of Halloween Festivities, I just wanted to wish everyone a safe and fun-filled Halloween weekend!

It is always so wonderful to see all the creative costumes and to feel the excitement that this time of year brings!

On Monday, families may be trick-or-treating with their children. I hope everyone enjoys a spectacular night of coming together with laughter and sweet treats!

I thought I would share some ideas and tips for a safe evening of trick-or-treating. I hope you will find this useful!

Click here: [Halloween Safety Tips](#)

Have a safe and happy Halloween, everyone!

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



## 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

## IMPORTANT DATES

**October 31** - Halloween

**November 4** - Cross Country Finals

**November 5** - Bottle Drive

**November 11** - Remembrance Day

**November 14** - Pro-D Day (No School)

## Cross-Country Finals!!

The cross-country finals is set to take place at 1:00 pm on November 4th 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](http://www.studyinvictoria.com)

Check out the poster included in this E-Bulletin

## Christmas Giving Network

Below is a list of Christmas Giving Network agencies accepting applications for food and/or presents for the incoming holidays:

- Next Steps Resource Centre (Salvation Army) 4030 Douglas Street, Saanich, BC ([Click here to be brought to their online Hamper Application form](#))
- Highpoint Family Services (Salvation Army) 949 Fullerton Avenue, Vic West, BC. ([Click here to be brought to their online Hamper Application form](#))
- Connection Point Resource Centre (Salvation Army), 103 - 737 Goldstream Avenue, Langford, BC. ([Click here to be brought to their online Hamper Application form](#))
- The Mustard Seed 625 Queens Avenue, Victoria, BC
- Sooke Christmas Bureau and Sooke Harbour-side Lions #100 - 6672 Wadams Way, Sooke, BC
- Saanich Peninsula Lions Food Bank 9586 5th Street, Sidney, BC
- Goldstream Food Bank Society, 761 Station Avenue, Victoria, BC

CFAX Santas Anonymous Society has reached capacity for its 2022 Christmas Program, and is not taking applications.



## 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**.



# 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!





# TAPESTRY MUSIC



## 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](mailto:vicwest@sd61.bc.ca)) when your child will be absent from school.**

Thank you.

Please contact us at [vicwest@sd61.bc.ca](mailto: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.

## 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](http://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](mailto:homestay@sd61.bc.ca)**

**[www.studyinvictoria.com](http://www.studyinvictoria.com)**

# 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](http://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](http://finnandizzy.com)

### **Donate Online: Get a Tax Receipt**

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

Once you have an account you can go to <https://sd61.schoolcashionline.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.