



BRAEFoot ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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

Braefoot Elementary School Newsletter

Thursday, February 6, 2025

Dates to Remember

February

Thurs. 6	Newsletter Day
Fri. 7	Hot Lunch—Subway
Mon. 10-13	District Student Transfer Process for K-12/All New Registrations <u>CLOSES on Thursday, February 13, 2025</u>
Fri. 14	Pro-D Day (school not in session)
Mon. 17	Family Day (school not in session)
Thurs. 20	Newsletter Day
Fri. 21	Hot Lunch—Pizza and Booster Juice
Mon. 24	PAC Meeting (7:00pm Virtual)
Wed. 26	Pink Shirt Day
Fri. 28	Hot Lunch—White Spot

March

Thur. 6	Newsletter Day - Choir to UVIC — Morning
Friday 7	Hot Lunch —Subway

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

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- Upcoming Hot Lunches

K-12 Transfer Week is February 10 to February 13, 2024

Student transfer information can be found at:

<https://www.sd61.bc.ca/registration/student-transfer-process/>



Grade 5 District Transfer Process—February 10 to 13

Forms must be returned to the Braefoot office by **3:30 pm on Thursday, February 13th**.

Important points that you should note about student transfer:

- A) If you would like a form sent home with your student during the week of February 10-13, please email the office at braefoot@sd61.bc.ca.
- B) If your desired destination school has space issues, **the choice will be made by lottery**. It is not first come, first served.
- C) More information about the District Transfer Process is available on the School District 61 website at <https://www.sd61.bc.ca/registration/student-transfer-process/>. Transfer forms are available to print on this page.
- D) If you do not have your child's PEN, the office will enter that for you.



ATTENTION GRADE 5 PARENTS

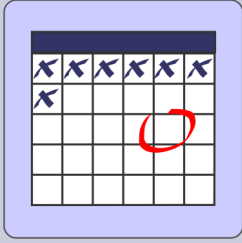
Grade 5 families have been emailed a letter with information about which Middle School their child will attend next year.

The intent of the letter is to:

1. Share with families the revised priorities at levelled transitions.
2. Communicate where their student will be registered at middle school according to their catchment area.
3. Provide a link to more information regarding **English** school pathways located on the School District 61 website at <https://www.sd61.bc.ca/registration/school-pathways-transition/>
4. Provide information regarding transfer opportunities.

This is a reminder that Grade 5 students no longer “automatically” follow a pathway, and they will be registered at their catchment schools. The K-12 Student Transfer Process is **Monday, February 10—Thurs, February 13 at 3:30 pm**. Please ensure the school office has your correct address. If your address has changed since you signed the verification form which was sent out in September, please let us know asap. The District now requires that you include proof of address. For specifics on required documentation, go to: <https://www.sd61.bc.ca/registration/documentation/>

The closure of Late French Immersion at Cedar Hill leaves four sites that still offer Late French Immersion to grade 6 students: Arbutus Global, Central, Lansdowne and Shoreline Middle Schools. For information about Late French Immersion registration go to: <https://www.sd61.bc.ca/registration/late-french-immersion/>



Important Registration Dates for the 2025 School Year

January 13 – 17, 2025	• Early French Immersion Registration Week (Kindergarten & Grade 1)
January 27 – 31, 2025	• Kindergarten Registration & Kindergarten Transfer Week • Grade Six – Late French Immersion Registration Week
January 31, 2025	• Deadline to submit Secondary Programs of Choice applications
February 10, 2025	• Registration opens for new Grade 1-12 students
February 10 – 13, 2025	• Kindergarten to Grade 12 Student Transfer Process (requests due by 3:30pm on Feb 13)
February 12, 2025	• Last day for Secondary Schools to inform students about acceptance into Programs of Choice
On or before March 14, 2025	• Notification of all transfer decisions will be communicated to families
May 15, 2025	• District Orientation/ Student Transition Day

Grade 5 Fundraiser

White Spot Lunch— February 28th Orders are open until - February 21st

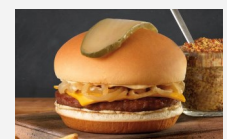
All White Spot lunch orders can be placed on the hot lunch website

www.braefoot.hotlunches.net

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!



Random Act of Kindness Month

We have a new bulletin board outside of the library to coincide with February being “Random Act of Kindness month”

Teachers and EA’s will have paper hearts to provide to any student caught in the act of being kind. They can put their name on the heart, or write what their random act was. The idea, is the have so many hearts that we erase the word “HATE” on the board.



PINK SHIRT DAY

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26



MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS SNAPSHOT

SUPPORTING OUR STUDENTS BY SUPPORTING THOSE WHO CARE FOR THEM



MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS SNAPSHOT

TOPIC: Peer Connections

The School District's Snapshot for January/February 2025 focuses on peer connections.

As parents, you've likely observed how crucial friendships are to your child's happiness and development. Research shows that peer relationships are fundamental to children's social, emotional, and academic well-being. When children feel included by peers, it boosts their sense of belonging and security, both of which are important for thriving in school and beyond. Research also indicates that social connectedness in childhood has been linked to better mental health outcomes later in life, even outweighing academic achievements in its long-term impact.

Elementary – [Friendships Matter](#)

Middle – [The Power of Peers](#)

Secondary – [Somebody to Lean On](#)

BOOSTER SEAT CALL OUT



If you have any unused booster seats, that are still within the date of use recommended (not expired) please consider donating them to Braefoot, we would be happy to take them off of your hands.

if a booster seat has been involved in an accident of any kind, it would no longer be valid or safe to use

We really appreciate your consideration.

SD61 Cold and Flu Season Reminders

Dear families,

We have reached that time of the year again! It is cold and flu season. As students return to classrooms for the new school year, as the leaves start to turn and the temperature drops, the tissues and sneezes begin to appear. Additionally, with COVID-19 circulating within our community, it is important to take extra precautions.

Please remind your child of the following important habits:

- **Make sure to wash hands frequently.**
- **Avoid touching face, mouth, or eyes.**
- **Cover your mouth and nose when sneezing or coughing by leaning into your elbow or using a disposable tissue. Quickly throw away any used tissues and wash or sanitize your hands after.**
- **Respect the personal space bubbles of other students.**
- **Stay home when sick!**

Please monitor your children daily for any cold or flu-like symptoms. In accordance with the Public Health Guidelines, students and staff are asked to stay home when sick or displaying any symptoms of sickness. If students develop symptoms throughout the day while they are at school, they will be reminded to use tissues or lean into their elbow to cover their coughs and sneezes. If required, an office staff member will contact you to arrange a pickup of your sick child. These protocols are in place to lower the risk of transmission of communicable disease and to keep our students and staff safe and healthy.

For more information on the health and safety protocols implemented in our schools go to: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/administration/kindergarten-to-grade-12/safe-caring-orderly/k-12-communicable-disease-guidelines.pdf>



Inclement Weather Notifications

During an emergency, inclement 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 inclement 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.



Dressing for the Weather



The wet, sometimes snowy, west coast winter weather is still upon us. It is therefore important that students are dressed appropriately for these conditions. We appreciate your continued support in ensuring your child arrives at school on rainy/snowy days with warm, water resistant/waterproof clothing: toque, mittens or gloves, a jacket/poncho (preferably with a hood) and closed shoes (rain/snow boots, if possible). Our students do go out for recess, exercise activities, and neighborhood walks. Some field trips also involve students being outdoors for extended periods of time, even when the weather is wet, snowy and windy.

We have had many children come to the office looking for dry clothing from our spare clothing cupboard. Our clothing cupboard has a limited amount of clothes.



REPORT CARD PROCESS



Dear Parents—If you have not yet seen your students report card, please see the steps below.

As a district, one change we have made last year is the way you will receive your child's report card. **Families were given access to report cards via SD61's Parent Connect on Friday, December 20, 2024.** Parent Connect is what you may have already used to give your child online permissions (i.e. Neighborhood 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](#).

1000X5

1000 Books by Age Five

Children's Book Recycling Project Greater Victoria



Give more children the opportunity to love books

Before spring break, take a look around and send in a few books for babies and preschoolers to the pink bin in your school. Babies and preschoolers who are read to develop more vocabulary, greater imagination and an early understanding of how books work. Thanks for helping send 352,000 books into new hands.

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:

- February 7—Subway
- February 21—Pizza & Booster Juice
- February 28—White Spot (Gr 5 fundraiser)
- 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



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

This Hot Lunch Program 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.

If you have any questions, please send an email to braefootevents@gmail.com