

# Van Bien Elementary

311 Wilson Cres. Prince George, BC V2L 4P8

[www.vanb.sd57.bc.ca](http://www.vanb.sd57.bc.ca) T: (250)563-1062

Thank you to our families who attended VBE Open House, Book Fair and Ice Cream Social. The Book Fair was well supported; many families took advantage of the opportunity to view and select books with their children to get them started on home reading.

Parent-teacher conferences take place October 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> on early dismissal days. On these days students are dismissed at 1:38pm. The bus schedule will remain the same and staff will provide supervision for Diversified bus students.

These conferences are a good opportunity to meet the teacher and discuss ways to support learning. The classroom teachers have allotted times for these interviews between 1:45 and 4:30 pm. In the next few weeks you should be informed of your interview time(s). Please remember to call the school if you cannot make your appointment time, so that we can re-schedule.

Congratulations and job well done to all of our cross-country runners who participated in meets at Immaculate Conception and Lac des Bois. These athletes represent our school well with good school spirit and effort.

## Bell Schedule Reminder

8:30 Warning Bell  
8:35 Classes Begin  
10:15 – 10:30 Recess  
12:10 – 12:50 Lunch  
2:38 Dismissal  
Wednesday early dismissal 1:30

## Supervision Hours

**Before School:** 8:15-8:30  
**After School:** 2:40-2:55



## Calendar of Events

**Oct. 19** DPAC Changes to Reporting Parent Presentation 7pm @ VBE TDC

**Oct 20** PAC Hot Lunch, Jesse Miller Parent Presentation @ Duchess Park – Parenting the Mobile Device Child 6:00-7:30

**Oct 21** NID – No school

**Oct 24** Early dismissal (1:38)

**Oct 25** Early dismissal (1:38)

**Oct 31** Halloween/Spirit Day

**Nov 4** Photo retakes

**Nov 11** Remembrance Day (No school)

**Nov 17** PAC Hot Lunch

**Nov 25** Intermediate Report Writing Day **Has been moved to Term 3; stay tuned for date.**

**Nov 18** Cultural performance

**Nov 28** Primary Report Writing Day (No school for Div's 1 – 7)

**Dec 5** Non-Instructional Day

**Dec 15** PAC Hot Lunch

**Dec 19 – Jan 2** Winter Vacation

## General Information

**Culture Performances:** The cultural fee brings performances to our school. Families are welcome to attend. Our students really enjoy these events! Our next performance will be Nov 18<sup>th</sup> will be a magic show performance by Matt Johnson.



### **Photo Retakes**

Retakes have been scheduled for Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup> in the morning. If you would like your child(ren) to get retakes please let the office know, as we have retake order forms that will need to be completed. Orders must be pre-paid and submitted to the office or photographer on or before retake day—November 4<sup>th</sup>.

### **Halloween/Spirit Day**

Halloween Costumes worn to school must be **school appropriate**; props that represent violence/weapons are not permitted as per School Code of Conduct.



### **Office Forms**

Thank you to all of those families that have returned their verification forms & school fees to the office. If you haven't returned them, could you please do so ASAP. The verification forms are very important, as they contain information on how we can contact you. Please remember throughout the school year to update the office of any changes in telephone numbers or addresses.

**Nutrition Program** – Every morning before 9am a nutritional snack is delivered to each classroom and available to all students. The nutrition program is not a complete breakfast, however it does support students who are still arriving hungry with a snack option to help support their learning.

### **Meals Program**

The meals program is open to all students. At the end of each month a new menu will be sent home with students who are on the meals program. Please return the form to the school with payment. Should your child(ren) choose not to be on the program anymore please let the school know. The monthly menu will be posted on the Van Bien Website under programs.

### **PAC News**

The PAC is excited to host Family Movie Night on Friday October 14<sup>th</sup> by donation (\$5 per family). They are showing "**The BFG**". There will also be snacks for sale; concession opens at 5:30. Come enjoy some family time and support the PAC. Doors open at 5:15 pm. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Following Van Bien ROARS Code of Conduct is an expectation, as this is a school related event. Children are expected to walk in the gym and show respectful, safe behavior.



Popcorn will be for sale the first Wednesday of the month for \$1.00 per bag.

**PAC Meetings** – The second Wednesday of every month starting at 6:30 until approx. 7:30. Child minding is provided.

**PAC Social** – Hosted in the library the first Wednesday of the month from 6:30-7:30m. This is an opportunity to connect with other parents and the PAC executive.

**PAC Fundraising** – information coming home soon.

## SD57 Valuable Parent Information Sessions...

If you are interested in attending Jesse Miller's parent presentation Oct.20<sup>th</sup> 6:00-7:30 - **Social Media, Connected Children, Parenting in a Mobile Device Child**, at Duchess Park, the event is free. Please register via email [lrobichaud@sd57.bc.ca](mailto:lrobichaud@sd57.bc.ca)

## Curriculum Changes for Parents – what does this mean for your family?

DPAC is hosting an information night on the changes in curriculum. It will be on Wednesday, October 19<sup>th</sup> from 7 – 8:30 pm in the Training & Development Centre. For more information & to register please go to <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/curriculum-changes-for-parents-what-does-this-mean-for-your-family-tickets-27695723655>

## AEW & CSC Reminders

Many programs have started up and are in full swing. Please take note if your child/ren are involved, as pick up times may be affected.

## During School hours :

Mondays : Yoga for grade 1-3  
Tuesdays : Ice Hockey for Gr. 5-7, Drumming Gr. 1-3  
Thursday: Lego Club K-7  
Friday: Floor Hockey Gr. 2-3 (until Dec 2)



## After school :

Monday: Primary Culture Gr. 1-3 2:40-3:15; Ukulele Club Gr. 4-7 2:40-3:30  
Tuesday: APALS Early literacy Age 3-5 *with caregiver* 1:30-2:30; Leadership Gr 6/7 2:40-3:30  
Thursday: Strengthening Families Gr. 1-7 2:45- 5; Yoga Gr. 4-7 2:40-3:30  
Friday: Intermediate Culture Club 2:40-3:30

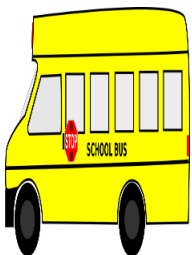
## Safe-Start - Absenteeism

The safety of your child is our first concern. Mrs. Norwood will call home for each child whose absence is unexplained. If your child will be late or absent from school, please phone the school prior to 8:30 (250-563-1062) and leave a message. Doing this will save Mrs. Norwood a phone call. We have a 24 hour answering machine at this number.



## Cross Walks & Traffic Safety

In an effort to prevent an accident and to ensure safety, please review proper pedestrian road rules with your child/ren. ICBC has good resources on their website to help guide home discussions. When crossing the street, pedestrians need to look left, right, left. Bikes need to be walked across crosswalks. Thank you for helping keep our students safe. If you notice vehicles speeding or driving dangerously please report the license plate number to the RCMP.



## School Bus Emergency Evacuations

During the week of November 7 to the 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016 all school busses in the district will be conducting Emergency Evacuation drills on the PM school portion of their runs. These drills will be conducted on school property. This could delay the arrival home of your child from ten to twenty minutes. Emergency Evacuation drills are required by law and are designed to give your child practice in what to do in the event that an Emergency Evacuation is necessary. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

October 11, 2016

Dear School District No. 57 (Prince George) Parents and Friends:

Thursday, October 6 and Friday, October 7, 2016 were challenging days for our school communities. Bogus social media threats led to heightened safety measures.

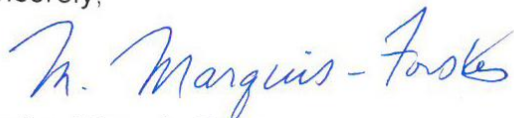
Local RCMP led and supported School District personnel throughout the process with expertise, school district Administrators followed established protocols for dealing with the situation and staff, students and parents responded with tremendous cooperation. Everyone involved is sincerely thanked for diligent efforts in responding to a stressful situation.

Responsibility for social media hoaxes rests with those who create the messages and with the social context in which this behaviour is formed. We can all assist children and youth by monitoring on-line behaviour within our households and through ongoing discussion of appropriate digital citizenship.

Parents and community members continue to be generous in providing feedback to School District No. 57. Should you wish to contribute comments and/or recommendations regarding your experiences of Thursday, October 6 and Friday, October 7, 2016, please forward them electronically to [Oct2016communityfeedback@sd57.bc.ca](mailto:Oct2016communityfeedback@sd57.bc.ca) Hard copy written comments can be returned to your child's school addressed to 2016 October Community Feedback.

We look forward to hearing from you. School safety is a shared priority.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "M. Marquis-Forster". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Marilyn Marquis-Forster,  
Superintendent of Schools