

# SEXSMITH STARS NEWS



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**NEWSLETTER #22** **October 2019**

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

### Happy October

Students have settled into their new classes and are adjusting to being back in school. Thank you to everyone who has filled in all the forms and paid school fees. If you have still not sent in the forms and paid the fees, please do so as soon as possible. During October we will have student goal setting conferences on **Wednesday October 16 and Thursday October 17** for students in grades K-7. These meetings are a great opportunity to sit with the teacher and set learning objectives for the coming year and to share any concerns you may have about your child. **A reminder that regular classes end at 2:00pm both days for all students.** At the end of the month, we will celebrate Halloween with teachers planning several in-school activities for the students. We encourage everyone to come to school in costume that day but a reminder that everyone's face needs to be visible during class time and the costume must not include any weapons. I hope you have a great month.

### 2019/20 School Staffing Updates

For your information, Siaw Wong, our Office Administrative Assistant will be replaced with Erin Fowler starting on October 7 for the duration of her leave. We thank Carmen for helping us get started this year and wish her well in her next assignment.

### Terry Fox

On Friday September 27, students participated in the Terry Fox run. We took the opportunity to consider the contributions that Terry's marathon continues to make towards cancer research and Canadian pride. Intermediate students ran around the golf course and younger students utilized the school grounds for their run. All funds that Sexsmith students and families raise will be donated to cancer research. A big thank you to families for your generous donations.

### Community Schools After School Fall Programs

#### MORESPORTS

FRIDAYS, October 4 - Dec 6 \*No Prog. Oct 25 & Nov 8\*

3:00 - 4:00 PM (primary - gr. K-3)

4:00 - 5:00 PM (intermediate - gr. 4-7)

GYM

\$40 / 8 sessions

Registration will be done via online <https://ca.apm.activecommunities.com/vancouver/Act...>, phone, and in-person at Marpole-Oakridge Community Centre - Telephone: (604) 257-8180 (ext.1)

## Elementary Drawing Class

w/ Young Rembrandt

Oct 3 - Dec 12 \*No Prog Oct 17\*

Thursdays - 3:05-4:15PM

LIBRARY

GR. 1-6

\$165 / 10 sessions

Enrollment opens on Thursday, September 27 @ 9AM via website: [www.youngrembrandts.com/metrovancouver](http://www.youngrembrandts.com/metrovancouver)

Students will learn basic to intermediate drawing skills, art techniques and vocabulary using an engaging methodology that all children can succeed with. We give them skills to express their creativity, introducing them to a fascinating world of colour, pattern and design. Be prepared for a bountiful selection of drawings!

## Pick Up and Drop Off Concerns



1. **There is NO parking on 59<sup>th</sup> avenue in front of the school between 8:00am – 5:00pm on school days. Parents who violate this rule are forcing other parents to stop in the middle of 59<sup>th</sup> avenue to pick up or drop off students creating a dangerous situation where children need to exit vehicles into oncoming traffic and run between cars. Please respect the parking rules and keep our kids safe.**
2. **Please do not go past the roundabout adjacent to our parking lot when dropping off or picking up students and do not park in the limited spots we have available for school staff.**
3. **Go slow anywhere near the school and respect all parking and traffic rules.**

## Safe Arrival Procedures Reminder

### Reporting Student Absences:

Student safety is of paramount importance at the Vancouver School District. Ensuring student safety is a shared responsibility. In order to assist schools, we ask parents to notify schools of student absences. **If your child will be absent from school, please phone the school to report this absence as early as possible. Parents should leave a message on the answering service by calling 604-713-4901 choose option #1.** Messages can be received before the office is open. School offices are busy places: consistently 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 – Please call 604-713-4901 choose option #1 prior to 9 am on the first day of the absence

## Student Sign out Procedure:

**When you pick up your child during the school day, please ensure that you sign them out at the school office.** If you do not sign out your child, they will be unaccounted for, and the school will identify your child as a 'missing' student and will commence a search of school grounds. **If the school staff do not locate the child, and are unable to reach a parent promptly, the school will call the Vancouver Police Department.** Therefore, clear communication is essential for ensuring the safety of your child and to prevent unnecessary searches.

Thank you for helping us keep your children safe!

## New Online School Fee Payment System (including school fees)

A reminder that you are now able to register – a simple process that takes only a few minutes – by visiting <https://vsb.schoolcashionline.com> or visiting our website at <http://www.vsb.bc.ca/online-payment> and following directions to the School Cash Online page. You will need your child's usual first name, last name, and birth date to register. A "Pay Fees" button is now installed on our school website for easy access to the system. Cash and cheques will continue to be accepted for school fees, but we encourage everyone to use the new system as it is more secure and efficient. Please note that field trip permission notices will continue to be sent home for a signature and to indicate that you have paid online.

## PAC Gift Card Fundraiser

A reminder that gift cards can be purchased all year long and a percentage will be given to Sexsmith for future school projects. There is no additional cost to the purchaser. Please use this link: <https://www.fundscrip.com/Sign-Up.aspx?IID=2CBHHR>

## PAC News

The first PAC meeting was held on Thursday September 19 at 6:30pm. Many parents attended. Minutes will be posted on the PAC tab of the school website. The next meeting is on **Thursday October 10** at 6:40pm in the library. All parents are welcome to attend. If you would like to contact PAC or volunteer to help out with a program please email [sexsmithvolunteers@gmail.com](mailto:sexsmithvolunteers@gmail.com).

## Student Threat Risk Assessment Protocol

Attached to this email is the Student Threat Risk Assessment Protocol that we are required to share with staff and parents each year. Please read through and discuss with your child, where appropriate for their age level. Our goal is always to maintain a safe and inclusive environment. Please check out this link for other important student safety information [https://www.vsb.bc.ca/Student\\_Support/Safe\\_Caring/Pages/default.aspx](https://www.vsb.bc.ca/Student_Support/Safe_Caring/Pages/default.aspx)

## Kindergarten Registration for 2020-21

Registration for next school year begins in November and continues until January 31.

For more information: <http://www.vsb.bc.ca/kindergarten>



## YMCA Program – Generation Health

Generation Health is a **FREE 10-week healthy lifestyle program** for children and their families. We will be meeting weekly (Tuesday evenings) at the Langara YMCA as of Oct 8th from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm. Families will learn about various topics related to healthy living such as: healthy eating, physical activity, goal setting, healthy body image and self-esteem. The program is hands on with lots of fun activities and learning opportunities! Families who participate in this program will receive a **FREE 6-month membership to the YMCA of Greater Vancouver**. This program requires registration through these details:

phone 1-888-650-3141 or send an e-mail to [info@generationhealth.ca](mailto:info@generationhealth.ca)

## Hosting an International Student

\*Host an International Student - Join Langara Homestay\*



Langara College invites you and your family to join our highly regarded Homestay Program by hosting a VSB international student this year. Students come from Europe, Asia and South America - usually stay for five to 10 months, and are keen to experience life with a Vancouver family. Generous reimbursement is provided. Please call 604.323.5696 or email [homestay@langara.ca](mailto:homestay@langara.ca) for more information.

[www.langara.ca/homestay](http://www.langara.ca/homestay)

## Important Dates in October

Mon. Oct. 7	Individual Picture Day
Thurs. Oct. 10	PAC meeting @ 6:40pm in library
Mon. Oct. 14	Thanksgiving – no school
Tues. Oct. 15	Green Thumb Performance @1:15pm
Wed. Oct. 16	Student Conferences – dismissal at 2:00pm
Thurs. Oct. 17	Student Conferences – dismissal at 2:00pm
Fri. Oct. 25	Provincial Professional Development Day – <b>no school for students</b>
Wed. Oct. 31	Halloween

## Upcoming Important Dates in November

Wed. Nov. 6	Immunization clinic for grade 6 and new students
Thurs. Nov. 7	Remembrance Day Assembly @ 11:00am
Thurs. Nov. 7	PAC meeting @ 6:40pm in library
Fri. Nov. 8	Professional Development Day – <b>no school for students</b>
Mon. Nov. 11	Remembrance Day - <b>no school</b>
Fri. Nov. 15	Picture retakes (am)
Fri. Nov. 15	Performance - Uzume Taiko @ 1:30pm

Please check our website [sexsmith.vsb.bc.ca](http://sexsmith.vsb.bc.ca) for the regularly updated school calendar