

## Dickens Annex Newsletter – January, 2020

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

Vancouver, British Columbia, V5V 4S9  
604.713.5392

Vice-Principal (Annex): Jim Embree

Director of Instruction: Aaron Davis

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

### Important Dates to Remember:

- Jan 6<sup>th</sup> First day back at school
- Jan 22<sup>nd</sup> Urban Safari (am)
- Jan 20<sup>th</sup> ProD day (no school)
- Jan 23<sup>rd</sup> PAC Executive meeting @ 7 pm
- Jan 25<sup>th</sup> Lunar New Year
- Jan 28<sup>th</sup> Handwashing workshop
- Jan 31<sup>st</sup> Report Cards sent home
- Jan 31<sup>st</sup> Kindergarten Registration deadline



### Thank you Letter from Greater Food Bank

Thank you for hosting a food drive at Charles Dickens Annex! I'm happy to report that you have raised over \$850.00 and 439 pounds of food for the Greater Vancouver Food Bank! We really appreciate your on-going support to helping us build strong, connected communities through the power of food. Your donation will make a great difference for the 8,000+ clients who visit our 13 Community Food Hubs weekly, and 75 Community Agency Partners including after school programs, homeless shelters, and neighborhood houses.

Jodie Ou, Community Events Coordinator

### Clothing Reminder

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

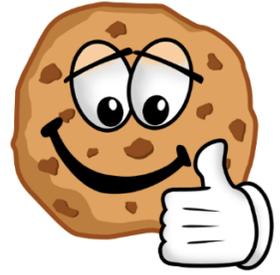
- Children always play outside during recess and lunch rain or shine (unless it is exceptionally wet weather)
- Bring outdoor shoes (boots for rainy and snowy weather) and indoor shoes (for inside classrooms). The ground is often wet and muddy the day after rain.
- Have extra clothing labelled with your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

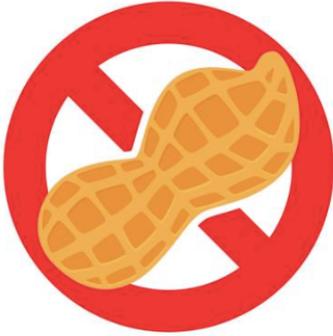


## Card and Cookie Sale

Our Christmas Card and Cookie Sale was a huge success. Thank you for those who volunteered to help as well as those who purchased items. In total we were able to raise over **\$400.00**. This money will go towards purchasing resources for our school.



## Nut Allergy



A number of students in our school have life-threatening nut allergies. The presence of any nut products, even if baked into cookies or cakes, can present a life-threatening situation for them. Even a trace of nut residue on a desk or a book has the potential to be life-threatening.

We continue to request that you avoid sending products containing nuts in your child's recess snack or lunch. In the event that a student does bring food to school that do include nuts, they will be asked to eat their lunch in the office or nearby classroom. All students should be sure to wash their hands after eating.

Thank you for helping us to provide a safe environment for all of our students. Your cooperation is much appreciated.

## Communicating Student Learning Reports

Mid-year Communicating Student Learning (CSL) reports will be sent home with your child on **Friday, January 31<sup>st</sup>**. Your child's report will include:

- Descriptive written comments addressing:
  - Student learning strengths
  - Areas for growth
  - Ways to support learning
- Student Competency Scale (your child's progress in relation to grade level expectations):
  - BEGINNING to acquire knowledge, skills, strategies and processes
  - DEVELOPING the ability to apply knowledge, skills, strategies and processes
  - APPLYING knowledge, skills, strategies and processes consistently
  - EXTENDING knowledge, skills, strategies and processes creatively and strategically

We encourage parents to take an active part in giving feedback, setting goals, and supporting your child in their learning. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to your classroom teacher.

## Family Math/Reading at School

Our daily instruction begins each day at **9:00 am sharp** so it is very important for students to arrive on time. Family Math/Reading occurs every day from 9:00-9:15. It is a way to show how much we value numeracy and literacy in our school community. Thank you for arriving on time and for helping us to make the most of this time together.



## School Closure Due to Weather

There may be times when schools are closed due to weather conditions (such as heavy snowfall). The VSB will post information about snow closures on its website at [www.vsb.bc.ca](http://www.vsb.bc.ca) by 6:00 am. In addition, the following media stations will be informed:

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

Parents are asked not to call media outlets to ask if schools are closed.



## Kindergarten Registration

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](http://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?



**Please keep your child home if he/she:**

- Has a fever
- Is too sick to take part in all normal school activities.
- 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. Please inform the school office of these arrangements.