

# Frank Hobbs Elementary School



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Ingrid Fawcett, Principal Ramy Gerber, 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 varied and wonderful seasonal celebrations to enjoy!

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

### **2022-2023 Frank Hobbs School Bell Schedule:**

- Start time 8:45 am
- Recess: 10:15-10:30
- Lunch: 11:50-12:15 (recess) 12:15-12:35 (eating time)
- Dismissal: 2:37 pm
- Attendance is 250-477-1804 (press 1) or [FHAttendance@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:FHAttendance@sd61.bc.ca) (late or absent)  
*Please remember to use your child's first and last name.*

### **Winter Break:**

Our last full day of classes is Friday December 16<sup>th</sup>. School re-opens on Tuesday January 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### **Report Cards:**

Report cards will be going home on Friday December 16<sup>th</sup>. Please remember to **return the envelope** to your child's teacher. If your child has a portfolio, please go online to see their progress.

### **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](mailto:FHAttendance@sd61.bc.ca)

### **Contacting Staff**

If you are looking to reach your child's teacher, please note that we try to only pass along important information to students and teachers during the school day. Please organize afterschool activities and alternate pick ups prior to school starting.

Our classroom phones do not 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, however staff do not normally check their emails while teaching so emailing prior to the day is preferable.

Thank-you for your understanding, as we place great importance on not interrupting the learning going on in classrooms during the school day.

### **Kindergarten Registration Week:**

A reminder that Kindergarten Registration Week is January 23 - 27<sup>th</sup>. 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 23 – 27, 2023. 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/>

### **Kindergarten Hearing Screenings:**

We are pleased that Island Health will resume the hearing screenings for our Kindergarten students, this January. This will take place on Tuesday, January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023 starting at 9:30am.

### **Library Books:**

Library books should be stored in a safe, clean area at home so they are returned to school in good condition - and just a friendly reminder to please return them on time. Ms. Fynn 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 16<sup>th</sup> we will be sending you our Winter Art Slide Show for you to enjoy over the holidays.*

### **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](mailto:ifawcett@sd61.bc.ca) or Sonnie March [smarsh@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:smarsh@sd61.bc.ca) by Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>/2022

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 that provides some extra food for children to have over the weekends. Children enrolled in this program 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 the short path that leads to our school.

### **We ask you 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.

Communicable Disease Update:

[Communicable Disease Update](#)

Link to K-12 Daily Health Check App

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

[Head Lice - Updated Information for Families](#)

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, student artwork, staff contact information, and much more!

### **The Middle Years Development Instrument (MDI) for Grade 4 Students**

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 students are invited to complete the MDI during class time between January and March, 2023.

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](mailto: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 Friday December 16th will be donated to charity.

**Weather and Outside Time:**

**With the stormy, cold and 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.** Some classrooms may have their windows open to assist in ventilation, so an additional sweater or sweatshirt is encouraged. And remember to dress your kids for the changing weather - we go outside rain, shine or.. snow!



**Important Upcoming Dates:**

- December 9<sup>th</sup>: PJ Day
- December 16<sup>th</sup>: PAC Popcorn Day, Report Cards go home, and the last day of classes before the Winter Break
- January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023: First Day Back from Winter Break
- January 24<sup>th</sup> : Kindergarten Hearing and Dental Screening
- January 23 - 27<sup>th</sup>: Kindergarten Registration Week
- January 23 - 27<sup>th</sup>: Late Immersion French Registration Week
- January 27<sup>th</sup>: Professional Development Day – no school for students
- February 17<sup>th</sup>: Professional Development Day – no school for students
- February 20<sup>th</sup>: Family Day Stat holiday

**1000x5**



Three Book Challenge with Santa's Anonymous  
3 books = 1 gift

Thank you for all the books that have been pouring in to be packaged in time for the holidays. And a huge thank you to Santas Anonymous their most generous donation. That means that for quite a few months a new book can be added to each bag of 3 books

Please drop your books for babies and preschoolers off in the bench/ottoman in the entryway of the school.

And now....

## Frank Hobbs PAC News!

### Movie Night - Friday, December 2nd



We look forward to seeing you this Friday, December 2nd for our family movie night! We will be watching 'The Grinch' (2018 version - more details here: <https://www.commonsemmedia.org/movie-reviews/dr-seuss-the-grinch>).

**5pm** start time (pizza/bake sale items sold from 5-5:30pm; movie will start at 5:30pm sharp). Entry by donation (suggested donation of \$5+/family). Pizza will be sold for \$4/slice. Bake sale items individually priced. Popcorn will be provided to all students free of charge. Parents/guardians are required to be in attendance with their children for the duration of the event. We will also be collecting non-perishable food items for a local food bank.

Thank you to event sponsor, Michelle Horn, for putting this together so we can enjoy a fun and festive movie together!

### Hot Lunches



Thank you to our hot lunch coordinator, Elaine, who has worked so hard on our hot lunch program!

Order deadline is **December 5th at noon** for our upcoming popcorn day on Friday, December 16th. **January 2nd at noon** deadline for January hot lunches. **We highly suggest that you place December and January orders together**, to avoid missing deadlines. Accounts must be paid to have order successfully processed.

### Bottle Drive



Caddy Bay Liquor has graciously donated all their returnables to our PAC. We are hoping to run a bottle drive in the New Year and looking for a coordinator to help advertise and put together a list of volunteers on the day of. Coordinators do not need to be there on the day and we will also be looking for volunteers to take shifts.

Possible dates will be Monday, January 2nd (stat), or Saturday/Sunday January 7th/8th, based on store and Return-It availability. Please get in touch if you are able to help in any way!

## Purdy's Chocolate Fundraiser



Thank you to those who supported our Purdy's fundraiser! We earned \$476 and pick up is scheduled for Dec 9th (but likely sooner). We will contact those who placed an order once it has arrived. Thank you again for supporting our PAC!

## Choir Interest



The Frank Hobbs PAC has received a lot of communication regarding Choir and extracurriculars at the school. We are looking to see how much interest there is, and possible options for this outside of school hours. We would love to hear your thoughts. Please complete our quick 4-question [survey](#) for all parents. Thank you!

## Happy Holidays!



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!

See you on January 18th @ 8pm for our next meeting.

Jenny

[jennynanninga@gmail.com](mailto:jennynanninga@gmail.com)

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

Ingrid Fawcett, Principal ~ Ramy Gerber, Vice Principal  
Kealy Hansen, Administrative Assistant

