

GRENFELL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

3323 WELLINGTON AVENUE, VANCOUVER, V5R 4Y3

Phone: 604-713-4844

Website: <https://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/sir-wilfred-grenfell/Pages/default.aspx>

PRINCIPAL: Maureen McDonnell	DIRECTOR OF INSTRUCTION: Chris Stanger
OFFICIAL TRUSTEE: Allan Wong	PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL CO-CHAIRS: Janelle O'Donnell, Elicia Hrubizna



GRENFELL REMEMBERS



Grenfell students gathered in their classrooms on November 10th to observe Remembrance Day. The Remembrance Day Assembly was an opportunity for us to pay tribute to those who served and sacrificed. It is also an opportunity to reflect on how lucky we are to live in a peaceful country and to remember those who are still affected by wars. Thank you to Grade 7 students Jennifer and Raphael (Div. 1) for doing an amazing job chairing the assembly.

VANCOUVER POPPY FUND

We will collect loonies and toonies from student to contribute to Vancouver Poppy Fund. Members of Student Council will collect the donations in the classroom. We could like to encourage all students to bring a small donation to school. We will send all money collected to Vancouver Poppy Fund. The last day to donate is next Friday, November 19. Thank you for your support.

WHAT PEACE MEANS TO ME – A POEM WRITTEN BY LANCE, A STUDENT IN DIV. 5 (attached on the last page of this newsletter)

TERRY FOX FOUNDATION

Grenfell students participated in the annual Terry Fox Run during the week of Oct 4 to 8. Thank you to the families who responded to our online donation campaign. We have collected \$230 to send to the Foundation to support cancer research. Thank you for your online donations!



STAFFING UPDATE

Mr. Jordan Johnstone, who had been at Grenfell for the past 12 years, has left our school to take up a teaching position in Salmon Arm. We have a new teacher, Ms. Sarkar, to take over Div. 7. Welcome to Grenfell, Ms. Sarkar!

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

We had a successful Book Fair in October that resulted in the library getting \$860 worth of scholastic books as well as \$650 in cash to purchase more books for the library. Thank you everyone for supporting our Book Fair!

RAINY AND COLD SEASON IS UPON US



Students are reminded to dress warmly for outdoor activities during recess and lunch. Rain gear and winter clothing are recommended at school. For younger students, It's a good idea to send a set of spare clothes to change into in case they get wet. For older students who need to wear shorts for gym classes and after school sports: please have them bring a pair of pants for outside at recess and lunch. Thank you for your support.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR CHILDREN BORN IN 2017 BEGAN ON NOVEMBER 1

Please see the poster at the end of this newsletter.

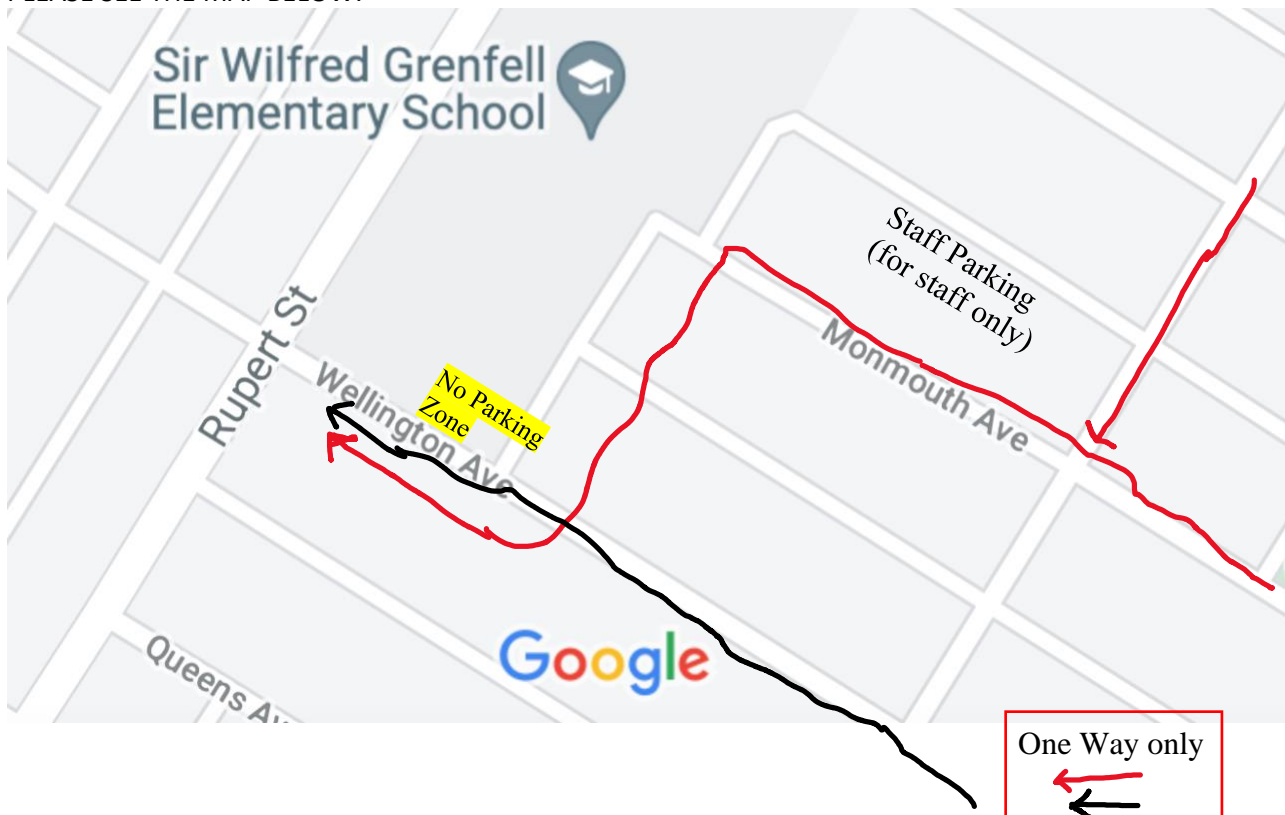
TRAFFIC AROUND GRENFELL SCHOOL

We are seeing unsafe driving around the school and especially in the staff parking lot during drop off and pick up time. Please be reminded that the Staff Parking Lot is for Grenfell staff only.

A VPD traffic officer visited the school twice last week to educate drivers about traffic safety. The constable who visited our school made a suggestion that if drivers approach the school **westbound on Wellington Ave and then Northbound on Rupert St**, they would be on the school side, which minimizes crossings and also alleviates the congestion in the lanes. Cars can **stop** in the No Parking area and let students out. Cars can stop for a maximum of 5 minutes in front of the school (on Wellington Street).

The lane next to the school will become ONE WAY only. **Drivers will enter the lane westbound from the end of Monmouth Ave**. Currently, we are seeing cars coming from both directions and creating a grid lock outside the staff parking lot. This is unsafe for pedestrians.

PLEASE SEE THE MAP BELOW:



INFORMATION REGARDING NO PARKING ZONE ON WELLINGTON STREET

No Parking



Section 3: If your vehicle stops, and is not loading or unloading passengers, it is parked, whether it is occupied or not.

Section 17.6A (a): You can stop in a No Parking zone for up to five minutes to load or unload passengers, or materials.

Exception: Section 17.6A (b): Motorists with a valid parking permit for people with disabilities - a SPARC placard - can use No Parking zones for up to 30 minutes for loading and unloading passengers, or materials.

ARTS UMBRELLA AT GRENFELL



The Community School Team has organized an 8-week long after school program on Wednesday in the gym. A selected group of students are working with two instructors from Arts Umbrella in visual arts. Thank you to our Youth and Family Worker, Nazima, for coordinating this event.



STUDENT LEARNING SURVEY

Student Learning Survey: Every year students in Grade 4 & 7 and their parents are invited to fill out the Student Learning Survey. The Ministry encourages parents to participate in this survey, as the results are important in identifying and celebrating current strengths, as well as determining where the school needs to focus improvement. The surveys contain standard questions for the Province – in addition, questions from the school and/or district that focus on local conditions or issues may be included. The survey link for parents will be emailed out to parents of Grade 4 and 7 students.

GRENFELL PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (PAC)



PAC's NEXT HOT LUNCH

The PAC's next pizza lunch (Papa John's) will be held on Wednesday, November 24. To order online: <https://munchalunch.com/schools/grenfell/> **Please note:** orders must be placed by next Tuesday, November 16.

PURDY'S CHOCOLATE FUNDRAISER



Grenfell PAC is hosting a Purdy's Chocolate fundraiser to support our school. To order online, please go to: <https://fundraising.purdys.com/join.aspx/1313023-87071>

You can also find this information and more instructions on the PAC website, which can be located through the school website here:

<https://sites.google.com/view/grenfellpac/fundraising/purdys-christmas-2021>

Deadline to order: Monday, November 29. Orders will be ready for pick up after school on Wednesday, December 15. Thank you for your support.

DAILY HEALTH ASSESSMENTS

All students and staff are required to complete a daily health check prior to coming to school. Students and staff who have COVID symptoms and/or feel unwell should not attend school.

Parents and caregivers are responsible for assessing their children daily before sending them to school. The [K to 12 Health Check website](#) and app is an easy way to decide if your child should attend school based on their symptoms. The Daily Health Assessment app can be download on your device:

- [iOS devices \(iPhone/iPad\)](#)
- [Android devices](#)

Daily health checklists are available here: [English](#), [ਪੰਜਾਬੀ](#), [عربي](#), [简体中文](#), [繁體中文](#), [Français](#), [فارسی](#), [Tagalog](#)

SAFE ARRIVAL



If your child will be absent for school, please call the Safe Arrival line to report their absence. Safe Arrival: (604) 713-5159 Ext. 34 or email: greatattendance@vsb.bc.ca.



DATES TO REMEMBER:

Tuesday, November 16	Last day to order Pizza Lunch
Wednesday, November 24	PAC Pizza Hot Lunch Day
Friday, November 26	Indigenous focused Pro-d Day (students do not attend)
Monday, November 29	Last day to order Purdy's Chocolate
Wednesday, December 15	Prudy's orders ready to be picked up from school
Friday, December 17	Last day of Instruction before winter vacation
Tuesday, January 4.	School re-opens after winter vacation

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION INFORMATION BELOW:

The graphic features a young boy in a blue and red backpack standing in front of a building. To his left is a large blue and orange banner with the text 'K indergarten Registration' and 'What do PARENTS need to KNOW?'. To his right is a sign that says 'PLEASE SEE MAP AND FOLLOW DIRECTIONS' with three calendar icons for November, December, and January. At the bottom, a blue banner contains the website address 'www.vsb.bc.ca/kindergarten'.

Kindergarten registration for children born in 2017 begins on November 1.

All kindergarten applicants are required to submit an application to their English catchment elementary school. This includes families who wish to apply for choice programs (Early French Immersion, Montessori, Indigenous Focus School, Early Mandarin Bilingual, Nootka Fine Arts) and/or a cross boundary placement. The priority registration period for Kindergarten opens on **November 1 and closes at 4 pm on January 31**. Students who submit an application within this priority period will be accommodated before late applicants. Applying for kindergarten is a **2-step process**:

Step 1: Completion of an online application form

Step 2: Verifying documentation

- Contact your English catchment school office to set up an appointment to bring your supporting documentation
- Bring supporting documentation to your English catchment school office during your scheduled appointment

Supporting documents needed:

1. Proof of residence in Vancouver
2. Child's birth certificate
3. Immigration documentation (if applicable)
4. Immunization records
5. Court orders/documents (if applicable)



1 Apply Online



2 Visit your catchment school with necessary documents

If you want to apply for a District program or cross-boundary, you must first apply to your English catchment elementary school. Applications for District programs and cross boundary placements will begin to be accepted in early 2022.

In the event there are more in-catchment applicants than available space* at the school, the following process will be used to prioritize enrolment:

Kindergarten Applications Received Between November 1 and January 31

1. **In-catchment** kindergarten applicants with siblings in attendance at the school (and who will be attending next year) will be placed first.
2. The names of all other in-catchment registrants will be entered into a **random draw** for the remaining kindergarten spaces.
3. Students who cannot be accommodated will be placed on a waitlist in the order in which their name was drawn.
4. Between January 31 and the second Friday in June students on the ordered waitlist will be accommodated as space becomes available.

Kindergarten Registrations Received AFTER January 31st

In-catchment kindergarten students who apply **after** January 31 will be accommodated if there is space. If there is no space their names will be added to the bottom of the existing waitlist.

Note: There will be **no priority** given to registrants with siblings if they register after January 31.

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

* Available Space includes physical capacity, resources, staffing, or educational programs available or planned for a school as defined by the District (Administrative Procedure 300).

What Peace Means to Me

*To me peace means poppies
that are as red as the brightest crimson dawn
To me peace feels like the warmth of parents
hugging and cuddling
or the great summer haze
or having the best time of your life with friends and family and relatives
or the odd warmth of home
To me peace sounds like the gentle rain drumming or a calm moment of silence
To me peace has the scent of nature's flowers, trees, rain
A calm stream of water and fresh air
To me peace tastes like mint ice cream or a warm glass of hot chocolate
To me peace is not the sound of firearms shooting artillery and mortars and tank shells
exploding
and soldiers screaming out of pain and suffering and agony
nor bomber planes dropping explosives or people getting slaughtered for no absolute
reason
or the feeling of scorching pain
nor Molotov cocktails scorching the ground they land on
nor vile and sad feeling of losing a loved one that was remarkably close to you.*

By Lance