



Tecumseh Elementary School

1850 East 41st Avenue, Vancouver, B.C. V5P 1K9
Phone: (604) 713-5390 Fax: (604) 713-5383

December 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians of Tecumseh Students,

In the blink of an eye, we are already in December and soon it will be Winter Break. We hope you will have a safe and restful holiday and a chance to recharge before taking on the New Year! A few reminders:

Winter Concert

Even though, we are continuing to move cautiously and avoiding gathering students in large groups in the gymnasium for a Winter Concert, many classes continue to work hard at rehearsing and performing for our *virtual* Winter Concert! As I walk down the hallways, I can hear instruments playing and beautiful voices singing in unison.

Tecumseh students will spread cheer in pre-recorded performances. Here are some details:

- So that all students in the school get the opportunity to enjoy/celebrate the performances:
 - We will video record the classes that perform and placed the video in a shared presentation that all staff could access
 - Each Classroom Teacher will show their class the recorded performances, at their leisure
 - For each class who performed, the Classroom Teacher will reach out to their class' families and share their own class' performance with them. Example: Division 9's performance will be shared to Division 9's families (either by posting it to their class Team, or sharing a folder with the parents/guardians)
 - **We respectfully ask all families that this video footage is for private viewing purposes only and not to be shared widely on social media** (typically, we routinely draw attention to this at all our live performances, where families use their cell phones to film the live performances)
- **Please know, we cannot widely share the entire collection of performances with all our families:**
 - *Some families have not given media consent to film their child*, in these instances, teachers have reached out to the family to seek "one time permission for this specific performance"—if granted, the student was included in the filming.
 - In some instances, "one time permission for this specific performance" was not granted, or we did not hear back from the parents/guardians prior to filming—the student was still part of the performance or production of the performance, but the video recording was framed carefully so that the student was not filmed.

We are so fortunate to have a vibrant music/fine arts program at our school with many talented teachers, who also happen to be accomplished musicians/performers in their own right! Lucky us!

Lost and Found

Please encourage your child(ren) to check the Lost and Found for their items. The Lost and Found is located at the bottom of the stairs in front of the Main Office. All items will be packed and donated before we head into Winter Break at the end of day on December 17th.

In the event of poor weather/snow closure

By 6:00 am, the VSB will post information about snow closure on its website at www.vsb.bc.ca and will inform local media stations, including:

- CKNW (980 AM)
- CBC (690 AM, 105.7 FM)
- CJVB (1470 AM)
- CFHG (96.1 FM)
- CKWX (1130 AM)
- BCTV/Global (Cable channel 11)
- CITY TV (Cable channel 13)

Please check the VSB website or listen to the radio/TV stations listed above to learn about **school closures (poor weather situations)**. Please do not call media stations to inquire about school closures/snow days.

The Spirit of Giving is alive and well at Tecumseh!

Division 2 (Ms. Harris) is coordinating a school-wide Socks, Toques and Gloves drive. This winter, Tecumseh wants to give a little warmth to people in need.

They are collecting **NEW:**

- long, warm socks,
- toques
- mittens/gloves

Division 2 will be donating these items to the Residents of the Downtown Eastside and Fraser Valley Relief efforts.

Students can bring donations to their classrooms from November 29 to December 10.

It feels good to give to those in need.

International Travel and the Daily Health Check

If you are planning to travel internationally over the Winter Break, please ensure you review the attached Daily Health Check (per Province of British Columbia). Here is a *screenshot* of the pertinent information:

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL:	WHAT TO DO
Have you returned from travel outside Canada in the last 14 days?	<p>If yes: Fully vaccinated students, staff and other adults who have travelled outside of Canada may qualify for the fully vaccinated traveller exemption.</p> <p>Students, staff and other adults who are not fully vaccinated and have travelled outside of Canada CANNOT attend school for 14 days after arrival, as part of federal requirements.</p>

Please note, *the image above is a screenshot*, and the hyperlinks are live and clickable in the attachment for more information from relevant government websites.

The Tecumseh Spirit Committee Important Dates!

The Tecumseh Spirit Committee is alive and well at Tecumseh! Facilitated by Ms. Prior and Ms. Collins, the Spirit Committee is comprised of volunteer intermediate students. They have created some fun theme days for student participation. Participation is always optional and at each student's comfort level. The upcoming themes are as follows:

- Monday, December 13th—Red and Green Day
- Tuesday, December 14th—Santa/Festive Hat Day
- Wednesday, December 15th—White Out Wednesday (wear your white clothing!)
- Thursday, December 16th—New Year's Eve Thursday! (Party clothes, bling bling, 2022-wear)
- Friday, December 17th—Long Winter's Nap Friday (Pyjama Day!)

We are appreciative of the leadership of our students and staff around helping to bringing positive spirit to our school. Tecumseh is a wonderful place to be.

Reporting Student Absences/Safe Arrival

If your child(ren) will be away from school (illness, doctor's appointment, etc.), please notify the Safe Arrival Absence Reporting line: **604-713-5159 (School code 83)** or the school office at 604-713-5390.

Please refrain from emailing the classroom teacher of your child(ren)'s absence as sometimes, the classroom teacher is absent themselves, and the office is not notified, resulting in Ms. Mason (Ms. CiCi/Cecilia) calling home to verify the absence of your child(ren). **The best way to notify the school that your child(ren) will be away is to call the Safe Arrival Absence Reporting line.**

Traffic around Tecumseh

Thank you, to all the parents/guardians who are heeding the No Stopping signage around the school and parking a bit further away to walk with their child(ren) at drop-off and pick-up times! We appreciate your efforts to keep the area immediately adjacent to Tecumseh a safe zone, free of cars.

On Commercial Street, north of the driveway ramp, the area has been signed by the City of Vancouver as a No Stopping zone. This area must remain free of vehicles so that in the event of emergency, responding vehicles can have clear access to the school and so that ingress and egress to and from East 41st Avenue is not impeded by a bottle neck of traffic at this very busy intersection.

City of Vancouver by-law officers have randomly visited this very busy area and have issued a number of parking violation tickets. **Please do not park in the No Stopping Zones.** Even a short stop during the busy morning time or afternoon dismissal time causes unnecessary bottlenecks of vehicles that requires people to veer and drive around an area that should be free of parked vehicles.

For concerned community members, calls can be made to the City of Vancouver by dialing 311 to encourage a greater presence of by-law enforcement officers.

There is 3 minute parking south of the ramp on Commercial Street and south of the driveway to the staff parking lot on Beatrice Street. There is also 30 minute parking on East 43rd Avenue, as well as ample street parking on Commercial Street north of East 41st Avenue. **Please do not use the Staff Parking Lot for drop-off or pick-up. The parking lot is clearly signed for staff usage only.**

Thank you for your cooperation as we work together to keep the streets near the school safe for students and pedestrians alike.

Some important upcoming dates:

Spirit Committee Dates (see above)—Students, join the fun at your comfort level!

December 17, 2021 Last school day before Winter Break

January 4, 2022 School re-opens following Winter Break

January 17, 2022 Professional Development Day—School is not in session for students

January 31, 2022 Report Cards go home

Wishing you all a restful and happy holiday season filled with many opportunities to create life-long memories and experiences with your kids.

Be safe and well.

We look forward to seeing you after the Winter Break, on Tuesday, January 4, 2022!

Sincerely,

Mr. V. Edwards
Principal, Tecumseh Elementary School