

Dickens Annex Newsletter – December, 2019

<http://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/charles-dickens-annex>
3877 Glen Drive

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Vice-Principal (Annex): Jim Embree

Director of Instruction: Aaron Davis

PAC Chairs: Daniella Forde, Sara Getz, Laura Poree, Tiffany Searchfield

Important Dates to Remember:

- Dec 11th Cookie Factory (volunteers needed)
- Dec 16th -20st Cookie and Card Sale (every morning)
- Dec 16th -20st Sing Along 9-9:30 am (every morning)
- Dec 17th Community Food Drive 3-4:30pm
- Dec 20st Winter Assembly at 2:15 pm
- Dec 20th Ice Skating for Division 1,2,4
- Dec 23st - Jan 5th Winter Vacation
- Jan 6th First day back at school



Annual Holiday Hampers

In the spirit of the season, the PAC is asking for help from the Dickens community to create unique Holiday Hampers for families in need. Your donations will be greatly appreciated by the families. Look for the **Giving Tree** and the notice in the main hallway of the Annex. If you have any questions, please contact the PAC.

Clothing Reminder

The wet and rainy weather has arrived. Kindly keep the following in mind when you send your child to school.

- Children always play outside during recess and lunch rain or shine (unless it is exceptionally wet weather)
- Bring indoor/outdoor shoes (boots for rainy and snowy weather). The ground is often wet and muddy the day after rain.
- Have extra clothing labelled with your child's name at school if they need to change out of wet clothing

Children should be able to put on their own coats, shoes, hats, mitts, etc. This includes zipping up raincoats. Please help them practice this at home.



Thank You

We want to say a special thank you from the Mount Pleasant War Memorial Community Cooperative Association (Branch 177) who **donated \$1000.00** to Dickens Annex at our Remembrance Day Assembly in November. This money will be used to purchase resources to help our school community.

Kindergarten Registration

As of **November 1st, 2019 all kindergarten registration will be done online.** Kindergarten registration for the Vancouver School District runs from November 1 to January 31 for children who will be turning 5 by December 31, 2020. If you know of any children in our catchment area that are kindergarten age, please spread the word. Registration is a two-step process. If a child was born in Canada, complete the online form before bringing in your supporting documents.

Step 1: Completion of an online application form at vsb.bc.ca/kindergarten.

Step 2: Bringing supporting documentation, along with your child, to your neighbourhood English catchment school.

The following original documents must be presented at your catchment school to complete your application:

- Proof of British Columbia residency
- The original birth certificate of the child
- Applicable Immigration/Citizenship/Permanent Resident Documentation
- Immunization Records if available

If your child was born outside of Canada, you will need to go to the VSB District Reception and Placement Centre (DRPC) and complete the initial registration there.



When Should I Keep My Child Home From School?

There are four important things to think about if your child feels unwell:

1. The protection of your child. Without good rest and recovery, they could have a harder time fighting the infection or be open to a new infection.
2. The ability of your child to function and learn at school.
3. The school cannot care for a sick child and give them the support that they need.
4. The protection of other children.

Please keep your child home if he/she:

1. Has a fever
2. Is too sick to take part in all normal school activities.
3. Has a suspected or known communicable disease (i.e. strep throat, pink eye, chicken pox or any other undiagnosed rash). Keep them home until they are no longer infectious. Please let the school know your child's symptoms.

If the school finds it necessary to send your child home because of illness, please make sure you have arranged an emergency contact. Inform your school of these arrangements.

Where do I find more health information?

- Call Ravensong Community Health Centre on-call nurse at 604-709-6413
- [Sneezes and Diseases Resource Book](#)
- [HealthLink BC](#)
- Call 811 (available 24 hrs) Interpreters available



Holidays While School is in Session

If you are planning on taking holidays while school is in session, please let the office know by phone or email as soon as you know your dates. Many thanks.

Greater Vancouver Food Bank Collection

The Greater Vancouver Foodbank is on the lookout for items over the holidays. Boxes will be arriving and located in our hallway from December 1st-17th. Please read the top **10 Most Needed Items** (on the next page) and send in your donations. Do not send homemade items, expired items or opened packages of food. We appreciate your support for those in need during this time.



YOU ARE INVITED TO A SPECIAL EVENT

Community Food Drive

At Charles Dickens Annex School

3877 Glen Drive

3:00-4:30pm in the undercover area

Tuesday, December 17, 2019

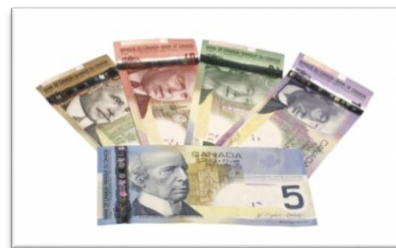
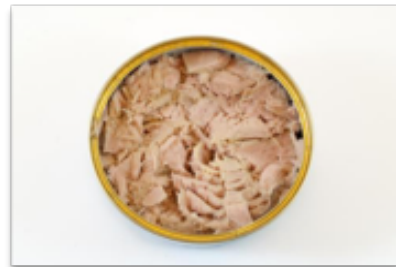
What to bring: \$1 or \$2 donation for the food bank **plus** a

Coffee and hot chocolate will be served



Top 10 Most Needed Items

- Hearty Stew or Chili
- Natural peanut butter
- Canned black and Kidney beans and chickpeas
- Brown rice, barley or oats*
- Canned chicken or turkey
- Canned vegetables
- Canned fruit
- Canned fish
- Whole wheat pasta or couscous*
- Monetary donations greatly accepted



* properly sealed



Building strong, connected communities through the power of food.

Families in our school community have recently reported incidents of children with pinworms. Please be aware of the following information.

Facts about Pinworms

Pinworms are tiny, white worms that live in the large intestine. They look like pieces of white thread. They come out of the anus (bum) at night and lay their eggs on nearby skin. The worms may be seen with a flashlight as crawling threads around the bum after the child has been asleep for about an hour.

Pinworms are common among preschool and school-age children. Usually children with pinworms have no symptoms but may be very itchy around the bum and vagina.

Pinworms are not a disease but they can make a child uncomfortable.

How are Pinworms Spread?

Pinworms spread easily when:

- a person with pinworms scratches the itchy area and gets eggs on the fingers and under the fingernails. Then the infection can be spread by touching someone else.
- someone picks up pinworm eggs from an infected person's clothes, pajamas, sheets, etc. These eggs can live for many weeks outside the body.

A doctor can do a simple test to check for pinworms. Pinworms can be treated with medicine.

A child can get pinworms again by coming into contact with pinworm eggs. To stop the spread of pinworms, all caregivers and children may need to be treated.

What to Do at Home

- Watch your child for signs of pinworms if another child has them.
- Watch for scratching of the bum.
- **Talk to your doctor** about treatment if your child has pinworms.
- Make sure all household members wash their hands carefully after going to the toilet or changing diapers.
- Make sure they also wash their hands before preparing or eating food.
- Change underwear, nighties, pajamas and bed sheets often to get rid of any eggs.
- Bathe your child in the morning to remove any eggs that were laid around the bum during the night.
- Tell the caregivers at the centre if your child has pinworms.



Children with pinworms may go to the child care centre or school.