



# BRAEFOOT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1440 Harrop Road, Victoria, B.C. V8P 2S6

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Website: <https://braefoot.sd61.bc.ca>

Braefoot Elementary School Newsletter

Thursday, December 12, 2024

## Dates to Remember

### December

- Thurs. 12**      **Newsletter Day**
- Fri. 13**        - Winter Sweater Day  
                     - Hot Lunch—Pizza and Booster Juice
- Thurs. 19**      **Hot Lunch—White Spot**
- Fri. 20**        - Report Cards available on line via your  
                     Parent Connect account  
                     - Pajama Day  
                     - Last day of classes before Winter Break

### January

- Mon. 6**        **School reopens after Winter Break**
- Thurs. 9**       **Newsletter Day**
- Fri. 10**        **Hot Lunch—Subway**
- Tues. 14**      **PAC meeting 7 pm**
- Wed. 22**      **Jersey Day**
- Thurs. 23**    - Hot Lunch—Pizza and Booster Juice  
                     - Newsletter Day
- Fri. 24**        **Pro D Day**

**Winter Break is  
December 23 to January 3.  
Students return to school on  
Monday, January 6.**

*The Greater Victoria School District wishes to recognize the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations on whose traditional territories we live and do our work.*

### **In This Issue**

#### **Important Dates and Information:**

- Report Cards
- Goodbye to Ms. Bowen
- Gr 5 Transition to Middle School
- Kindergarten Registration
- Braefoot Road Bikeway Upgrade
- White Spot Lunch
- Grade 5 Bottle Drive
- Inclement Weather
- Lifetouch Photography
- Food Hamper Donations
- Lost and Found
- Winter Sweater Day
- PAC Hot Lunch Programme

Please check out our SD61 website page at: <https://www.sd61.bc.ca/>

- Kindergarten Registration/Kindergarten Transfer Week is January 27 to January 31, 2025.
- Grade 6 Late French Immersion registration is the week of January 27 to January 31, 2025.
- All registration are done on line through the SD61 website at: <https://www.sd61.bc.ca/registration/>





## REPORT CARD PROCESS

Dear Parents and Caregivers:

We are writing to share that the report cards you will receive this year will reflect the Ministry of Education and Child Care reporting order that underwent change last year. The Greater Victoria School District has been preparing for these changes and you will likely notice a slight difference from the previous year.

Some highlights from the Ministry include:

- The use of the Provincial Proficiency Scale from K-9 and letter grades and percentages in grades 10-12
- Descriptive feedback on all report cards from K-12
- Student self-reflection of Core Competencies and goal setting
- Graduation status update for students in grade 10-12 in June

As a district, one change we have made last year is the way you will receive your child's report card. **Families will access report cards via SD61's Parent Connect on Friday, December 20.** Parent Connect is what you may have already used to give your child online permissions (i.e.: Neighbourhood walks, computer use, etc). Please [click here](#) to go to Parent Connect.

If you do not yet have an account [click here](#).

If you require a paper copy of your child's report card, please reach out to your child's teacher.

For more information on Curriculum, Reporting and Assessment please [click here](#).



## Farewell to Ms. Bowen

In this edition of our Newsletter, we would very much like to 'tip our hat' to Ms. Bowen. Ms. Bowen currently works as a Secretary at our school but she has had a long and storied career with the District.

For over 33 years, Ms. Bowen or 'Eve' to our staff members, has worked in almost every imaginable capacity in the clerical pool. She has worked in Elementary, Middle and High School. Eve also worked for a stint in Human Resources at the District level.

Our wonderful Ms. Bowen will be retiring (for the second time) on December 20th. If you are able, please stop by the office and wish her well this week or next as she is off to start a whole new chapter in her journey!

All the best from your Braefoot Family Eve!!!



## How do I let the school know my child will be absent from school?

If your child will be absent from school, please let the school know. You can either **email** [braefoot@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:braefoot@sd61.bc.ca) or call the **attendance line at 250-477-6948** and leave a message. Please tell us the student's full name, division/teacher, reason for the absence (ex. sick, vacation, appointment) and how long the student will be away.

You are welcome to email your child's teacher as well, but it is important to let the office know as we update the student attendance system. If a child is absent and the office has not been notified by a parent, an email and/or phone call will be sent to parents.

Students who arrive late to school, or who are picked up during the day, must sign in on the clipboard on the table outside the office.

## Preparing for Grade 5 Transition to Middle School

- If you have a student in Grade 5 at Braefoot, **could you please ensure the school office has your most up-to-date address.**
- If your address has changed since you signed the student verification form in September, please notify the school of your new address, and provide the required supporting documents.
- Grade 5 students do not “automatically” follow a pathway, and they will be registered at their catchment school according to the address currently on file at the school.



Grade 5 families will receive a letter in January which includes the catchment middle school their child will be registered at and information on the option to apply for a transfer.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR  
GRADE 5 FAMILIES**

## KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION INFORMATION

### *Parents of children born in 2020,*

We are approaching Kindergarten registration time in the Greater Victoria School District 61. Please visit the school district website: <https://www.sd61.bc.ca/registration/kindergarten-registration/> to find more information about registering your child. Registration is done online through the School District 61 website.

- **English Kindergarten**  
Registration opens online at 8:00 am on January 27, 2025 and closes on January 31, 2025.
- **Early French Immersion** (Kindergarten & Grade 1)  
Registration opens online at 8:00 am on January 13, 2025 and closes on January 17, 2025.



## **Braefoot Neighbourhood Bikeway & Traffic Calming Upgrades**

December 2024

### **What's happening?**

The District of Saanich is implementing a Neighbourhood Bikeway on Braefoot Road between Cedar Hill Cross Road and Mckenzie Ave.

The project is proposed to include signage, pavement markings, and traffic calming to reduce speeds and make Braefoot Rd. more comfortable to cycle on for people of all ages and abilities.

### **Why are we doing this?**

#### Neighbourhood Bikeway:

Part of Saanich's Active Transportation Plan is to build off of existing infrastructure to enhance the connectivity of Saanich's bicycle network. With recently installed protected bike lanes on Mckenzie Ave, and coming upgrades to bicycle infrastructure on Cedar Hill Cross Road, creating a neighbourhood bikeway along Braefoot Road will create a bicycle friendly connection between these two routes.

Neighbourhood Bikeways are streets with lower volumes and

speeds and typically include signage, roadway markings, and traffic calming to prioritize bicycle traffic.

#### Speed Limit Reduction and Traffic Calming Upgrades:

The maximum speed limit on a Neighbourhood Bikeway should be no more than 30km/h. Therefore, the speed limit on Braefoot should be reduced to 30km/h and the yellow centre-line removed to better accommodate parking on both sides.

In addition, speed humps are typically installed and up to 5 are proposed along Braefoot Rd to act as a traffic calming measure.

#### Parking Changes:

Updated parking restrictions will be installed in certain locations such as near the park, school and intersections. These changes are to ensure there is adequate space for large vehicles such as those used by emergency services, garbage or recycling collection trucks to maneuver the street and ensure sightlines are achieved.

### **Project Survey**

For more information on the project and to provide feedback via a project survey, please visit Saanich's new public engagement platform *Hello Saanich* at:

**[saanich.ca/braefootbikeway](https://saanich.ca/braefootbikeway)**

The project survey will be available on *Hello Saanich* until January 31, 2025.



[hello.saanich.ca/en/projects/braefoot-bikeway](https://hello.saanich.ca/en/projects/braefoot-bikeway)

If you have any questions or concerns please, contact Saanich Engineering at (250) 475-5494

Or email the project manager at [jaclin.trstenjak@saanich.ca](mailto:jaclin.trstenjak@saanich.ca)

Thank you for your patience as we continue to work on this project

## Grade 5 Fundraiser

### White Spot Lunch— December 19

Don't forget to place your order for the White Spot lunch!

Visit [www.braefoot.hotlunches.net](http://www.braefoot.hotlunches.net) to place your order. This is a fundraiser organized by grade 5 parents to support activities and events for grade 5 students to celebrate their last year at Braefoot School.



We appreciate your support!



## Braefoot Elementary School GRADE 5 BOTTLE DRIVE

SAVE YOUR HOLIDAY REFUNDABLES!

Saturday, January 11, 2025

9am - 12pm

Braefoot Elementary School Parking Lot

1440 Harrop Road

All refundable items accepted: plastic/glass bottles, cans, juice boxes, milk containers



## Braefoot Food Hamper Donations



As Braefoot School has done in the past, we will be providing hampers for families in need within our own school community.

If you are able to, please bring in donations of non-perishable food items to fill up the hampers.

*Thank you!*

## LOST AND FOUND

Our Lost and Found is overflowing with jackets, hoodies and other items.

Please let your child know that the lost and found is located under the stairwell going upstairs to Mrs. Theim's classroom.



**Please note, all unclaimed items will be donated to charity before the winter break.**

## Braefoot Winter Sweater Day

**Friday, December 13**



**Wear or be creative with a Winter sweater.**

**We cannot wait to see all the wonderful wintery sweaters that the students and staff will be wearing.**

## Incident Weather Notifications

During an emergency, incident weather, power outage, or other similar incident, it is a priority of the Greater Victoria School District 61 to communicate effectively to parents, students, and community partners. School District 61 works closely with local municipalities and emergency services to gather accurate information about road conditions and safety considerations.

The District will work quickly to determine impacts to school so parents can adjust plans accordingly in the early morning hours. **We make every effort to determine school closures due to incident weather by 6:30 am.**

School and District-wide closures are communicated through:

- 1. The Greater Victoria School District Website:** An alert system is utilized on the front page of this website to draw your attention to the most pertinent information. Please use this website as your official source of information. <https://www.sd61.bc.ca/>
- 2. Social Media:** Help us share updates by sharing posts with your friends and followers on Facebook ([Greater Victoria School District](#)), Instagram ([@sd61schools](#)), and X ([@sd61schools](#)).
- 3. Local Media:** To reach as many people as possible in a timely fashion, we work closely with our local media to share information. Listen to local radio stations and follow local news outlets for updates.

The Lifetouch logo is displayed in a bold, blue, sans-serif font.

Dear Parents,

As a token of appreciation this holiday season, Lifetouch is offering discounts on school photography!

- 50% off a purchase of \$50+ with code CDEC50
- 40% off a purchase of \$40+ with code CDEC40
- 30% off a purchase of \$30+ with code CDEC30

Valid through December 14, 2024

To order, log in to your account on [mylifetouch.ca](https://mylifetouch.ca) or create an online account.

Thank you!



## PAC HOT LUNCH PROGRAMME

### 2024-2025 Hot Lunch Schedule

The hot lunch site is available to place orders: <https://braefoot.hotlunches.net>

- You need to create a new account to be able to place orders for your children.
- The required access code is **BRAEFOOT**.
- Order cutoffs will be one week prior to each hot lunch day to ensure our suppliers can process the orders in time.

The schedule for hot lunches:

- December 19—White Spot
- January 10—Subway
- January 23—Pizza & Booster Juice
- February 7—Subway
- February 21—Pizza & Booster Juice
- February 28—White Spot
- March 7—Subway
- April 4—Pizza & Booster Juice
- March 7—Subway
- April 16—Subway
- May 2—Pizza & Booster Juice
- May 23—Subway
- June 6—Pizza & Booster Juice



**Booster Juice**

**SUBWAY**

**level  
ground**  
COFFEE ROASTERS

For the caffeine enthusiasts, Level Ground coffee is also available for order through the site.

This Hot Lunch Programme is a fundraiser for the Braefoot PAC, which supports Braefoot students' activities such as field trips, busses for beach day, the Welcome Back BBQ and many other things.

We are looking forward to another year of tasty lunches!

If you have any questions, please send an email to [braefootevents@gmail.com](mailto:braefootevents@gmail.com)