

Frank Hobbs Elementary School



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Ingrid Fawcett, Principal Jennifer Cox, Vice Principal

Kealy Hansen, Administrative Assistant

December School Newsletter



December is upon us, bringing not only the winter solstice and frosty mornings,
but also many different and wonderful celebrations to enjoy!

Read on to see how we're unwrapping December here at Frank Hobbs ...

A Reminder of the 2021-2022 Frank Hobbs School Bell Schedule:

- School Start time 8:53 am
- Morning Recess: 10:15-10:30
- Lunch: 11:36-11:56 (eating) 11:56-12:31 (lunch recess)
- Dismissal: 2:35 pm
- Attendance: FHAttendance@sd61.bc.ca
- School Website: <https://frankhobbs.sd61.bc.ca/>

Winter Break:

Our last full day of classes is Friday December 17th. School re-opens on Tuesday January 4th.

Report Cards:

Report cards will be going home on Friday December 17th. If your child's teacher is using Fresh Grade, a reminder that the digital assessment is ongoing and that a summary report will be available at the end of the school year.

Absences and Late Arrivals:

When your child is away, sick or will be late, please remember to email or call the attendance line no later than 8:30am and please provide the **FIRST and LAST** name of your child. Also, please remind your child to sign in at the office when they arrive late or are leaving early to avoid the automated call-out. Thank-you!

FHAttendance@sd61.bc.ca

Contacting Staff

If you are looking to reach your child's teacher, please note that classroom phones no longer take voice messages. The office can pass along your message, but you are free to email them at any time. All staff emails are on our school website under Staff Info.

Kindergarten Registration Week:

A reminder that Kindergarten Registration Week is January 24-28th. Information can be found at

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

Late French Immersion Registration Week:

Any student entering Grade 6 can enroll in Late French Immersion in the Greater Victoria School District. Late French Immersion is offered at all five dual-track middle schools. No prior knowledge of French is expected or required. Transportation is the responsibility of parents/guardians. Registration for Late French Immersion occurs online from January 24 – 28, 2022. Families who register during registration week will have priority for placement. See the link below for more details.

<https://www.sd61.bc.ca/registration/late-french-immersion/>

Library Books:

Just a friendly reminder to please return your library books on time. Ms. Mac says thanks!

Winter Art or Student Displays And Winter Art Slide Show

We try to display samples of our student's amazing art work on our school website throughout the year, please remember to check it out at <https://frankhobbs.sd61.bc.ca/>
In addition, on Dec 17th we will be sending you our Winter Art Slide Show for you to enjoy over the holidays.

Important Information On Traveling Over The Holiday

As the winter break approaches, the District would like to remind families and staff about travel requirements when leaving and returning to the country.

All travellers returning to/entering Canada must follow the testing and quarantine requirements. For all details, including 72 hour or less trips, please visit: www.travel.gc.ca.

There are some exemptions for fully vaccinated travellers who are permitted to enter Canada. We recommend that you review travel requirements prior to travel as advisories or guidelines may evolve.

Students, staff and other adults who are not fully vaccinated and have travelled outside of Canada **CANNOT** attend school for 14 days after arrival, as part of federal requirements. This includes children under 12 who are travelling with their fully vaccinated parents.

Sources:

Government of Canada (2021). COVID-19: Requirements for fully vaccinated travellers and unvaccinated children less than 12 years of age. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/diseases-conditions/fully-vaccinated-travellers-without-covid-19-symptoms-returning-canada.html> BC Center for Disease Control (2021). Self-isolation and Self-monitoring. <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/self-isolation>

Frank Hobbs is a Community of Caring and Kindness!

Thank you to everyone who donated socks; your kind donation will help to keep many in our community cozy over the holidays.

We understand that the Holidays can be stressful for many families who face financial struggles. We here at Frank Hobbs want to do whatever we can to help support our families and make the holidays extra special. If you are a family or if you know of a family that needs some support, please contact Ingrid Fawcett ifawcett@sd61.bc.ca or Sonnie Marsh smarsh@sd61.bc.ca by Dec. 8th/2021

Please know that we respectfully treat all those who reach out to us, as confidential.

~Being able to support our Frank Hobbs Families is simply a joy and a privilege. ~

Backpack Buddies

Frank Hobbs would like you to know that we are connected to Backpack Buddies, an organization who provides some food for children to have over the weekends. Your child(ren) will receive a bag of food on Fridays to put in their backpack (a biodegradable bag with the contents) to bring home. It is the aim of Backpack Buddies to support children and families with nutritional needs.

Confidentiality will be maintained. Please see the link below for more information about Backpack Buddies

<https://www.backpackbuddies.ca/our-story>

If you wish to take part, please contact Sonnie Marsh, Counsellor or Ingrid Fawcett, Principal.

Please know that we respectfully treat all those who reach out to us, as confidential.

Playground and Parking Safety

Please talk with your children about playground safety. Keep sticks, pinecones and acorns on the ground and do not pick any mushrooms or approach any birds or animals.

Please be considerate and park legally on the street. Our Supervisors are here to focus on student safety. Please do not approach them to solve parking issues. The parking lot is for Staff only. Consider parking at Maynard Park and walking up path.

We ask you to keep dogs on a leash while on school grounds, and please pick up after them. There is no after school supervision; we encourage children to go directly home after school.

Health and Safety:

As the weather gets colder, we continue to appreciate you performing a daily health check with your child. The process is very important as it helps to keep us all healthy, and helps to stop the spread of Covid 19, colds and the flu. This is the updated message from the BC Ministry of Health: All students in Kindergarten to Grade 12 are required to wear a mask indoors in schools and on school buses.

Vaccinations:

Please click on the link below for information sent out from the Ministry of Education, regarding vaccines for students aged 5 -12:

[Vaccinations for Children](#) This is also available on our school website.

Student Masks:

*Please remember to send a clean mask with your student daily, and have **a few spares** in your child's backpack – thanks!*

Below is the link to District Website that contains all the Public Health and Ministry of Education Guidelines related to the management of COVID-19 and Communicable Diseases

<https://www.sd61.bc.ca/our-district/departments-services/human-resource-services/covid-19/>

Link to K-12 Daily Health Check App

<https://www.k12dailycheck.gov.bc.ca/healthcheck?execution=e1s1>

Information On Head Lice

The above link is simply for your information.

And remember, our [Frank Hobbs School Website](#) has links to our Daily Health Checks for Parents, updated District Health and Safety Information, Parent Connect, School Cash Online, the School Calendar and much more!

The Middle Years Development Instrument (MDI)

School District 61 has partnered with the Human Early Learning Partnership (HELP) at the University of British Columbia to measure and promote children's social and emotional development, health, well-being, and assets through the Middle Year Development Instrument (MDI). The Middle Years Development Instrument (MDI) is a self-report questionnaire that asks children in middle childhood about their thoughts, feelings and experiences. The MDI is the first survey of its kind to gather information about the lives of children both in school, in the home and in the community, from their own perspective. The survey questions align with the BC Ministry of Education's K-12 curriculum, which includes a focus on promoting children's personal and social competencies.

Grade 4 and grade 6 students are invited to complete the MDI during class time between:

January 11th and February 28th, 2022.

For more information and to view the questionnaires:

<http://earlylearning.ubc.ca/mdi/>

Parent FAQs:

<http://earlylearning.ubc.ca/mdi/parent-guardian-resources/>

If you don't want your child to participate, please contact your child's teacher, fill out the withdrawal form at the end of the parent/guardian informed passive consent letter, or contact the MDI project staff at mdi@help.ubc.ca.

Lost and Found:

The Lost and Found is full! Jackets, pants, sweaters, shirts, water bottles, thermoses, masks, hats ... you name it, we've got it! *The Lost and Found will be displayed in the school entryway during the first two weeks of December. Please come take a look.*

Any items remaining in the Lost and Found on December 17 will be donated to charity.

Weather and Outside Time:

With the stormy, wet weather moving in, our school playgrounds are getting muddier - please send your child(ren) to school with INDOOR SHOES so we can keep our classes and hallways clean.

And remember to dress your kids for the changing weather - we go outside rain, shine or.. snow!



And now....

Frank Hobbs PAC News!

Happy December!

Hot lunch update:

Our PAC Executive is hoping to offer hot lunches in the new year. We are still looking for a parent to coordinate this in order for the hot lunch program to run. The time commitment is approx. 4 hours per month and is less intimidating than it sounds. **Please reach out if you are able to help with this.**

Our PAC is excited to announce that Caddy Bay Liquor Store in the village will be donating the store's empty bottle returns to our PAC. The return amount will help our PAC fund some extracurricular items during the school year, STEM programming for all grades, library budget boosts, and allow us extra funds to support parent-run initiatives at the school. If you can help support us by **volunteering to collect bottles 1x month or two** (or less, if there are more bodies!), please email Jenny at jennynanninga@gmail.com. The time commitment would be roughly 1-2 hours a month at the most and volunteers will work together as a team. We currently have some volunteers but need more to spread out the workload. Sign up in advance [here!](#)

Big thank you to families for supporting our Purdy's Christmas Fundraiser. All orders will be available to pick up at 3902 Dawe Rd, on Tuesday December 14th between 4pm-7pm.

Alternate arrangements can be made if necessary by emailing jennynanninga@gmail.com

Please subscribe to our holiday newsletter by Thursday December 16th, and all families who subscribe will be entered to win a prize. Prize will be drawn Thursday night and delivered to your child in class on Friday December 17th. Subscribe [here](#).

Happy Holidays from the PAC Executive! We hope whatever you celebrate this holiday season, you find peace, joy and time with loved ones. Wishing your family the best this holiday season and a very Happy New Year!

Thank-you, Your Frank Hobbs PAC Executive

From all of us here at Frank Hobbs, we wish you all a winter break that is merry and bright!

Ingrid Fawcett, Principal ~ Jennifer Cox, Vice Principal
Kealy Hansen, Administrative Assistant

