



BICS THIS WEEK: October 24-28, 2022

Help prevent the Spread of Communicable Diseases

We have had a lot of students miss school recently due to illness. To limit the spread of colds, the flu, and COVID 19, please keep your child home if they are demonstrating symptoms of illness. Thank you.

[Click here](#) for information about Health Checks including symptoms of illness.
[Click here](#) to access the COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool.

The Week Ahead

Monday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12:20 PM, Junior Choir Rehearsal
Tuesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fruit & Veggie Program, Carrots 7:45 AM, Triple Ball Practice (Grade 7) 12:20 PM, Student Council Meeting 3:30 PM, Triple Ball Game vs. Gleneagles 6-7 PM, PAC Meeting in Room 2; agenda here; babysitting provided
Wednesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:45 AM, Triple Ball Practice (Grade 7) Photo Retake Day
Thursday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:15-2:15 PM, Social Media & Tech Use Student Presentation for Grade 6-7 Students in the BICS Gym with Jesse Miller 5:30-7:00 PM, Social Media and Tech Use Parent Presentation in the BICS Gym
Friday	

Information, Requests, Reminders

Slow Down Slug	Students will be making clay slugs this week with Sara Skuce of The Burrow Art Therapy and Creativity Studio. In making the slugs and the teaching around it, students will be reminded of slowing down and other mindfulness strategies and will come away with a keepsake reminder.
BICS Swag	If you ordered BICS clothing, it's arrived! It will be given to students on Tuesday so if you ordered something as a gift and want it held privately in the office for pickup, please email Sarah Haxby (shaxby@wvschools.ca) by Monday at 3 PM.
Reminder: Parent Education Evening at BICS	The Bowen Island Community School Association and Bowen Literacy Task Group are pleased to offer a free presentation by Jesse Miller on Social Media, Technology and Youth on Thursday, October 27 from 5:30 - 7:00 pm at BICS. Jesse Miller, of Mediated Reality , is a well-known educator in this field. He will provide current information to help parents have open communication with their children about engaging with social media. His presentation will also help adults understand the impact and effect of social media.

	<p>Everyone is welcome to attend. The presentation from 5:30 to 6:30 will be followed by at Q&A from 6:30 to 7:00 pm.</p>
<p>Halloween</p>	<p>Looking ahead to the week of October 31st, we are very excited that we will again be holding an in-person Halloween assembly and singalong feature Music Teacher Cindy Fairbank, our custodian Les Cornell, BICS alumni teacher Liz Watson, and other staff members. The assembly will occur from 11-11:45 AM and families are welcome to join.</p> <p>As students and families start to think about costumes, to ensure the day is fun for everyone, please observe the following dos and don'ts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feel welcome to dress in a costume or not • Continue to avoid costumes that promote cultural stereotypes. If you're looking for information on <i>cultural appropriation vs. cultural appreciation</i>, click here for a CBC video; and for a great list of questions to ask about whether a costume is appropriate or not, click here to see information from UBC's Equity & Inclusion Office. • Avoid masks, beyond, of course, a COVID-19-style mask. • Do not bring <u>any</u> item that resembles a weapon • Wear something comfortable that can be worn all day and can withstand being outside in any weather • Students should be able to put on their costume and take it off to use the bathroom by themselves • Avoid scented items that might irritate others (e.g. some hair colouring products) • Come to school in your costume; students won't be able to visit the washroom for the purpose of costume updates • Students should avoid bringing in Halloween candy as eating high sugar foods, and the idea of eating high-sugar foods, often distracts students from learning. Candy may be held for students and returned at the end of the day but is best avoided to begin with. <p>Thank you!</p>
<p>My Education Family Portal</p>	<p>The MyEducation Family Portal is used by families of public school students in BC to access various files, most commonly report cards and (as applicable) individual education plans.</p> <p>MyEducation BC has developed a new feature that provides BC students and parents with the choice to connect their BC services card to MyEducation BC and use the BC services card app, rather than the district issued username and password.</p> <p>Please see the MyEducation BC Family Portal on the West Vancouver Schools Website and select 'Student Portal Guides' or 'Family Portal Guides' as appropriate for further information.</p>
<p>Learning Highlight – what do school staff do on PD Days?</p> <p>The October 21st PD Day was a Provincial Professional Development Day, where teachers and school staff had an opportunity to choose their own day of learning. Staff participated in learning about numeracy instruction, early literacy, decolonization teaching and learning, integrating technology effectively, land-based learning, physical literacy and adapting physical literacy for diverse needs, and many, many more topics.</p>	

Vaccine safety

Health Canada has a thorough approval process to make sure all the vaccines and medicines we take are safe.

- Vaccines are tested extensively before being approved for use
- Health Canada continues to monitor for vaccine safety
- No major safety concerns have been identified in the data Health Canada reviewed

Review Health Canada guidance on [COVID-19 vaccine safety and side effects](#). To date, 6 vaccines have been approved for use by Health Canada.



[Click on the image above to learn more about Immunizations.](#)

Information from the BICS Parent Advisory Council

PAC Minutes Tuesday, September 27, 2022,

Executive in Attendance:

Courtnei McGillvary (Chair), Angie Vyner (Chair), Tara Forshaw (Secretary), Tammy Brockmeyer (Treasurer)

Scott Slater (Principal), Sarah Haxby, (Community School Coordinator)

Motion to Adopt Agenda Rebecca Ander, Andrea Lundell Collins moved the approval of the agenda, Motion to Approve 6/22/2022 minutes Rebecca, Andrea.

Principal's Report~ Scott Slater

Summarized the first few weeks of school, including opening day and meet the teacher. Explained the process and asked for feedback. Considering an informal Q&A discussion regarding class placement, etc. next year.

What's Happening?

- cross country
- band
- jr. and sr. choir

What's Going to Happen?

- Orange Shirt Day (Sept. 29)
- Whale Day (Oct. 3)
- Cheakamus Outdoor School (Oct. 3-6)

Treasurer's report ~Tammy Brockmeyer

Budget Notes:

No change since June

Gaming grant – should hear by October or November

Community School Coordinator's report ~ Sarah Haxby

Christmas Craft Fair registration is now open

Youth craft fair will be held upstairs (up to 40 participants, will put a call out for parent volunteers)

Cyber safety week talk planned with Jesse Miller

Showed slideshow about BICS Garden Program

DPAC -Presented by Courtnei

Haven't started meetings yet, will be a hybrid of virtual and in person

Reps will be elected via secret ballot at our next meeting

Hot Lunch Report – Courtnei

Need to revamp program, hot lunch meeting to be scheduled

Fundraising

Committee to form and meet; Tara Forshaw will e-mail those interested to schedule.

Meeting Adjourned; next meeting will be October 25 at 6pm.

