



Van Horne Elementary School

5855 Ontario Street
Vancouver, B.C. V5W 2L8
Tel: 604-713-4965

Important Information – Please Translate

這是一份重要資訊 — 請找人為您翻譯 這是一份重要信息 — 請找人為您翻譯

Mahalagang Impormasyon - Paki salin sa sariling wika

Thông tin quan trọng - Xin tìm phiên dịch

ਮਹੱਤਵਪੂਰਨ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ-ਮਿਹਰਬਾਨੀ ਕਰਕੇ ਅਨੁਵਾਦ ਕਰੋ/ਕਰਵਾਓ

महत्वपूर्ण जानकारी - कृपया अनुवाद करें

중요한 정보 - 번역 부탁드립니다

Información importante - Por favor traducir

معلومات مهمة - الرجاء الترجمة

重要な情報-翻訳してください

اطلاعات مهم - لطفا ترجمه کنید

September 3, 2021

Welcome Back to Van Horne School!

We hope that you and your family have had an enjoyable summer together. The staff are looking forward to seeing our returning students and families and welcoming those who are new to our school community.

As you know, the Principal, Mr. Stephen Leung, continues to be off on a leave. Catherine Feniak, a retired Vancouver Principal, will be the Acting Principal of the school while Mr. Leung is away. Make sure to meet Catherine when you see her on the school grounds. Please take time to review the information below for important details that will help you in getting your child ready for a successful start to the school year.

Everyone at Sir William Van Horne Elementary is excited to welcome students back to school on September 8, 2021! As announced by provincial government, the district is expecting a full return to in-person learning starting September 2021. We are looking forward to a year of in-person learning, sports, music and other extracurricular activities.

Students in Grades 1 – 7 will be returning on Wednesday, September 8th for 1 hour starting at 9:00am. Please make arrangements to pick up your child at 10:00am that day. Students meet their last year's teachers at the same place where they met last year. Kindergarten students' first day of school will be Thursday, September 9th. Please review the Group A and Group B letters that have already been sent home via email to all new Kindergarten families.

Daily health assessments

The health, safety and well-being of students and staff continues to be a top priority. The Vancouver School District's plan will provide for a safe, healthy and supportive learning environment. A variety of COVID-19 health and safety protocols and procedures, as advised by health officials, will be in place again this year to help keep everyone safe.

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. For more information, please see the attached VSB Daily Health Checklist

If your child becomes ill while at school

Any child experiencing COVID-19-like symptoms will be moved to a secluded space, the first-aid room, where they will be supervised and supported by staff. Parents/guardians will be notified and advised to pick-up their child as soon as possible. Please ensure that the school has your current contact information, including emergency contact information, to ensure timely pick-up.

Wearing masks

As required in provincial guidelines, all staff, students in grades 4 to 12 and visitors are required to wear masks in all indoor areas, including:

- At their desks
- On school buses

Exceptions include:

- A person who cannot tolerate wearing a mask for health or behavioral reasons
- A person unable to put on or remove a mask without the assistance of another person
- If the mask is removed temporarily for the purposes of identifying the person wearing it
- If the mask is removed temporarily to engage in an educational activity that cannot be performed while wearing a mask.
- If a person is eating or drinking
- If a person is behind a barrier
- While providing a service to a person with a disability or diverse ability (for example, a hearing impairment), where visual cues, facial expressions and/or lip reading/movements are important. Students in Kindergarten to Grade 3 are encouraged to wear a mask indoors while in school and on school buses

Hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette

School staff will continue to focus on the importance of frequent hand washing (hand sanitizing) and of proper respiratory etiquette, such as coughing/sneezing into a sleeve or into a tissue. Over the past several months the District has replaced faucets in all Vancouver schools to enable proper hand washing. Schools have also been provided with hand sanitizing stations for common areas, classrooms without sinks and at entry and exit locations.

CLEANING AND DISINFECTING SCHOOLS

Like last year, enhanced cleaning and disinfecting will take place in every school in the district. This will include ensuring that all frequently touched surfaces are cleaned and disinfected at least once every 24-hours.

SCHOOL VISITORS

Schools in Vancouver will continue to welcome in-person visitors by appointment only. If you would like to make an in-person appointment, please call Marianna Cianelli, Office Administrative Assistant at 604-713-4965 or by email mcianelli@vsb.bc.ca All visitors are required to wear a mask, complete a Daily Health Check, and follow all Covid-safety guidelines.

Keeping your distance

Schools will continue to create space between students. This will include management of the movement of students in common areas such as hallways, in order to prevent crowding. Students will also be reminded to respect the personal space of others, to keep distance between themselves and others, and, to spread out as much as possible. We will also continue to take students outdoors, as often as possible, to engage in learning opportunities.

Our goal is to keep everyone safe so we ask that parents/guardians **NOT** enter the school grounds. To reduce crowding at the start and end of the first week of school, please ask your child to meet their teacher at the places shown in the chart below.

First Week Class Meeting Places	
Last year's Teacher/Division	Meeting Place
Division 2 Mr. Finucane	Gravel field
Division 3 Ms. Hauszner	Gravel field
Division 4 Ms. Taeidi	entrance to the school grounds on Ontario Street. The students line up in front of the school, in front of the playground.
Division 5 Mr. Bilodeau	Gravel field
Division 6 Mr. Sampson	42nd Street side entrance between the school and the gravel field. By the wall.
Division 7 Ms. Cassidy	Gravel field
Division 8 Ms. Barber	beside the primary playground off the corner of 43rd and Ontario
Division 9 Ms. Wilkin	the front of the school on the blacktop next to 42nd
Division 10 Ms. De Jager/Mr. Jovick	through 43rd up the ramp to the undercover area back of the school by the stairs
Division 11 Ms. Lim	the wall outside the multipurpose room between the school and the gravel field between 42nd and 43rd.
Division 12 Ms. Wong	through 43 rd onto the ramp, turn right by the Garden area.
Division 13 Ms. Aliphtiras	through 43 rd onto the ramp to the basketball courts
Division 14 Ms. Zukowski	the undercover area at the back of the school.
Division 15 Ms. Chow	through 43 rd onto the ramp by the fence on the left hand side on the black top area
Division 16 Mr. Johnston	the front of the school on the blacktop next to 42nd
Division 17 Mr. Saunders	the front of the school on the blacktop next to 42nd
Division 18 Ms. Craig	the front of the school on the blacktop next to 42nd

All students who are new to the school should be dropped off at the entrance to the school grounds on Ontario Street. A teacher carrying a welcome sign will be there to greet them.

Ventilation

Over the past year, significant improvements to ventilation systems have been made at all Vancouver, schools. This work has included making repairs and upgrades to mechanical systems, replacing and upgrading filters, setting controls to maximize the intake of outside air into learning spaces. Work has also been done to make sure windows in learning spaces can be opened to provide good ventilation.

More information

More information about plans and guidelines to keep schools in British Columbia open and safe can be found [here](#). The District continues to encourage everyone who is eligible to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Details about vaccinations are available [here](#).

Other important information

New Bell schedule for 2021-2022	
Periods	Monday to Friday
Invitation Bell	8:55am
Class Starts	9:00am
Recess	10:35am-10:55am
Lunchtime	12:05pm-12:52pm
Dismissal	3:03pm

Students are encouraged NOT to share food because many children have food allergies. Students will eat their lunches in their classrooms. The school has a water station so students are encouraged to bring a water bottle as no cups will be given out. All drinking fountains will again be operational in September.

Safe Arrival Line: 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 to report this absence as early as possible. Parents should leave a message on a dedicated answering service by calling **604-713-5159 Ext. 90**. 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.

Student Sign Out Procedure: When you pick up your child during the school day, please call the office at 604-713-4965. The office staff will walk your child out the main entrance door for pick up. Staff will sign out your child at the office. Students picked up during the day, will remain at the office until a phone call has been received to let us know that you are right outside the school for pick up.

Parent Packages: Once the students are settled in their new classes, the office will be sending home a package with some forms that need to be signed and other important information about School Fees, Agenda Fees, and to update emergency contact information. We understand this is a lot to get through, but this is the most information you will receive from us at one time. Throughout the rest of the school year, your child will bring home notices and forms as needed.

On a regular basis you will be receiving newsletters and other information via email. Please read them as these will keep you up to date with what is happening at the school. To reduce the amount of paper we will be sending out information via email. Please ensure that we have your current email address at all times and check your emails regularly. We will also be posting information regularly on our Van Horne Elementary website: <https://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/sir-william-van-horne/Pages/default.aspx>

To receive emails from our Van Horne PAC, please log-in to www.vanhornepac.com/emails

We are excited about the many learning opportunities that the new school year will bring.

Happy Labour Day weekend!

Catherine Feniak,
Acting Principal