



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, April 16, 2025

Dates to Remember

April

- Thurs. 16 Newsletter Day
Early Dismissal 11:50 am
Student Led Conferences—1pm—6pm
Book Fair sales in Room 212 from 12:00 pm—6:00 pm
- Fri. 17 Hot Lunch—Pizza and Booster Juice
- Mon. 20 Norwegian Folk Highschool Dance Group—11:00
- Tue. 21 PAC Meeting—7:00pm (library)
- Fri. 24 Stages Dance Performance—1:00—2:00
- Sat. 25 Grade 5 Fundraiser—Bottle Drive
- Wed. 29 Talent Show—1:15 pm —2:15 pm
- Thurs. 30 Newsletter Day

May

- Mon 4-Fri 8 Literacy Week
- Mon 11 Jump Rope for Heart Event—afternoon

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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Attendance Reminder

A friendly reminder to please email braefoot@sd61.bc.ca or call (250)477-6948 when your child is going to be absent.

If your child is late, please help them to remember to sign in



STUDENT PLACEMENTS FOR 2026-2027

Staff and administration will soon be working on the tentative placements of students for next year. If you have any input for us regarding the placement of your child, send this in writing to Mr. McCoy at cmc-coy@sd61.bc.ca, by May 1, 2026. We will attempt to incorporate your suggestions in our plans. Your letter should outline educational reasons that you feel are important to your child's school achievement, **not teacher preference. We cannot stress enough that this is not a "request" process.**

There are situations where it will not be possible to incorporate all suggestions because of the many factors involved in building the best possible educational experience for all students.

Considerations when we build classes are among the following: peer relationships, the child's social, emotional, and physical needs, balancing behaviour, providing challenge and remedial opportunities, multi-age groupings, and creating the most advantageous educational setting possible for all students.

We would like to emphasize that parents' input is respected and incorporated whenever it is organizationally and educationally feasible, but that it is not always possible to fulfill requests. We will begin class building during the next few weeks, but all lists must be considered temporary and confidential until the first week of September, when we can confirm numbers and staffing.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. McCoy. Your input should be discussed with your child's teacher or given to Mr. McCoy by **Friday May 1st.**

****Please note that if your child(ren) is/are returning to Braefoot School next year you DO NOT NEED TO RE-REGISTER. You are automatically registered at Braefoot.****

Staff Parking Lot

Please remember that our staff parking lot is for **staff parking and daycare drop off only**. Now that warmer weather is almost upon us, we suggest parking on Braefoot Rd and utilizing our crossing guards to get your children to safely to school. If you need to drive to the school, please do not park in our drop off lane. We appreciate your understanding!



Braefoot School is looking for donations of gently used booster seats. If you have any your children have outgrown, we're happy to take them off your hands! Please check that the expiry date has not passed before donating.



REPORT CARD PROCESS

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

Report Cards are no longer sent home, but available online via Parent Connect.

Families will be given access to report cards via SD61's Parent Connect on Friday, March 13, 2026. 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 require a paper copy of your child's report card, please reach out to your child's teacher.



Jump Rope for Heart Fundraiser

We kicked off our Annual Jump Rope for Heart Fundraiser on Monday. We sent home a postcard to families with instructions to scan the QR Code on the Post Card and register on our Braefoot Jump Rope for Heart Website. If you have misplaced your Post Card, Here is the Link:

<https://www.jumpropeforheart.ca/>

Money raised supports critical research that will save lives and support families and children who have been impacted by heart disease and stroke. Our Jump Day Event will be on May 11th, 2026. JUMP DAY is a fun, action-packed celebration where students and teachers come together to get active, build school spirit, and support heart and brain health.

Not Returning Next Year?

Please let the office know as soon as possible if you are moving on for the 2026/27 school year. It helps us with class planning.

Book Binge

One of the many fun activities we have planned for Literacy Week, is a book binge! We are asking all students to bring in a few books from home that they're done with (and are in decent shape), to donate to the Book Binge. On Thursday May 1st, we'll put all the books out and every child will get a chance to choose one or two new books to take home. Books for the big binge can start



coming in next week and can be taken to the library



Grade Five Transition Day

Thursday May 14th is Grade Five Transition Day when grade 5 students visit their next year grade 6 school. If your child is going to Cedar Hill, Braefoot students walk there with classroom teachers.

If your student is attending a school other than Cedar Hill, parents are asked to make their own arrangements for the visit.

All middle schools in District 61, have a Transition Day start time of 1 PM on May 14th.

Upcoming Hot Lunch Days

April 17—Pizza + Booster Juice

May 1—Subway

May 22— Pizza + Booster Juice

June 5—Pasta

Questions? Please email: braefootevents@gmail.com



1000X5

1000 Books by Age Five

Children's Book Recycling Project Greater Victoria

In real need of books!!

1000X5 would love books from your spring cleaning

14 years: 355,000 books

1000 babies and preschoolers/month receive a gift bag of 3 books.

Please check the corners of your house and continue to donate books into the pink bin in the library



Sole Sisters Victoria in partnership with
Saanich Fire Fighters' Charitable Foundation presents...

17th Annual

KidsRun Victoria



Sunday May 3rd
10am-Noon
Tillicum Centre
Lower Parking Lot

Come enjoy a morning full of FUN family activities, emergency vehicles, mascots, on-site barbecue by donation provided by Montana's Cookhouse, silent auction at the event and enjoy our beautiful nature trails. You can walk or run the 1k and or 5k routes.

Thank you for supporting KidsRun Victoria!
Please join our team and make a difference. Your participation will help to support the pediatric oncology ward at the Victoria General Hospital and children and families affected by cancer.

For full registration details check out:
www.SoleSistersVictoria.ca

#KidsRunVictoria



In Support of



VICTORIA HOSPITALS
FOUNDATION
Giving makes us all better

In Partnership with



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**Join
us**

ORCAS SUMMER SWIM TEAM SUMMER SEASON REGISTRATION

Make a splash this summer!

New member registration opens April 11th 8am



info@oakbayorcas.ca
www.oakbayorcas.ca

Helping Kids Cope with Anxiety

Anxiety in children doesn't always look like worry. It can show up as avoidance, meltdowns, perfectionism, or shutting down. In this informative and practical parent session, counsellors from Gather Clinical Counselling will help parents better understand how anxiety affects a child's nervous system and behaviour.

Drawing on trauma-informed approaches, including Dr. Bruce Perry's "Regulate, Relate, Reason" framework and insights from interpersonal neurobiology, this presentation will explore why helping children calm their nervous systems and feel connected must come before problem-solving or reasoning.

Parents will learn how co-regulation helps children settle their bodies and emotions, and why some well-intentioned strategies - such as excessive reassurance or accommodations - can sometimes maintain anxiety over time. The presentation will introduce several simple, practical tools to help children regulate emotions, build coping skills, and gradually face challenges with confidence, while supporting parents to respond with validation and reassurance.

Helping Kids Cope with Anxiety

Free Parent Presentation hosted by
the Doncaster PAC

Anxiety in Kids: It's Not Always What You Think

Avoidance. Meltdowns. Shutdowns.

Sometimes that's anxiety!

Presented by the team from **Gather Clinical Counselling**

Practical tools. Real insight. Support for families.

We'll explore:

- How anxiety really presents in children
- Emotional regulation made practical
- Tools to build coping skills
- Strategies to reduce anxiety behaviours



Wed. April 22, 2026
at 7 pm
Doncaster Elementary

Gather
Clinical Counselling

gathercounselling.ca



BRAEFoot ELEMENTARY



BOTTLE DRIVE

Help us raise funds for our school!



Date: Saturday, April 25



Time: 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM



Location: Braefoot Elementary School



**BRING YOUR EMPTY BOTTLES,
CANS & REFUNDABLE CONTAINERS
AND SUPPORT OUR STUDENTS!**



All proceeds go toward school programs and activities



A great way to give back to the community



Help the environment by recycling

We appreciate your support –every bottle counts!

Questions? Contact the school office for more information.



Educational Townhall
Spectrum Highschool
Thursday April 23, 2026
6:30 - 8:30 PM

AI & TECH IN EDUCATION

BENEFITS, RISKS, AND STUDENT RIGHTS

What Parents Need to Know

- How AI & tech are used ✓
- Protecting student rights ✓
- How parents can engage ✓

SPEAKERS

- **OLINE TWISS**, Deputy Commissioner, BC OIPC
- **JOSH BARKS**, A/Director of IT & Learning, SD61
- **TOM AERTS**, Deputy Superintendent, SD61

FREE TO REGISTER

*ON-SITE CHILDMINDING AVAILABLE!
PIZZA & GAMES FOR THE KIDS.*

<https://forms.gle/2EonTytjq8YmiweG9>



Sponsored by **Thrifty Foods**

Registration: <https://forms.gle/2EonTytjq8YmiweG9>



BRAEFOOT LITERACY WEEK: CELEBRITY READERS WANTED!

Braefoot School is excited to celebrate **Literacy Week** from **May 4–8**, and we're looking for special guest readers to help make it memorable!

We are hoping to host a **Celebrity Reading Day** and would love to invite "celebrity" readers from our community to come in and read. This could include local authors, artists, athletes, community leaders, or anyone with a great story to share and a love of reading.

If you know someone who would be willing to come in and read to our students, please let our librarian, Ms. Lauder, know by emailing her at tlauder@sd61.bc.ca.

Thank you for helping us inspire a love of reading at Braefoot!

