

# Victoria West Elementary

## NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER , 2024



Dear families,

It has been a busy and exciting month at our school, and I want to share some updates and highlights with you.

This past Professional Development Day was truly inspiring for our staff. We focused on integrating Indigenous perspectives, Social Emotional Learning (SEL), and emotional intelligence practices directly into our instruction. By incorporating these elements, we aim to foster an inclusive and emotionally resilient school culture where every student feels valued, learns empathy, and develops strong communication skills. These are foundational skills helping all students thrive academically and socially.

As a school, we are currently working with students to emphasize the importance of proper manners and respectful interactions. Simple gestures such as saying "Hi," "Good morning," "Thank you," and "Please" are small yet powerful ways to create a positive community. We are also encouraging everyone to live by the principle, *"Treat others as you would like them to treat you."* These lessons help build a culture of kindness and respect, both in and out of the classroom.

I also want to thank you for your patience as we adjust to the new drop-off zone at the front of the school. A gentle reminder: the drop-off zone is not a space to park and wait for your child but rather to quickly drop off and keep traffic flowing smoothly. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated as we work to ensure safety and efficiency during busy times.

Thank you for your ongoing support. Have a wonderful weekend!

Sanjiv Galhon

Acting Principal

Victoria West Elementary School

Greater Victoria School District No. 61

**SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER LAST PAGE**

The Winter Concert performance will be held on December 18<sup>th</sup>, with both an afternoon (doors open 12:45 and the concert at 1:00 pm) and an evening performance (doors open at 6 pm and concert at 6:15 pm).

**IMPORTANT TICKET INFORMATION PLEASE READ!**

- Our hope is that grandparents and other extended family members who wish to attend come in the afternoon, leaving the evening performance for working parents/guardians.
- There will be NO ticket distribution for the AFTERNOON PERFORMANCE.
- Tickets WILL be NEEDED for the EVENING PERFORMANCE.

**1. TICKET DISTRIBUTION FOR THE EVENING WILL BE AS FOLLOWS:**

- On December 2nd, 2 tickets per family will be sent home with the youngest child of the family or the only child of the family.

**YOU WILL NEED THIS TICKET FOR ENTRANCE TO THE EVENING CONCERT.**

- If you know that you are not attending the concert, please promptly return the tickets to the school.

Any concerns please contact the school office.

FOOD DONATIONS WILL *BE* ACCEPTED AT THE DOOR

THANK YOU!





# 1000X5

1000 Books by Age Five

Children's Book Recycling Project Greater Victoria

## 3 Books = 1 Gift The Challenge Continued

Every week 1000X5 Children's Book Recycling Project donates 800 of your books

**Join the hundreds of families who have taken the three book challenge.** As we head into the holiday season, many families appreciate a bit of help with gifts. And what can be a better gift than a bag of 3 books for babies and toddlers? Every month 1000X5 pops 2400 books in 800 gift bags. In the last three weeks, hundreds of books have arrived for the weekly Wednesday sorting by 10 dedicated volunteers.

Drop your books for babies and preschoolers off in the pink bin, inside the main front entrance.

Thank you! Donations are greatly appreciated.



## SCHOOL REMINDERS

Volunteers are an important part of our school community. By generously donating their time and expertise to our school, volunteers support the learning environment for our students.

### All volunteers

- ◆ Helping in the school/classroom
- ◆ Joining on a field trip (even if you are joining to be with your child's class)
- ◆ Driving students

**THE CRIMINAL RECORD CHECK TAKES UP TO 2 WEEKS-IF YOU THINK YOU MIGHT VOLUNTEER AT ANYTIME THIS YEAR, PLEASE SUBMIT FOR ONE NOW.**

<https://vicwest.sd61.bc.ca/parent-info-2-2-parent-info/volunteering-and-volunteer-drivers/>

### Student absences:

Please email the school [vicwest@s61.bc.ca](mailto:vicwest@s61.bc.ca)

Or leave a message by calling 250-382-9131, select option 1

Please clearly state the child's first and last name.

### Students late or leaving early:

Please make sure the student is signed in at the office and has a welcome slip for the teacher. When picking up please come to the office to sign out the student, the office will call them to the office.

Thank you for your cooperation!

# DECEMBER 2024

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11 PAC Mtg.	12	13
16	17 Winter Concert dress rehearsal	18 Winter Concert Afternoon: doors open 12:45 Evening: doors open 6:00	19	20 Last day of school before break Learning Updates go home PJ Day
23	24	25	26	27
30	31	Winter break December 23 to January 3, 2025 CLASSES RESUME JANUARY 6, 2025		