

Dickens Annex Newsletter – October 2020

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

3877 Glen Drive

Vancouver, British Columbia, V5V 4S9

604.713.5392

Vice-Principal (Annex): Jim Embree

Principal (Main): Julie Weatherall

Director of Instruction: Aaron Davis

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



Important Dates to Remember:

- Oct 5th World Teachers' Day
- Oct 12th Thanksgiving holiday (no school)
- Oct 12th Indigenous Peoples Day
- Oct 15th The Great BC Shakeout EQ Drill
- Oct 23rd Province Wide Professional Day (no school)
- Oct 22nd Online PAC Meeting @ 7 pm
- Oct 31st Hallowe'en stations (in classes)



Welcome

Welcome to the 2020-21 school year. Although this year has started in a way like no other, it has been good to see our classrooms and hallways filled with happy voices and smiling faces once again. I would like to extend a very warm welcome to all our returning Annex families as well as a special welcome to new families and our Kindergarten families. I hope you feel a part of this great community very soon.

COVID-19 and Safety Protocols

September has been an unusual start of school for all of us. Despite some of the challenges, we have managed to put into place the health and safety protocols recommended by the Ministry of Education, the Provincial Health Officer (PHO), and BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC).

The revised **Daily Health Assessment** was sent home to all families last week. Thank you for reviewing the safety checklist every morning and keeping your child at home when they are sick.



School Hours

Please be aware that our school hours are 9:00-3:00. Outside morning supervision will begin at 8:40 am. Students should enter and exit through their classroom doors. After school supervision is from 3:00-3:20. Please make sure that your children are picked up by this time. Students not picked up by 3:20 will be brought to the office, and a phone call will be made home. With COVID-19 safety protocols in place, we are still asking adults to remain outside the school building. If you need to meet with a teacher or the school admin, please phone ahead to make an appointment so that proper health protocols can be put into place.



Communication

As we work in partnership with you, we would like to keep the lines of communication open. **Monthly newsletters** will continue to be emailed to parents at the beginning of every month. In addition, please check out our **Dickens Annex Web Page** at <https://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/charles-dickens-annex/Pages/default.aspx> for general information, and our **Dickens Annex Twitter** account @dickens_annex as we share some weekly pictures of events that take place.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher, the school office, or the vice-principal at 604.713.5392 or jembree@vsb.bc.ca

Dickens Annex Staff 2020-2021

Here is a list of the staff members at Dickens Annex for the 2020-21 school year.

Vice Principal	Jim Embree
Office Admin Assistant	Patti Wong
Division 1 (Grade 1/2)	Jacque Nielson (M,T) /Brenda Lui (W-F)
Division 2 (Grade 1/2)	Lauren Lee
Division 3 (Grade 1/2)	Shirley Wong (M,T), Trish Mounsey (W-F)
Division 4 (Grade 2/3)	Irene Cultum
Division 5 (Grade 2/3)	Anne Miller
Division 6 (Kindergarten)	Merve Ozkan
Library Resource	Jacque Nielson (W-F)
Student Support Worker	Evelyn Wray
Student Support Worker	Sylvie Beddoes
Student Support Worker	Lana Fong
Student Support Worker	TBA
Supervision Aide	Karen Chow
Supervision Aide	Laura Flores Leung
School Counsellor	Jaclyn Delachoux
Engineer	Friday Cheng

Forms, Forms and a Few More Forms

A package of information was sent home last Friday containing emergency health information, media consent forms, as well as CASL consent. We update your child's contact information every year and appreciate the time you take to go over and the forms. Please return the completed forms to your child's classroom teacher as soon as possible. **If there is a health issue that we need to be aware of, please let Jim or Patti know as soon as possible.**



Code of Conduct

All students have been reviewing our Code of Conduct this week: ***"Do Your Best, Help Each Other, Find Joy"***. The purpose of our Code of Conduct is to embody our commitment to develop each child's potential in all domains, built on mutual respect, continuous learning, and opportunities for leadership. We encourage students to make positive choices about their behaviour and to use proactive problem-solving strategies that demonstrate safety, fairness, and kindness at all times.

Reporting Student Absences

Student safety is of paramount importance to us. Ensuring the safety of your child is a shared responsibility. To assist our school, we ask that parents notify us of their child's absence. If your child will be away from school, please phone or email the school to report their absence as early as possible. Notifying the school in advance of your child's absence will significantly improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Safe Arrival Morning routine.

To Report Your Child's Absence vis Telephone

1. Call 604-713-5392
2. Record your message (include your child's full name, grade, and division)

To Report Your Child's Absence via E-mail:

1. Email pawong@vsb.bc.ca
2. Type your message (include your child's full name, grade, and division)

Please report your child's absence to the Safe Arrival Program even if you have already notified your teacher

Terry Fox Run

Our students all participated in the Terry Fox Run last Friday afternoon. Classes ran the route in small cohorts and despite the cool and unpredictable weather, were able to complete many laps around Glen Park. In total, we were able to raise **\$446.30** All proceeds will go directly to the Terry Fox Foundation. Thank you for your participation and generosity.



School Garden

Our Garden is looking fantastic! Over the summer we had a group of committed volunteers who kept our school garden well-watered and cared for. A big thank you to our Garden Committee (Galit, Allison and Lorne, Jenny, Sarah, Josie, Karim). Thank you to Dan for dropping off boxes of apples to the Annex classes. In addition, we were able to drop off a large box of apples and potatoes to a local Woman's shelter. Thank you Division 4 and 5 for gathering these items.

Easy-to-Open Lunches

It is good to see so many healthy lunches at school, however, Mr. Jim is having a tough time opening a few thermoses that are sealed shut. Although he is up for the challenge and appreciates a good work-out every now and again, he may need a bit of help. If possible, please let your child's food cool a bit before fastening the lid in the morning. In addition, please remember to send cutlery if your child's lunch requires it.



Label Everything

Please make sure that you label all clothing, food containers, and water bottles so that they can be returned to you or your child.

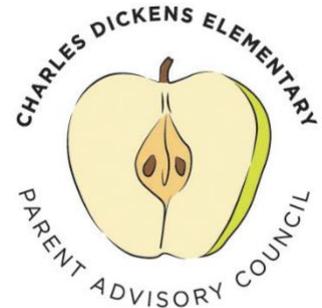


Violent Threat Risk Assessment (VTRA)

With a commitment to ensuring schools are safe, caring and inclusive, the Vancouver School District has updated the Student Threat Risk Assessment Protocol (VTRA). In the event that a student makes a threat of violence or harm to other students, staff or the school community the school will initiate the VSB student risk threat assessment process. Students and staff will review the protocols. This document can be found on our school web page.

PAC General Meeting

On Thursday, October 22nd from 7:00- 8:30 pm there will be an online **PAC Meeting**. The PAC is a great way to get involved in the school. Please check out the PAC blog at dickenspac.blogspot.ca or email dickenspac@gmail.com



School Cash Online



Just a reminder that school fees can now be paid using School Cash Online. This is a quick and easy way to pay school fees. Please visit <http://vsb.schoolcashonline> (or click on the "Pay Fees" link on our school website) to view and pay these fees. Not registered yet? It's a simple process that takes only a few minutes. You will need your child's usual first name, last name, and birth date to register.

