



BRAEFOOT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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

Phone: (250) 477-6948 Email: braefoot@sd61.bc.ca

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

Braefoot Elementary School Newsletter

Thursday, January 22, 2026

Dates to Remember

January

Thurs. 22 Newsletter Day
Fri. 23 Hot Lunch—Subway
Mon. 26 Pro-D Day (school not in session)
Tues. 27 Family Literacy Day
Mon. 26-30 Kindergarten Registration/Kindergarten Transfer week & Grade 6 Late French Immersion Registration
CLOSES on Friday, January 30, 2026

February

Thurs. 5 Newsletter Day
Fri. 6 Hot Lunch—Pizza and Booster Juice
Mon. 9—12 District Student Transfer Process for K-12
CLOSES on Thursday, February 12, 2026 @ 3:30 pm
Fri. 13 Pro-D Day (school not in session)
Mon. 16 Family Day (school not in session)
Tues. 17 PAC Meeting—in Library
Thurs. 19 Newsletter Day
Fri. 20 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.

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- Gordon Head Softball
- Field Hockey



All registrations are done on line at:

<https://www.sd61.bc.ca/registration/online-registration/>

Grade 5 District Transfer Process—February 9 to 12

ATTENTION GRADE 5 PARENTS

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

If you wish to transfer schools, forms must be returned to the Braefoot office by **3:30 pm on Thursday, February 12th, 2026.**

- A)** If you would like a form sent home with your student during the week of February 9-12, 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.

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 closes **Thursday, February 12 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/>

Late French Immersion is open to grade 6 students at four schools: Arbutus Global, Central, Lansdowne and Shoreline Middle Schools. **If you want your student to attend Late Immersion, you MUST register them for it. There is no pathway that will automatically enroll students in Late Immersion.** For information about Late French Immersion registration go to: <https://www.sd61.bc.ca/registration/late-french-immersion/> Registration for Late French Immersion , opens **January 26th, 2026, and closes Jan 30th, 2026.**





KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Dear Parents of children born in **2021**,

We are quickly approaching Kindergarten registration time in the Greater Victoria School District. Please visit our website: <https://www.sd61.bc.ca/registration/kindergarten-registration/> to find more information about registering your child.

Your first step is to identify your school catchment by using the school locator (found on the website above). All required documents needed for the online registration are found here:

<https://www.sd61.bc.ca/registration/documentation/>

- **English Kindergarten**

Registration opens online at 8:00 am on January 26, 2026 and closes on January 30, 2026.

We are very excited to meet you and your child. Welcome to School District 61.

Website Update

We have updated our website to include a link to subscribe to our calendar. This will make it easier for parents and caregivers to link our internal school calendar, with any electronic ones you use at home (ie. Outlook on your phone). The link can be found [here](#).



REGISTRATION FOR THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR

All registration is online. Please refer to the following link <https://www.sd61.bc.ca/registration/> which details all documents that are required and how the online process will work for registration. Click on the app that meet your needs.

Any families who are in Canada on a work/study permit, please include your child's Canada Immigration Permit, along with their birth certificate as proof of age.



Kindergarten Registration App—OPEN JAN 26 to JAN 30

Use this app to complete a registration/transfer request for your child entering English Kindergarten. Registration is currently closed. **Kindergarten Registration/Transfer Week is January 26 to 30, 2026.** Use this app to register your child if they were born in 2021.



Late French Immersion—OPEN JAN 26—JAN 30

Any student entering Grade 6 can enroll in Late French Immersion in the Greater Victoria School District. Registration for Late French Immersion will occur during the week of January 26 - 30, 2026. Late French Immersion is offered at four dual-track middle schools: Arbutus Global, Central, Lansdowne and Shoreline. No prior knowledge of French is expected or required. If your child is interested in registering for Late French Immersion, please visit our [Late French Immersion page](#) for more information about the program, and how to register to be a part of it. Please be sure to watch the five minute video introduction to Late French Immersion and explore the "Frequently Asked Questions" section.

To register for the grade 6 Late French Immersion Program, please use this app. This app will go live on the morning of **January 26 and will be open until 3:00 pm on January 30, 2026.** All student placement will be based on district student enrolment priorities. For schools where there are fewer spaces than the number of applicants, a lottery will take place in accordance with student enrolment priorities. If you are wanting your child to attend the Late French Immersion Program, and you are willing for your child to attend a school other than your catchment school, please indicate which of the alternate schools your child would attend.



Anytime K-12 Registration App -Always Open for registration for current school year only

Use this app to register a student who is new to the Greater Victoria School District for the **current** school year (2025-26).

If you have any questions about registering your child for Kindergarten, French Immersion or to transfer your child to another school, please refer to the following link on the SD61 website: <https://www.sd61.bc.ca/registration/>

Welcome to Braefoot!



Please give a big welcome our two newest members of the Braefoot Community. Mrs. Albers is joining us as our new music teacher. She is filling in for Mrs. John until the end of the year, and Constable Heidi Bermudez is our new Liaison Officer. Give them a big Braefoot Bobcat smile when you see them around the school!



Family Literacy Day

Family Literacy day is Tuesday, January 27th. The theme this year is “Make Meal Time Family earning Time”. During the week, Ms. Lauder will be highlighting library books that have a food theme. If you have time during the week, plan a meal with your kids, make a shopping list and follow the recipe together.

If you need inspiration, try this quick recipe!

Egg Roll in a Bowl

- 1 pound ground chicken or ground pork (any meat, or ground meat substitute will do)
- 4 green onions thinly sliced, whites and greens separated
- 2 teaspoons grated fresh ginger
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 bag of coleslaw mix or shredded cabbage (450 g)
- 3 tablespoons soy sauce
- 1 teaspoon sesame oil or to taste
- chopped fresh cilantro and sesame seeds for garnish

1. In a 10 inch skillet over medium high heat, brown the meat or ground round, breaking it up with a wooden spoon. Drain any fat
2. Stir in the whites of the green onion, ginger, garlic and coleslaw mix. Cook, stirring occasionally, until the coleslaw becomes tender, about 5 min.
3. Stir in soy sauce and sesame oil and cook for 1 minute more.

Divide into bowls and garnish with cilantro, greens of the onions and sesame seeds.



Make mealtime family learning time.

Follow recipes, make shopping lists, and share stories at the dinner table.

Preparing for mealtime is a fun (and tasty) way for families to learn together!

Find fun family activities at: FamilyLiteracyDay.ca

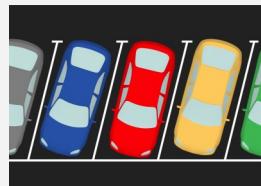
 

 FamilyLiteracyDay.ca

OUR GRADE 5 BOTTLE DRIVE

was able to raise **\$1155.68**
to help pay for Grade 5 end of year
celebrations.

Thank you for all of your donations!



**Parking
Lot
Rules**

This is just a reminder about parking here at Braefoot. Our staff lot is **strictly** for school staff or daycare drop off. In addition, the right lane of the drive through, is for drop off only. We ask that if you must walk your child onto the grounds, you use sidewalks and not walk your child through either the parking lot, or the pull through lane. As street parking is limited, we advise people to park on Braefoot Rd. and walk up to the school. We have crossing guards in place both before and after school to make sure everyone gets across the road safely, but we need adults to please remind their students how to stay out of harm's way! We appreciate your cooperation on this.



SD61 Cold and Flu Season Reminders

Dear families,

We have reached that time of the year again! It is cold and flu season. We all want to stay healthy whether we're at school, or work, and a little reminder can go a long way!

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>



PAC HOT LUNCH PROGRAM

2025-2026 Hot Lunch Schedule

The hot lunch site is available to place orders: <https://braefoot.holunches.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:

- January 23—Subway
- February 6—Pizza & Booster Juice
- February 20—Sushi
- March 6—Pizza & Booster Juice
- April 2—Pasta
- April 17—Pizza & Booster Juice
- May 1—Subway
- May 22—Pizza & Booster Juice
- June 5—Pasta



This Hot Lunch Program is a fundraiser for the Braefoot PAC, which supports Braefoot students' activities such as field trips, buses for Beach Day, the Welcome Back BBQ and many other things.

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

Municipality of Saanich Parking Survey

Saanich is conducting a survey to “modernize the District’s off-street parking and loading regulations”. The idea is to get a comprehensive picture of travel demands, needs, and patterns for schools in Saanich.

If you are interested in completing the survey, it can be found [here](#). The survey closes January 31st, 2006.



KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Important Dates:

French Immersion: Jan 12-16

English: Jan 26-30



**If your child was born in 2021, we are
eager to welcome them to Kindergarten!**

Register Online:
www.sd61.bc.ca





LITERACY FAMILY FORUM

PRESENTED BY VCPAC



Join us for an inspiring evening dedicated to building stronger literacy foundations in our community. Hear from educators, connect with local families, and discover practical ways to support your child's learning journey.

FEATURED SPEAKERS

Dr. Shelby Pollitt

*Literacy Coordinator
Sooke School District*

David Hovis

Director of Instruction, Learning & Inclusion, School District #61

Breanna Glover

*District Literacy Teacher
School District #61*

- Learn about effective literacy strategies and supports
- Engage with educational leaders
- Discover ways to enhance literacy learning at home and support your child's education
- Open Q&A to share your questions and experiences



SIGN UP

Thursday, January 22, 2026

6:45 PM - 8:30 PM

Oak Bay High School Theatre 2121 Cadboro Bay Rd

Doors open at 6:15 PM, Presenters begin at 6:45 PM

Pizza and games available for kids!





Youth Softball in Gordon Head

Learn to play softball at Majestic Park in Saanich. Watch your child build physical, mental, and social skills in a fun-filled team environment!

Ages 5 - 17

REGISTRATION COMING SOON!

for the April - June 2026 spring softball season



More information and online registration at:
www.gordonheadfastball.ca

Try Field Hockey!

Come Try The Game Free Day



VJFHA's Come Try The Game Free Day is offered for brand new players to try a free session of field hockey! This is for youth ages 5 to 18 and all genders are welcome!

When: Sunday February 8th, 2026

- 1:15-1:30pm - Check in / Get sized for a stick
- 1:30-2:30pm - Players Age 4-8
- 2:30-3:30pm - Players Ages 9 and up

Where: Lynne "Buzz" Beecroft Field @ UVic



How: Both returning and new participants must register. Use the QR code or visit our website to sign up!



BRAEFOOT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION OUTDOOR EDUCATION SPRING BREAK CAMP

VARIETY OF ACTIVITIES &
NATURE BASED EXPERIENCES

DAILY OUT TRIPS AND
NATURE WALKS!

CARE AVAILABLE FROM
MARCH 16TH TO MARCH 27TH



SCAN FOR
MORE
INFORMATION!