

Frank Hobbs Elementary School



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

October School Newsletter



Hello and welcome to Autumn! We're enjoying wonderful Fall weather and the changing colours in the trees are so pretty. As we're getting well into our new school year routines, here is a look at what October looks like here at Frank Hobbs ...

Staff Updates:

We welcome:

Rajanjeet Sihota, our new Educational Assistant
Anne Lee, our learning support teacher

2022-2023 Frank Hobbs School Bell Schedule:

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

Student Information and Emergency Forms:

Please remember to return these forms to your child's teacher, if you have not already done so.

Terry Fox School Fundraiser:

We would like to say an enormous THANK-YOU to our amazing Frank Hobbs Family Community for donating so generously to this year's Terry Fox Fundraiser. ***We raised over \$4,000 this year!!*** Thank-you all for your generous support of this important cause!

National Day of Truth and Reconciliation:

Students and staff across the District recognized the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, Orange Shirt Day and Truth and Reconciliation Week which ran from September 25th to 29th.

Our Orange Shirt Day assembly is on the Friday before Truth and Reconciliation Day. We will share the story of the orange shirt and hear Phyllis Webstad's words about her orange shirt. We will share ideas about reconciliation and our work to build relationships with indigenous people, hear their stories, and help preserve their rights.

Professional Development Day

Our next Pro-D Day is October 20th, there is no school for students.

Parent Teacher Meetings

This week on Tuesday the 17th and Wednesday the 18th, we are having parent teacher meetings - information has gone out to parents from your child's teacher.

Early dismissal is only on Tuesday Oct 17th at 11:50am.

Update: Grade 5 Strings Program

After extensive attempts to hire a qualified strings teacher, our District's Human Resource Department has advised us that they have been unsuccessful in hiring a teacher for our Strings Program for the 2023-2024 school year. As you can appreciate, the Strings Teaching position is quite specialized, and unfortunately there are too few strings teachers for all schools to be able to offer the program at this time. We understand that this news will come as a disappointment to many families, as our Strings Program has been the highlight for many of our grade 5 students and their families. Please know that Frank Hobbs values our Strings program, and that we hope to bring Strings back to our school next year. Thank you so much for your understanding.

Cross Country

The first cross country meet was on September 26th at Lambrick Park and our kids did great! Our runners have been training very hard, and we anticipate a fun and successful season – *a big thank you to our wonderful teacher volunteers, Tracy Johns and Catherine Johnston, for all their hard work in organizing and supporting our school team!*

A reminder that all meets are on Tuesdays at 3:45pm, including the City Finals. The meets are Oct. 3rd (at Lansdowne), Oct. 10th (at Lambrick), Oct. 17th (at Beckwith), and the City Finals are on Oct. 25th (at Cedar Hill/UVic). Parents are responsible for all transportation to the meets.

We're very proud of the efforts we're seeing from all of our runners! If your child(ren) are running cross country and you have any questions, please reach out to Tracy Johns at tjohns@sd61.bc.ca

Picture Day is October 6th:

After Picture Day, you can order your child's photos at <https://online2.edgeimaging.ca> using your Portrait ID and Access Code which can be found on your child's Picture Day Order Form.

If you have more than two children, there is a family plan - at the bottom of the ordering page, parents can click the family plan link which will allow you to fill out a form indicating your children's names - you will then get a code for packages for any more than two children, and those will be complimentary!

Feeding Futures Program

What is the purpose of Feeding the Futures fund?

Schools are to support food security, by providing stigma and barrier free access to nutritious food that is both sustainable and consistent in the long term.

This year, thanks to this funding from the Ministry of Education we are pleased to be able to provide a breakfast/snack program geared toward helping families who need assistance in providing a nutritious daily breakfast and snack for their child(ren) during the week.

What is happening at the district level?

Every school will be receiving box(es) of fruit every week starting September 12, 2023. The number of boxes is based on 20% of the school population. This fruit will be distributed differently within each school, for instance: baskets in designated areas, added to a snack fridge or to supplement their lunch program.

Some schools that do not yet have the infrastructure to receive, distribute and store food will be fitted with a basic kitchenette (sink, cupboard and fridge).

What is happening at our school?

Our program will be run by our school meal assistant from Monday to Friday from 8:25 to 8:40am. Children who have registered for this program will be able to get their meal bag by the table near the gym kitchen – or – they're welcome to take their snack bag with them to enjoy at recess and after school.

Our meal bags will contain items such as fruit, vegies, yogurt, cheese, granola bar, muffin, and juice box. Our aim is to provide a healthy breakfast and nutritious afterschool snack for those families needing some extra assistance.

If your family could benefit from this Ministry funded meal support program, please email us so we can provide you with more information. All inquiries will be treated with respect and confidentiality.

- Ingrid Fawcett, Principal: IFawcett@sd61.bc.ca
- Sonnie Marsh, School Counselor: SMarsh@sd61.bc.ca
- Kealy Wilkinson Hansen, Administrative Assistant: kewilkinson@sd61.bc.ca

When you have a moment could ONE family member please complete the following 2 minute [Family Survey](#) for each school your children attend.

Bike To School Week

Bike to work/school weeks will run from October 16th to the 29th. As a school, we will record and post all the active transportation students take to get to and from school. That includes walking, scootering and biking.

There will be a large poster in the front hallway. Students can earn a ticket for each day they participate. The PAC is providing some prizes and there will be a random draw from all the entries at the end of the two week.

Chess Lessons:

We are looking forward to starting Chess Lessons in October 6th, for our grade 4 and 5 kids. Grade 2 and 3 students start their Chess on January 12th. Please click on the links below for more information:

[Parent Chess Information Letter](#)
[Chess Schedule 2023-2024](#)

Parent Connect:

Just a reminder to those parents who have not yet logged in to Parent Connect to review and consent to any applicable class access forms. *There are important online consent forms for which parents/guardians must read and provide consent.*

The link: [Parent Connect Sign In](#)

Library News:

Scholastic Book Fair Returns!

The Frank Hobbs LLC will be holding a **Scholastic Book Fair from November 14th to 17th**. We are very excited to be having a fair this year, as it always brings in lots of new, updated, and exciting reading materials for everyone! We are looking for some parent volunteers to help before and after school.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Megan Ruck in the Library at MRuck@sd61.bc.ca

The book fair will be taking place in **Room 1** of the school, **the times to access the Book Fair in Room 1 will be 8:15-8:40 in the mornings and then after school from 2:45-3:15 from Tuesday (14th) through to Friday(17th)**. There will be a limited number of individuals allowed in at one time, so patience is always appreciated! Interac, Cash, Cheque, and Credit cards are accepted ways of payment.

...and just a friendly reminder to please return your library books on time. Thanks!

Hallowe'en:

Students in all grades are invited to either wear orange and black, or dress in costumes on Tuesday, Oct 31st. We are leaving this decision up to the parents. *We ask that all accessories including swords, fake weapons, and props be left at home.* If there is make-up to be applied, this will need to be done at home, not in the classrooms or in the washrooms.

Please be aware that your child will be in a costume all day - if this is a very special or elaborate costume, you may wish to consider something more "outside friendly" as students will still be outside for play, and may get dirty, or your child can wear orange and black!



Health and Safety:

As the weather gets colder, we thank you for 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.

Link to K-12 Daily Health Check App

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

Information in 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, and much more!

1000X5 = 1000 Books by Age Five:

As you prepare for the end of the month celebrations with fun costumes and food, can you find a minute to locate 3 gently used books for babies and toddlers and drop them off in the bench seat located in the front entry of the school. These books will entertain and enrich wee ones long after the October fun has ended. **311,000 books in 12 years!! Thank you.**

Important Upcoming Dates:

Individual Picture Day: October 6th

PAC Popcorn Day: October 6th (Sept 18 was the last day to order)

Thanksgiving: October 9th - school not in session

PAC Booster Juice Day: Oct 13th (last day to order is Oct 2)

Parent Teacher Meetings: October 17th (**11:50am early dismissal**) and 18th (regular dismissal at 2:37pm)

Pro-D Day: October 20th – no school for students

PAC Pizza Day: October 25th (last day to order is Oct 2)

Remembrance Day School Assembly: November 10th

Remembrance Day: Stat holiday observed on November 13th – school not in session

Pro-D Day: November 20th – no school for students

Weather and Outside Time

Please remember to dress your kids for the weather ~ at Frank Hobbs we go outside rain or shine!



We wish everyone a very Happy Thanksgiving next week ~ and a safe and Happy Hallowe'en at the end of the month!

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



And now our Frank Hobbs PAC information for October...

HOT LUNCH NEWS



DEADLINES:

Please order and pay for Booster Juice and Pizza day by **October 2nd at 3pm**. Late orders cannot be accepted.

Can you help organize and deliver food to classes on hot lunch day? Click the volunteer box under the order date when you place your lunch order. Volunteers are contacted a few days prior. We'll confirm your availability and send instructions. **We need 12+ parents to help sort and deliver food items from 11:40am-12:15pm in order for this program to run.** Sign up for one or more throughout the year!

KINDERGARTEN PARENTS:

Set up your account on the [Hot Lunch website](#) today! Then log in and add your school supplies to your cart. Thank you.

The PAC requires \$33 for each child entering Kindergarten to cover supply costs. This is not a fundraiser. All funds are used to reimburse the PAC for supplies purchased. Need financial assistance? Please reach out to Elaine Flores, Hot Lunch Coordinator at Lunches@frankhobbspac.ca. Confidentiality will be respected.

More important dates:

November hot lunch cut off order day is October 23 at 3pm

December hot lunch cut off day is November 17 at 3pm

January hot lunch cut off day is December 22 at 3pm

If you need financial assistance for our hot lunch program, please contact lunches@frankhobbspac.ca after you have set up your child's account. All inquiries will be kept confidential.



Stay tuned for the time and date of our October PAC meeting.

Information will be coming soon!

How do I become involved in the PAC?

Each parent is a voting member by being part of the school community. All PAC Executives are busy parents like you, who are also full- or part-time working professionals or domestic engineers, who generously donate their time and skills. A healthy PAC Executive with robust committees can offer additional support, fun-filled events for kids and families, as well as parent education.

Join us! Then play an active role in nourishing what makes Frank Hobbs Elementary a vibrant school community. Inquire about the vacant President role or any desire to participate frankhobbselempac@gmail.com

Check out our bylaws and budget on our [PAC website](#).



**SCHOOL FRUIT
AND VEGETABLE
NUTRITIONAL
P R O G R A M**

We're happy to welcome back the BC School Fruit and Vegetable Nutritional Program! Students get the opportunity to learn about and try local fruits and vegetables throughout the school year. The program can increase students' acceptance of, exposure to and willingness to try new fruits and veggies. **We need 2 parent helpers to wash, sort and deliver produce to classrooms.** Once the schedule is confirmed, dates and times will be posted on the volunteer sign up via the [Hot Lunch website](#). Thanks for your support!

For more information visit: [BC School Fruit & Vegetable Nutritional Program | BC Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation \(bcaitc.ca\)](#).

Questions? Contact Emily Fiddick at emilyfiddick@gmail.com
