



GENERAL WOLFE SCHOOL
 5987 Prince Albert St.
 Vancouver, B.C. V5W 3E2
 PH: 604 713-4912 ext. 2
 Website: www.wolfe.vsb.bc.ca

IMPORTANT NOTICE - PLEASE TRANSLATE!
 ĐÂY LÀ ĐIỀU QUAN TRỌNG, XIN NHỚ NGƯỜI THÔNG DỊCH ĐỪNG
 AVISO IMPORTANTE! POR FAVOR PEDA QUE SE LO TRADUZCAN
 這是重要的通告, 希請人譯讀.

SAFE ARRIVAL email wlfattendance@vsb.bc.ca - report your child's absence or late arrival. Picking up your child during school see instructions on the following page.

Important Dates:

Friday February 12 th	Pro-D Day	school not in session
Monday February 15 th	Family Day	school not in session
Tuesday February 23 rd	Wolfe Spirit Day: Dress like a book character	
Tuesday February 23 rd	PAC meeting zoom	18:30
Thursday February 24 th	Pink Shirt Day	
February 16 th – March 12 th	Foundational Skills Assessments	
March 12 th	Last day of school before Spring Break	
March 13 th - March 28 th	Spring Break	School not in session
March 29 th	First day of school	
April 2 nd – April 5 th	Easter Holiday	School not in session

January 29, 2021

February is *Black History Month* and we will also be celebrating *Pink Day* on the 24th. Even though teachers have lessons on kindness and diversity throughout the school year with their students, they will really come to the forefront of the learning this month. Some students may find these conversations uncomfortable at time, and teachers are trained to find ways to discuss these important topics in age-appropriate ways. We encourage you to continue these chats at home with your child where some children often feel more comfortable asking their burning questions.

A huge thank you to our PAC for sponsoring the amazing parent evening on “How to raise an anti-racist child” this week and kicking off our month of kindness and diversity! Dr. Gunderson shared several strategies and resources for becoming an anti-racist family and what has stuck with me the most is: “You cannot be Switzerland.” For us to raise anti-racist children, we cannot stand by and watch; we must all act now.

The Vancouver School Board has recently passed several motions to develop more anti-racism initiatives and training in our district, and anti-racism will be a key part of our new 5-year strategic plan. Further, the Ministry of Education has just launched an anti-racism awareness campaign as of a recent \$1.9- million investment to make B.C. safer and more inclusive for everyone. Part of this funding will also support other initiatives to address individual and systemic racism. The Ministry will also be expanding the Resilience BC Anti-Racism Network and increased support for community projects focused on addressing anti-Indigenous, anti-Black and anti-Asian racism. Alongside these initiatives, the ministry will be introducing B.C.’s first anti-racism act and disaggregated, race-based data collection.

As educators, the Wolfe staff is very excited to be part of these initiatives and we are constantly looking at professional development and collaboration opportunities for our staff to grow in this journey.

We wish you a great February everyone!

Nancy Bourque
 Principal, Wolfe Elementary

WOLFE LEARNING NEWS

Wolfe's Social responsibility topic of the month: **KINDNESS & DIVERSITY**

Foundational Skills Assessments 2021 (FSAs)

FSAs are numeracy and literacy assessments for grade 4 and 7 students in British Columbia each year. This year the assessments will start in mid-February and your child's teacher will communicate the specific dates with you. If your child is a home learner in grade 4 and 7, you will be invited to join the class to do the FSAs if you wish. Part of the FSAs are done online and the rest is paper based. If you would like more information on the FSAs, see this website:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/administration/kindergarten-to-grade-12/assessment/fsa-parent-brochure.pdf>

Challenges with School Attendance Webinar Series

Getting to school or managing a whole day at school can be really hard for some children and teens, and it can be challenging for parents and caregivers to know how best to move forward. In this 2-part webinar series, our team of experts talk about anxiety and related challenges that can be a barrier to attending school, as well as practical strategies to help things go more smoothly. These webinars were designed to complement each other so it is recommended to watch both Part 1 and Part 2 (a or b).

Part 1: Challenges with School Attendance: Introduction for Parents and Caregivers

Part 2(a): Practical Strategies to Support Elementary School-Aged Children with School

Part 2(b): Practical Strategies to Support High School-Aged Youth with School Attendance

This webinar series was held in November 2020 and was a collaboration between BC Children's Hospital, the Vancouver School Board, Vancouver Child and Youth Mental Health and Kelty Mental Health Resource Centre. Recordings can be viewed on the following link:

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLERqXy_UghB47QdxL6SCbHMMfRRc8YmbD.

Check out some amazing nature collages by Division 4:

Grade 5 and 6 students in Div 4, as part of their outdoor school and art lessons, have been taking their learning outside once a week and trying to be creative with their environment. Watch the full collage on YouTube.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=me4fxpyQ9zA&feature=youtu.be>



Grade 6 Weekly

For this project, we drew a picture of our faces with a background behind it. It's supposed to be a magazine cover. At the start of the year, we picked goals of what we wanted to study this year. On our cover, we listed those goals to make them look like magazine ads. They are supposed to be little teasers to get you to read the article inside. I really liked doing the background because it was fun. My classmates did a really good job, and it helped me get to know everyone, especially since I had not been at this school for three years. Drawing the actual face part was challenging because it was hard to make it look realistic.

Interview with Justin Schwartz, grade 6



Message from the Library



Many of you will have heard that during the winter break water came through the roof into our library. The library was closed for our first few days back as the Vancouver School Board sent out a company to dry out the room. Unfortunately, the water damaged a section of our books and many of them had to be recycled.

The staff and I want to thank our families for your support in hearing the news about the Library. We have had many donations of books, both new and used as well as emails asking if we need more. We have always gratefully accepted books in excellent condition.

Our Social Responsibility topic for February is **Kindness**. The hallway has the following words displayed: "Be the Reason Someone Smiles today." Your kindness and support has certainly brought a smile to my face. Thank you.

Wendy Cameron

wcameron@vsb.bc.ca

WOLFE INFORMATION ITEMS



Reporting Student Absences

Safe Arrival – Please contact Safe Arrival **ONLY** if your child will be late or absent. You can either call **604-713-4912 ext. 1** or email – wlfattendance@vsb.bc.ca.

Provide your child's first and last name as well as division number and bus number if applicable. If your child will be away for an extended period of time, please also indicate the days of absence and reason.

(ex: Jane Doe, Div. 1 absent January 5 illness Bus #2 both am and pm or absent March 1 to 6 Vacation Bus #3 or John Doe, Div. 3 Nov. 10 will be late, arriving at approx. 9:30 Bus #1 am only). If your child is absent or late and also rides the bus, only one notification is needed. Contact the Safe Arrival by either phone or email and provide the information above and include the bus number. You do not need to report it multiple times. [If your child is not riding the bus but is attending school see instructions below.](#)

If your child is not reported absent or late you will be contacted either via email or by phone to ensure their safety. Please always check for either form of communication.

Attending School but Not riding the Bus.

Please do **NOT** call Safe Arrival to report your child not riding the bus.

If your child is not riding the bus but is attending school – Please call **604-713-4912 ext. 2**.

State your child's first and last name, the bus number and if they will not be riding the bus on either the morning bus or afternoon bus or both.

Seismic Photos

Our seismic mitigation project is going well. I will be posting all new upgrade photos to our school website on the right banner under "Seismic Info", then "seismic photos" at the bottom of the page:

<https://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/general-wolfe/About-Us/News/Seismic-Info/Pages/default.aspx>



Nut Aware School

A reminder that there are several students with nut allergies at Wolfe. Please send nut-free snacks with your child each day.

Ready Set Learn and Welcome to Kindergarten Events

Because of our covid restrictions on visits and guests, all VSB schools will hold their WTK events virtually this year. As in previous years, our team will share information with families about kindergarten readiness, pre-literacy skills and general school information in a virtual format. More info to come in June.

Unfortunately, all RSL events are cancelled for 2021 and we are very disappointed not to be able to have these events in person for our pre-schoolers. We hope we can see you all next year.

Snow Day Procedures

A. Wolfe Buses Info

When snow is anticipated Lynch Buses has a team of people that will drive the streets to see the road conditions. If the area near Wolfe or South Hill is unapproachable for their buses to do the pick up or the drop off of the students, they will notify the school directly. In the event that roads on our school route would be

deemed too dangerous by Lynch, our bus routes may be cancelled for safety reasons. In this case, our principal would email all families before 7:00AM.

**If you do not receive an email before 7am on a snowy day, it means that the school is open, and the buses are running as usual.

B. VSB procedures

Vancouver School Board has procedures that are followed in situations where severe weather, like heavy snowfall or very high winds, might be affecting schools. All schools in the Vancouver School District will remain open if at all possible during severe weather events. Any district-wide closure will be decided by 6:00 a.m. Details of district-wide or individual school closures will be announced through the media and the [district website front page](#).

Please note that no announcement will be made stating that schools are open. Only closures and delayed openings will be announced. Information about any district-wide closures will be sent to Metro Vancouver radio and television stations. Please check the following stations for school closure information (but do not call them):

Radio	Television
CBC AM 690 radio, 88.1 FM	Global BC
CKNW AM 980 radio	CBC TV
News AM 1130 radio	CTV BC
Fairchild AM 1470 radio	City TV

Individual school closures due to unique circumstances (e.g. power outages) will be announced as early as possible on the district website as well as on the affected schools' websites. On occasion, schools may delay the start of the school day. If this happens, specific details will be posted on the school and district websites.

Student safety is the first priority of Vancouver School Board. Schools will be kept open except under extreme circumstances to provide the option of attendance for all, but the decision to attend is the responsibility of each family.

Parents/guardians are responsible for their children's safe travel to and from school. If for any reason a parent/guardian feels that a child cannot travel safely to school, then they should make other arrangements.

During extreme weather conditions it is also common for police and other authorities to advise citizens to avoid unnecessary travel. Parents should take this advice as well. Students will not be penalised for lack of attendance under such poor weather conditions. Students are reminded to wear appropriate clothing for the conditions. When sidewalks and roads are slippery, students walking to school should take extra care.

We encourage you to review your own preparations for severe weather conditions and ensure that you are familiar with the city's response procedures for those conditions. We request that you strictly adhere to parking restrictions in and around all Vancouver schools. Your child's school will contact you about any changes to driving routes that may be put into effect on streets adjacent to the school.



Welcome to all new and returning parents and guardians: Wolfe Parent Advisory Council (PAC) is a non-profit group that works with General Wolfe Elementary School to enrich the education of our children. The PAC is a great way for parents to support the school and become involved in their children's education. If you are a parent or guardian of a child at Wolfe, you are a member of the PAC, and you are welcome at the PAC monthly meetings.

Please see our [website](http://www.generalwolfepac.ca) (<http://www.generalwolfepac.ca>) for more information about our roles and our work

Our next PAC meeting is Tuesday February 23rd at 18:30 on Zoom. Link and agenda will be sent a few days before.

PAC Fundraising

Wolfe students enjoy several enrichment programmes, field trips and other benefits throughout typical school years, including: hip-hop dancing, skating, Project Chef, VSO trips, special performances, library and technology support, and many others. These valuable contributions to the Wolfe student experience are made possible through parent funding of the PAC. The PAC Executive would like to express our gratitude to Wolfe parents for the generous donations received so far this year, and in other years. Due to the pandemic, we have had limited opportunities to hold our usual fundraising events, and the PAC is currently facing a

\$20,000 deficit in revenue for next year. Therefore, the PAC Executive will be running a fundraising drive this spring to give families an opportunity to contribute funds directly to the PAC. Your funding contribution will make it possible for the many PAC sponsored programs and initiatives to be offered at the same level in 2021/22, provided things start to return to normal. Further information will be sent home with students in the next month. For more information on the PAC, please visit the website at www.generalwolfepac.ca or email a member of the Executive (email addresses on the website). Thank you for your consideration and for your support.

Your PAC executive