



VAN BIEN NEWS

FEBRUARY 10, 2021

Message from the Office

Dear Parents and Guardians of Van Bien Students:

We would like to welcome everyone to the start of winter here in Prince George! With low temperatures this week expected to be in the -30 range we would like to remind everyone to dress appropriately at all times when heading outdoors! Students will remain in their classrooms during 'In Days'. However, if we were ever forced to walk to an alternative location due to an emergency, we want to make sure all students are prepared for the winter elements.

During Family Literacy Week we connected with some Van Bien Alumni and Van Bien Community Members. Many thanks go out to Jenny Meehan (former Van Bien student), Mrs. Easton (former Van Bien teacher), Shenelle McLeod (our PAC Chair), Bonita Seymour Howard Gibbon (former Indigenous Education Worker at Van Bien), Devon Paterson (former teacher at Van Bien) and Gary Wilson (Downtown Rotary member who helps out with our breakfast program) and his two sons, Alasdair and Owain Wilson (both former Van Bien students) and finally Mr. Grisedale (former Vice Principal of Van Bien). We now have some great read aloud videos available for classes to access!

During the month of January we bid farewell to Mrs. Kaur and Mrs. Alexander. We wish them all the best in their future endeavors. We would like to welcome Mrs. Sacchetti as our new school counselor (please connect with your child's classroom teacher if you would like help making a referral to access this support), and Mrs. Tataryn, who has joined our EA support team.

Dates to Remember!

Thursday, February 11
PAC Meeting 6:00pm
Zoom

Friday, February 12
80s Sprit Day

Monday, February 15
Family Day STAT
No School

Wednesday, February
24 PINK Shirt Day
(Anti-bullying day)

Friday, February 26
Pizza Day Fundraiser

VAN BIEN ELEMENTARY

311 Wilson Cres.
Prince George, BC
V2L 4P8

250-563-1062

As always, we continue to thank the Downtown Rotary and our PAC for their ongoing support of our breakfast program. Many students continue to access this daily!

We would like to remind all parents/guardians that we are required to follow all public health guidelines and that all visitors must wear a mask if they enter the building. Should you need to come in for any reason, we have masks available at the front door. **Even 'Bob' wears a mask!**
Thank you for your help in this area!

Mrs. T. Cole and Mr. A. Lee



Our teaching of the month is **LOVE** and is represented by the Eagle.

- Caring for all people and the Earth
- Treating others with the respect that you would like them to show you
- Using your heart and showing kindness to others



WATER FILLING STATION

We have had two water filling stations installed in the school for students to use when filling their water bottles! Students are asked to make sure that they have a water bottle at school every day.

COMING SOON: The PAC will be holding a water bottle fundraiser (Stay Tuned!)

ONLINE TRANSFER PROCESS:

If you are interested in a transfer for next year the online transfer process opened on February 3rd at 9:00am. Please [CLICK HERE](#) for more details.

FSA – FOUNDATIONAL SKILLS ASSESSMENT:

Grades 4 and 7 students will write FSAs over the next four weeks. The Foundation Skills Assessment is an annual province wide assessment of all BC students' literacy and numeracy skills in grades 4 and 7 and provides parents, teachers, schools, the school district and the Ministry of Education with important information on how well students are progressing in the foundation of Reading, Writing and Numeracy. The FSAs are a snapshot and the results can be looked at individually or as a school system which helps us plan ways to improve student performance in these areas Please [CLICK HERE](#) to access the Parent Brochure!

MORNING SUPERVISION

Regular morning supervision of students begins at **8:15 am**. Several students are arriving at school before 8:15 and this is presenting a huge safety concern. Please do not drop students off at school before supervision is provided as staff are busy preparing for the day. After school, students need to go home and check in with an adult. If they choose to return to the school to play, they may do so after 3:00pm. After school supervision ends at 2:37pm.

MORNING / AFTER SCHOOL DROP OFF AND PICK UP

Please do not stop your vehicle to drop off or pick up your child in the bus lane by the tennis court. Please pull into a parking space or make a quick stop just by the entrance of the crosswalk to drop off or pick up your child.

LATES/ABSENCES

Please call the school at 250-563-1062 if your child will be absent or late for any reason. We will attempt to contact families whenever there are unknown absences. Please leave a message on the answering machine if no one answers when you call.

HANDICAP PARKING

Van Bien has three clearly marked handicap parking spots. If you do not have a valid placard, please do not park in or block the handicap parking spots. These are used daily for students in our school and it is very important that we keep these areas clear.

NUT AWARE

Please remember that Van Bien is a peanut and nut aware school. Please refrain from sending nut products, including Nutella, to school. Thank you for your understanding.