

Dickens Annex Newsletter – May 2021

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

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Vice-Principal (Annex): Jim Embree

Director of Instruction: Julie Pearce

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

Important Dates to Remember:

- May 4,5th Stream of Dreams Art Legacy project
- May 6th Big One @ 2:00 pm (Earthquake Preparedness Drill)
- May 9th Mother's Day
- May 13th @ 7:30 pm PAC online meeting
- **May 24th Victoria Day (no school)**



It has been my pleasure to work at the Annex over the last three and a half years. I have thoroughly enjoyed working in this very special place. The students, staff, and wonderful parent community will certainly be missed. I would like to formally welcome **Ms. Atsuko Isihara** who will join the Dickens Annex team as the vice-principal in late August 2021.



Summer Experience 2021

In response to the pandemic, the VSB's 2021 Summer School program will only be offered to students currently enrolled in a Vancouver public school. Various elementary schools in the district will offer a limited number of courses with health and safety protocols in place.

Please note that changing Public Health Orders may require adjustments to Summer School instructional delivery.

Registration is May 4, 8:00 am - June 4, 11:59 pm.

[See Program Information](#)

The Elementary summer program will be available at Nootka, Tecumseh, Trafalgar, and Van Horne.

Big One @ 2 pm Earthquake Drill

On **Thursday, May 6th**, Dickens Annex staff and students will participate in the district-wide **Big One @ 2 Earthquake Preparedness Drill**. Our students will review and practice what to do in the classroom, and how to evacuate safely and efficiently.

The Ministry of BC has a very informative household guide. Feel free to check out the resources at <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/preparedbc/make-your-plan>



Calendar for 2021-2022

The Dickens Annex School Calendar for the 2021-22 school year will be posted on our website and sent to you on or before May 7th, 2021. Be sure to check out the important dates for the upcoming school year.



Next Year 2021-2022

During May and June, we will start making plans for the 2021-2022 school year. If you are planning to move and change schools this summer, please let the office know as soon as possible. Thank you.

Stream of Dreams

All staff and students at the Annex will participate in our **Stream of Dreams Art Legacy Project** on Tuesday, May 4th and Wednesday, May 5th. Every class will be involved in an online workshop where they learn about our local watershed, streams, rivers and the ocean. They will be reminded to participate in activities to conserve and protect water. In addition, every student will have an opportunity to paint a wooden fish that will be fastened to the fence to create a mural. For more information, check out <https://www.streamofdreams.org/>



Be on the watch for our **Stream of Dreams Art Mural** as it takes shape on the garden fence over the next few weeks.



Bike to School Week

May 31st-June 4th is **Bike to School Week**, an annual program offered by HUB Cycling to encourage teachers, students, and parents to try biking to school as a fun and healthy alternative to driving. We have lots of bike racks outside for locking up whatever you ride to school, whether it's a bike or a scooter. Please note that we are not able to store bikes or scooters inside the school. Thank you for your cooperation with this. Visit www.bikehub.ca/btsw for more information.

Class Placement Information

At this time, schools are in the beginning stages of planning for the 2021-2022 school year. This process involves working to best support our students to have a smooth transition to next year.

As you know, our staff understands their students in the school context and engage in a rigorous class placement that involves thoughtful collaboration. We approach each placement decision carefully. Each student's social, emotional, and academic needs are considered. In addition, we consider social connections, students as English Language Learners, students with special needs, leadership abilities, cohesive student groupings, previous classroom history, as well as class-size and composition (Ministry/VBE guidelines).

Please note that class placement letters requesting a specific teacher **are not** being accepted by the school, however, feel free to talk to me or the classroom teacher about any social, emotional, and academic needs that your child may have.

PAC Meeting

Just a reminder that the next online PAC meeting is on May 13th at 7:30 pm. Please email dickenspac@gmail.com if you would like to attend.