



BRAEFoot ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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

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<https://braefoot.sd61.bc.ca> Email: braefoot@sd61.bc.ca

Braefoot Elementary School Newsletter

Thursday, October 16, 2025

Dates to Remember

October

- Thurs. 16 - Newsletter Day
- Shake Out BC—Earthquake Drill
- Tues. 21 - Photo Re-take Day
- Parent/Teacher Conferences 3 pm —4:30pm
- PAC Meeting, 7 pm
- Wed. 22 - **Early Dismissal for students at 11:50 am**
- Parent/Teacher Conferences 1 pm to 6 pm
- Thurs. 23 Hot Lunch—Pizza/Booster Juice
- Fri. 24 **Pro D Day—School not in session**
- Tues. 28 PAC Family Hallowe'en Party 5:30 to 7:30 pm
- Thurs. 30 Newsletter Day
- Fri. 31 -Costume Day
-Hallowe'en Howl for Gr 1 and K

November

- Mon. 3 Comfort Packs Due Back
- Fri. 7 Hot Lunch—Subway
- Mon. 10 Remembrance Day Assembly
- Tues 11 **Remembrance Day—School Not in Session**
- Thurs 13 Newsletter Day
- Tues 18 PAC Meeting (Virtual)
- Thurs 20 - Moustache Day
- Hot Lunch—Sushi

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:

- Parent Teacher Conferences
- Hot Lunch
- Halloween Fun
- Dress for the Weather
- Comfort Packs
- Photo Retakes
- Clothing Donations
- Remembrance Day
- Braefoot Choir
- PAC Family Halloween Dance
- Sibshops
- VCPAC Mental Health Day

Please check out our SD61 website





PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

Tuesday, October 21, 2024 from 3:00 – 4:30 pm and

Wednesday, October 22, 2024 from 1:00 – 6:00 pm

Student Early Dismissal on October 22 @ 11:50 am

Please use the link below to set up a time for your Parent Teacher Conference.

- Braefoot Parent Teacher Conferences are coming up and, like last year, the conferences will be held in your child's classroom.
- Below is information on how to book your conference online. You may book or cancel up to 24 hours before the conference.
- Please follow the steps below to make sure your conference gets booked correctly.
- If you have any questions, please contact the office at braefoot@sd61.bc.ca or your child's teacher.

How to book your Parent Teacher Conference time online:

Here is a quick video for parents on scheduling a parent/teacher conference using Microsoft Bookings:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wLbr8vhNvYo>

1. To book your parent teacher conference, please copy and paste this link: <https://outlook.office365.com/owa/calendar/BraefootElementarySchool@gvsd61.onmicrosoft.com/bookings/>
2. Select the date from the calendar for your conference (October 21 or October 22)
3. Select your child's classroom teacher (**This is not optional** – we are unable to change the title the program gave to the section but you must select a teacher to book correctly)
4. Select an available conference time for that day with your child's teacher
5. Fill in your name, your email address, phone number and your child's name as required
6. Check the reminder box that you have selected the correct teacher for your conference
7. Click the Book button to complete the process
8. You will receive a confirmation email confirming your conference time and a reminder the day before

You will need to repeat these steps for each of your children

2025 – 2026 Hot Lunch

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

If you are an existing user, please ensure you update your profile to include your child(ren)'s current teacher to ensure smooth classroom delivery.

If you need to create a new account to access the system, 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. If you have any questions, please send an email to braefootevents@gmail.com. We are looking forward to another year of tasty lunches!

As always, no child will go without. If you need financial assistance with hot lunches, please contact Mr. McCoy at cmccoy@sd61.bc.ca. All emails are confidential.

Hot Lunch Schedule

Oct 23 – Pizza & Booster Juice	Feb 6 – Pizza & Booster Juice	Jun 5 – Pasta (This Week's Lunch)
Nov 7 – Subway	Feb 20 – K-Town Sushi	
Nov 20 – K-Town Sushi	Mar 6 – Pizza & Booster Juice	
Dec 5 – Pizza & Booster Juice	Apr 2 – Pasta (This Week's Lunch)	
Dec 18 – Pasta (This Week's Lunch)	Apr 17 – Pizza & Booster Juice	
Jan 9 – Pizza & Booster Juice	May 1 – Subway	
Jan 23 – Subway	May 22 – Pizza & Booster Juice	

Halloween Dance Pizza!

Pizza for the Halloween Dance on October 28th is also available for pre-purchase at



<https://braefoot.hotlunches.net>

Orders due by Oct. 21



Hallowe'en Fun at Braefoot Friday, October 31

At Braefoot School, we encourage and welcome our students to dress up at school for Hallowe'en Day on Friday, October 31st. Many classes have special celebrations and events to mark the day.

We would like to remind parents and students that costumes should not be worn to school, rather that students should plan on changing into their costumes at school. Safety is always our number one priority, so care should be taken to ensure that all costumes allow for good visibility and for easy movement.

Costumes should **not** include a full face covering. We also ask parents to ensure that all costumes are culturally appropriate. Any item that represents a weapon is not to be brought to school under any circumstances. Excessively violent costumes are also to be avoided at school.

Please contact your child's teacher before bringing in treats or candy that day.



Dress for the Weather!

The weather is changing but that doesn't mean we're staying in! Braefoot is an all weather school which means we play outside in the rain, wind, sleet and snow. So please, dress your child accordingly so they don't get cold and wet playing outside. Keeping a change of clothes at school is always a great idea.

Thank you!



Earthquake Comfort Pack

Each year, we do our best to prepare for the possibility of students having to remain at the school in the event of an emergency. An important part of this program is for parents to prepare a small comfort pack that can be given to their child to calm and comfort them in a stressful time. Please take the time to put a few things for your child in the zip lock bag that will be coming home with students next week. We would like to ensure every child has one!

Suggested items:

- Snack – granola bar, Power Bar, Fruit bar, small amount of candy (nut free please).
- A letter of comfort from parents/guardians... maybe a special grandparent, aunt or uncle too.
- Family photo.
- Small comfort toy (teddy, pack of cards, favorite team sports card) – just something to make them smile.

Please be advised that the school has a good supply of food, water and emergency blankets thanks to the ongoing support of the Braefoot Elementary PAC.

Please return the pack to your child's teacher by Monday, Nov 3rd.

Photo Retake Day

Photo Re-take Day is Tuesday, October 21.

The photographer will take photos of students who were away on photo day, or if your child's photo is not satisfactory.

It is important that every child have their photo taken regardless of whether families will be ordering photos.

Clothes Donations

As the weather turns, we get a lot of kids looking for clean clothes to change into throughout the day. We are very low on pants and shirts in small sizes, especially leggings and t-shirts for our kiddos in Kindie, Gr 1 and 2. If you have any hanging around that your family has outgrown, we will gratefully take them off your hands!





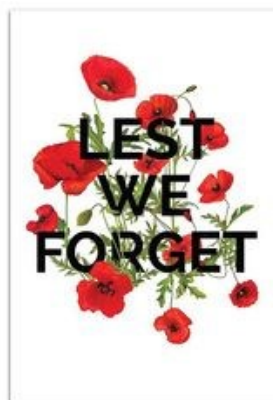
Remembrance Day Slide Show



This year we are putting together a slide show for our Remembrance Day assembly and are asking families to submit pictures of their loved ones (friends or family) who have served in any capacity in any branch of the Canadian Military (Peacekeepers, Pipe Bands, Merchant Marines....) during any time period. Please include:

- **The name of the person in the photo**
 - **The name of the student**
 - **Their relationship to the student**
- **When and where the person served**

Please email the information to Ms. Sarah at sduvall@sd61.bc.ca by Friday, Oct. 31.



Braefoot Choir @ the Victoria Royals

On Saturday Nov. 1st, our Braefoot Choir, under the direction of Mrs. John, will be singing the National Anthem at the Victoria Royals Game.

Choir members get in free, and everyone else in our community is eligible for discounted tickets of \$15 if you use the following link

<https://selectyourtickets.eventue.net/promotions/BRAEFOOT>



Hope to see you there!





YOU'RE INVITED TO THE

PAC HALLOWEEN party

OCTOBER 28

5:30-7:30

BRAEFoot ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL GYM

- *DANCING
- *GAMES
- *COSTUME CONTEST
- *SNACKS AND DRINKS
FOR SALE
- *PIZZA MAY BE
SOLD BY THE SLICE
DURING THE EVENT

THIS IS NOT A
SUPERVISED
EVENT. PARENTS
AND GUARDIANS
ARE RESPONSIBLE
FOR MONITORING
THEIR CHILDREN.

PIZZA
AVAILABLE
FOR PRE-
ORDER
THROUGH THE
HOT LUNCH
WEBSITE!





"I learned what to do when I'm angry or feel down."

–Sibteens Participant

"I like Sibshops. I made a ton of new BFFs."

–Sibkids Participant

Sibshops is a guided recreation program for siblings of individuals with a disability. The "sibs" connect, have fun, share common experiences, and learn together. Each session is led by a trained facilitator.

Sibshops are successfully used all over the world to bring siblings together as a support system for one another.

Sibshops recognize that being the sibling of a person with extra support needs comes with many different experiences.

Sibshops reflect that brothers and sisters have much to offer one another - if they are given a chance.

Sibshops are not therapy, they are all about having fun with a purpose: to support and value these very important family members.

SIBKIDS: 1507 Glentana Road
SIBTEENS: 3861 Cedar Hill X Rd



Celebrating 36 years of building healthy, accessible, and whole Communities.



CONTACT US

Kim Dufort
Family Support Coordinator

TEL: 250-380-6363 ext. 205

EMAIL: kdufort@cocf.ca

FAX: 250-389-1110

1595 Bay St. Victoria, BC V8R 2B5

Website: cocf.bc.ca

SIBSHOPS

Recreational support groups for children and youth who have a sibling with special needs.



Community Options

SIBSHOPS: SIBKIDS & SIBTEENS.

"I liked meeting these amazing new people who understand what I'm going through!"

–Sibkids participant



SESSION DATES AND TIMES 2025-2026

SIBKIDS : 10:30am - 2:30pm
one Saturday of each month
October to May
\$ 12-drop-in/ \$90-annual (8 sessions)*

SIBTEENS : 5:00 - 8:00 pm
one Wednesday of each month
October to May
Each session includes a meal!
\$10- drop-in/ \$75 annual (8 sessions)*

Thanks to the generosity of our funders, we are able to offer this program to all families in Greater Victoria at a low cost

* If this fee is a barrier for your family, contact us to apply for sponsorship.



SIBKIDS (ages 7-11)

SibKids is: talking, playing, creating, moving, sharing and snacking (!) with peers in a safe space, along with trained leaders.

SibKids is hanging out with other kids who just "get" you and why parts of your life are different because your sibling needs extra support.

SibKids is being okay with all kinds of emotions and experiences.

Participants can attend one, some, or all sessions for the year, but **must pre-register.**

SIBTEENS (ages 12-15)

At SIBTEENS we commit to create a safe space for youth to explore and discover more about themselves and their families. Group participants will engage in discussion, creative endeavors and adventurous activities. They will prepare and eat a meal together each month. All of us can learn from each others' lived experience as special siblings... both the highs and the lows.

SIBTEENS is a place for youth to know and feel that they are not alone.

Guest speakers and special activities may be offered as group members are invited to direct the group's activities and focus throughout the year.

**Call 250 380-6363 or
go to cocf.ca for
registration forms.**



MENTAL HEALTH DAY 2025 VCPAC EDUCATION TOWNHALL

**ENGAGING SPEAKERS.
ENGAGED COMMUNITY.
FOCUS ON
MENTAL HEALTH.**

**Thu 23 OCT
2025**

**6:30 - 8:30
PM PM**

**Spectrum Theatre
957 Burnside Rd W.
Saanich, BC**



Parents, Caregivers, & Students
All Welcomed!

Childminding On Site

[Register Now](#)

FREE



Make New Connections

Connect with other parents, PAC members, advocates, and support organizations in your community.

Engage With Speakers

Learn about your rights and discuss new approaches to child and youth mental health.

Access Resources

Get answers to your questions from District Leadership and take home information sheets and handouts.



PANELIST

Rachel Trebilco

District Vice-Principal
Indigenous Education

SPEAKER

Michael Harvey

Information and
Privacy Commissioner
of BC

PANELIST

Tracy Humphreys

Director of Operations,
Family Support Institute
of BC

PANELIST

Monique Moore

Registered Clinical
Counsellor

Supporting Community Partners:

