

Victoria West Elementary

E-Bulletin

December 09, 2022



A continued reminder when you pick up your child early from school, **please report to the office.**

Dear Families of Vic West,

As the winter break draws near, our classrooms and hallways will be full of energy and holiday buzz next week!

In the anticipation of the break ahead, know that our young learners might sometimes display a shift in their baseline behaviours. Just like adults, some children may express and emote with words while some might communicate through their behaviours.

It is always helpful that, as adults, when we know that a change in our children's daily routines are about to happen, they might communicate their feelings about these upcoming changes in a variety of ways and behaviours.

The more we prepare ourselves, the better we can understand the needs of our young learners!

Mr. Chiu – Principal

Mr. Galhon – Vice-Principal

We are having a:



For all our students, to celebrate the end of the year!

When: December 14th at 9:00 am.

Please let your teacher know if you don't want your child to participate.

****Gluten-free option available****

IMPORTANT DATES

December 14 - Pancake Breakfast

December 15 - Report Cards Sent Home

December 16 - PJ Day on Friday - Last day before Winter Break

Dec. 19, 2022 – Jan. 2, 2023 - Winter Break (No School)



Gift of Good Food Fundraiser

The Vic West Community Association - Food Security Collective is participating in the [Gift of Good Food fundraiser](#) to provide Vic West families with fresh fruit and vegetable boxes for 2023. The food would be delivered every two weeks for the full year.

If you have some financial capacity to support this campaign, please donate by selecting the [Vic West Food Security Collective Team](#). Donations can be made until December 31.

With your generous support, we can ensure members of our community have access to high quality, fresh and delicious food. Thank you!



Spirit Wear's orders are coming soon!!

If you have ordered Spirit wear for your child and it is a gift/surprise for your child, please email your child's teacher so the items can be put aside for you to pickup.



Thanks!

Vic West Elementary Library - Board Games

Checkout a board game to play together for the holidays.

The library has a selection of board games that are typically played in the library or in classrooms. We'd like students to have a chance to play a game with their family or friends over the break. Please complete the following permission form before your child comes into the library next week to checkout a game. Please note that the number of games is limited.



[Link to online permission form](#)



PREVENTING COLDS AND INFLUENZA (FLU)

Cold and influenza season is here. As the weather gets cooler and we move indoors, so do germs. Children need reminders to decrease the risk of colds and flu at school and home by:

- Washing hands often
- Coughing and sneezing into their elbow
- Keeping hands away from nose and mouth
- Not sharing food or drink with others
- Not sharing facecloths or towels

To help limit the spread of germs, please keep your child home from school and activities if they are feverish, coughing a lot, have thick yellow or green discharge from the nose, or are otherwise unwell.

Remember:

- Viruses cause colds and influenza
- Antibiotics will not make a cold or other virus go away faster
- The most effective treatment for a cold is rest and fluids
- The influenza vaccine will protect against specific types of influenza
- Call your doctor if your child has an earache, fever higher than 39°C (102°F), rash, is very sleepy or difficult to wake, very cranky or fussy, has trouble breathing or a cough that will not go away.
- Handwashing is the most effective way to stop the spread of germs that cause colds, influenza, diarrhea, and other illnesses
- Wash hands, before and after eating or handling food, after using the toilet, handling pets, coughing, sneezing, or wiping noses

For more information:

- Your local [Public Health Unit](#)



Friendly reminder to keep your kids home when they are sick.

Please be sure your kids understand, and apply **respiratory etiquette**:

- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing.
- If you don't have a tissue, cough or sneeze into your elbow, not your hands.
- Use tissues and throw them away.
- Perform hand hygiene every time you touch your mouth or nose:
- Hand washing with soap and water
- Hand cleaning with alcohol-based hand rub



CLAY!
DIY 3



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.





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) 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.

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

PAC Info

Ongoing Fundraisers

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.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.