



Van Bien Elementary Newsletter #7 - February & March 2023

Dear families,



This period of time between Winter Holiday and Spring Break has to be an all time favorite for educators: it is a peak learning time where we see the growth and development in student learning. At Van Bien, visitors and guests have commented on how students have come to a place where they can stay engaged, focused and on task for longer periods of time - a lot of teaching and learning is happening 😊



Our winter After School Sport and Arts programs have started and everyone is having so much fun. Please remember the pick up area for all after school programs will be at the gym doors. Pick-up time is at 3:45 pm. On Wednesdays, our after school programs start at 1:45 pm and pick-up time will be at 2:45 pm.



Our next school community event will be the Winter Wonderland Family Dance, which will take place on January 31, 2023 from 6:00 - 8:00 pm. Families are invited and the entry is \$5.00 per family or \$2.00 per person. There will be a DJ (DJ Ant!!), a concession with hot dogs \$2.00, drinks \$1.00 and chips for \$2.00, face painting and a photo booth for \$1.00 each. All proceeds will go to our leadership team for their annual retreats. Thank you to our PAC for their contribution of the DJ for the dance!! We all truly appreciate the support we receive from the Van Bien Parent Advisory Council (PAC)!



On February 13th and 14th Leadership will be selling Valentines day treats for \$.50 each. On February 17, 2023 we will be celebrating 100 days at school with our Kindergarten students. All students can join in by wearing 100 of anything they have at home (ex. noodle necklace, pompoms, etc.).



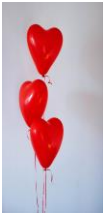
It is Pink Shirt Day on February 22, 2023. Students are encouraged to wear anything pink to support the campaign. Students will be discussing anti-bullying as a school and in their classrooms with Mrs. Tusek (Community School Coordinator), as well as with Mrs. Girard and Mrs. Sanderson (Indigenous Education Workers), and their classroom teacher.

Our leadership team is exceptional and will be celebrating their awesomeness while going on their first retreat to Cosmic 5 pin bowling at Black Diamond Bowl and Billiards on February 28, 2023. Thank you to Mrs. Tusek for all her work!!



The Van Bien PAC does TONS to support our students, staff and community - if you are interested in the following opportunities, please come to the next PAC meeting (see important dates below) or email VANBPAC@sd57.bc.ca to express your interest in one (or more) of the following:

- PAC ***Fundraising Coordinator***,
- ***Ice Rink Volunteers*** (leading skating activities at lunch time - 12:00 to 12:20 and /or taking care of the rink),
- ***Family Fun Night Volunteers*** (setting up / taking down and help manage stations on the evening of February 24th).



In February, as a school and thanks to our Indigenous Education Workers, we will be looking at the universal value of HONESTY, symbolized by SABE. We will be learning how important it is to be true to ourselves and those around us; always speaking truthfully from our heart and not telling lies. LOVE, symbolized by the EAGLE, will be our March value: caring for all people and all creatures; showing kindness to others and treating people with respect.



PLEASE, TELL ALL YOUR FRIENDS ☺ Kindergarten Registration for September 2023 Entry: Children whose fifth birthday falls on or before December 31, 2023, are eligible to enter Kindergarten in September 2023. **Online Kindergarten Registration will open on February 1, 2023.** Please, visit www.sd57.bc.ca for further information.

REGISTRATION

Online Grade 8 Transition Process for Independent Schools for September 2023: Students who currently attend grade 7 at an independent school within the School District 57 boundaries can apply to a SD57 school for grade 8 in the upcoming September 2023 school year using this process. Applications must be made to the catchment school associated with the student's address. The online application process will open January 30, 2023. Students wishing to attend a non-catchment school must first register at their catchment school, then can make an application through the online student transfer process. Please, visit www.sd57.bc.ca for further information.

Online Student Transfer Process for September 2023: The online student transfer application process will **open February 15, 2023, and will close February 28, 2023, at 4 pm.** Advertising for this will begin in January. Please, visit www.sd57.bc.ca for further information.

Thank you all for your continued support and commitment to our students, your children.

We are sincerely looking forward to seeing you at the Winter Wonderland Dance and at the Family Fun Night!

Mrs. Madill,
Acting Principal

Ms. Warner,
Vice Principal

IMPORTANT DATES

- Jan. 30** Dance workshop / performance with Method Dance
- Jan. 31** Winter Wonderland Dance (6 to 8 pm)
- Feb. 1** Professional Development Day - No school today / Online Kindergarten registration opens
- Feb. 6** Primary report card writing day - no school for Kindergarten to Gr.3 students
- Feb. 7** PAC meeting (6pm in the school library)
- Week of Feb. 13** Communication of Student Learning Updates go home
- Feb. 15** The online student transfer application process opens (will close Feb. 28th at 4pm)
- Feb. 20** Family Day - No school today
- Feb. 24** Family Fun Night (6 to 8 pm)
- March 7** PAC meeting (6pm in the school library)
- March 13 - 24** Spring Break
- March 27** Welcome back to school!

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

