



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 8, 2026

Dates to Remember

January

Fri. 9 Hot Lunch—Pizza and Booster Juice

Sat. 10 Gr. 5 Bottle Drive 9am—1pm

Mon. 12 Early French Immersion Registration Week (Kindergarten & Grade 1) BEGINS

Fri. 16 Early French Immersion Registration Week (Kindergarten & Grade 1) ENDS

Tues. 20 PAC Meeting (virtual [link](#) here) 7pm

Wed. 21 Theme Day—Jersey Day

Thurs. 22 Newsletter Day

Fri. 23 Hot Lunch—Subway

Mon. 26 Pro-D Day (School not in session)

Mon. 26 Kindergarten Registration/ Kindergarten Transfer Week and Grade 6 Late French Immersion Registration BEGINS

Fri. 30 Kindergarten Registration/ Kindergarten Transfer Week and Grade 6 Late French Immersion Registration ENDS

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

In This Issue

Important Information for you to know:

- Registration Information
- Kindergarten Registration
- Grade 5 Transition to Middle School
- Grade 5 Transfer Process
- Hampers
- Panago
- Spare Clothing?
- Attendance System
- Inclement weather
- Upcoming Hot Lunches
- Kindergarten Registration
- Community Food Resources
- Bottle Drive
- 5x1000

English & French Immersion Kindergarten Registration, Kindergarten Transfer & Grade 6 Late French Immersion Registration can be done online at:

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



REGISTRATION FOR THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR

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

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 placements will be based on district student enrollment priorities. For schools where there are fewer spaces than the number of applicants, a lottery will take place in accordance with student enrollment 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/>



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). Early French Immersion registration (for Kindergarten or Grade 1) is January 13-17 and English Kindergarten registration is January 26—January 30. 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.

- **Early French Immersion** (Kindergarten & Grade 1)

Registration opens online at 8:00 am on January 12, 2026 and closes on January 16, 2026. This is a registration week for K and Grade 1 French Immersion. All placements are done automatically by our catchment priorities by lottery selection. No need for rush or panic.

Only three priorities should apply (*catchment area sibling, catchment area child, non-school district child*) because we are asking families to register at their French Immersion catchment school.

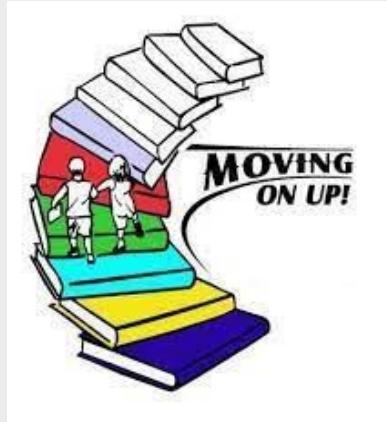
Our registration is done electronically in our Registration app: <https://www.sd61.bc.ca/registration/>

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



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, along with 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 should have received a letter on Wed. Jan 7. regarding 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

Grade 5 District Transfer Process

February 9 to 12, 2026

Important points that you should note about student transfers:

- 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. Forms will **only** be accepted during this week.
- B) If your desired destination school has space issues, **the choice will be made by lottery**. It is not first come, first served. There is no advantage to getting your form in first.
- 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.

*Please note: The transfer forms are not available until Monday, February 9th.

Transfer forms must be returned to the Braefoot office by 3:00 pm on Thursday, February 12th.

Hampers

We would like to thank our entire community for coming together to help support local families over the holidays. Between the food and cash donations, we were able to feed more than 10 families. Your generosity this year was so appreciated. We'd especially like to recognize the **Saanich Lions Club** and **Save-On-Foods** for their very generous donations to our hampers. We are so grateful to live and work in such a super and supportive community.



Panago Fundraiser

We would like to extend a big thank you to **Panago Pizza** on McKenzie Ave. for helping us with our pizza fundraiser last month. Our school was able to raise \$871, which is a record for the store! Thank you to everyone who bought a pizza during the campaign.



Do you have Clothing to Spare?

The office keeps a small supply of used clothing that students can borrow if needed, for example, if they forgot to bring a coat to school or slip in the mud. We try to supply them a change of clothes. At the moment, we are in need of **leggings in sizes 5-8**.

If you are cleaning out your child's closet at home and could donate an extra pair of pants or leggings, we would really appreciate it.



PLEASE USE OUR ATTENDANCE SYSTEM

To let the school know that your child will not be coming to school due to illness, etc., please email the school at braefoot@sd61.bc.ca or call our attendance line at 250-477-6948 and leave a message.

You are welcome to email your child's teacher as well, but it is important that the office staff knows of any absences or lates as we update and confirm the attendance system.

Thank you!

Inclement Weather Notifications

During an emergency, inclement weather, power outage, or other similar incident, it is a priority to communicate effectively to parents, students, and community partners. We work closely with local municipalities and emergency services to gather accurate information about road conditions and safety considerations.



The school district will work quickly to determine impacts to school so parents can adjust plans accordingly in the early morning hours. **The school district makes 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: <https://www.sd61.bc.ca/>**

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.

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, GVSD works closely with our local media to share information. Listen to local radio stations and follow local news outlets for updates.**

Early Dismissal Due to Inclement Weather

Closure During School Hours

If weather conditions change throughout the day and create a concern for safety, a decision to close a school may be made in collaboration with the school principal and Superintendent. While every effort will be made to keep schools open, parents are encouraged to establish a plan for their children in the event of an early dismissal. Closure announcements will be made by the aforementioned methods.

- **Elementary and middle schools** – Staff will contact parents and/or emergency contacts. Students may only leave with their parent or caregiver.

Reminder

Please note: we are an all-weather recess school. This means that unless there is an inclement weather event, all students are expected to go outside for our two recess times. **Please dress your children appropriately for the weather of the day.**

PAC HOT LUNCH PROGRAM

2025-2026 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:

- January 9—Pizza & Booster Juice
- 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.

We are looking forward to another year of tasty lunches!

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

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





COMMUNITY FOOD RESOURCES

Living Edge Market

898 Royal Oak Drive, Tues 4 - 5:30 (tickets at 3:30)
2275 Lam Circle (UVic) Wed 2pm-3:30pm
511 Constance Ave. Sat 10:50am-12:30pm (tickets at 8:30am)

Saanich Neighbourhood Place

Hampers for Families
Contact family@snplace.org or 250-360-1148

Rainbow Kitchen Food Sharing

500 Admirals Rd, Mon-Fri 8am-1pm (while supplies last)

The Mustard Seed Street Church

1 Visit Per Month
625 Queens Ave Mon-Fri 9am-1pm (closed holidays and the day after income assistance days, pls bring your own bag)

Red Cedar Cafe Free Store

1900 Douglas St, Mon-Fri 10am-12pm

BRAEFOOT ELEMENTARY

BOTTLE DRIVE



DROP-OFF DATE

**JANUARY
10**

9AM - 1PM

DROP-OFF LOCATION:

**BRAEFOOT
ELEMENTARY**

1440 Harrop Drive

**All Proceeds to
our Grade 5 End
of Year
Celebrations**





1000X5

1000 Books by Age Five

Children's Book Recycling Project Greater Victoria

January 27 - Family Literacy Day
...Donate books to increase early literacy

*Children are made readers on the laps of their parents.
(children's book author Emilie Buchwald)*

Cuddling and reading to your little ones shows that you value reading, builds comfort, enjoyment and early skills that last a lifetime.

Help make that true for those still to gain those habits. **January 27 is National Literacy Day.** As well as enjoying a new story with your child, please make an extra effort to drop off gently used picture books for babies and preschoolers in the drop box in the..... All very young children benefit from being read to – help make that a reality for more. Thank you for being part of 350,000books donated over the last 14 years.

