



BICS THIS WEEK

WELCOME BACK!

Welcome back to our families and students! We are excited to learn together in the coming months. We hope you enjoy our new e-bulletin format with sections for ways to be involved, parent resources, and reading links. We look forward to your feedback!

If you read one of the suggested books together, invite your child to share one hope, goal, or wish they have for the year ahead. "What is one 'magnificent thing' you want to work on this year, and who can help you along the way? Happy reading!

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Family Literacy Week is Jan 25th - Feb 1st!

We are excited to invite families to take part in a fun-filled week celebrating the joy of reading, writing, and storytelling. More information will be shared, but get ready for engaging activities, special moments to connect through literacy, and opportunities to build meaningful reading routines at home. We look forward to celebrating with you! There will be additional activities in the community, sponsored by the Bowen Island Literacy Task Group.



THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday, January 12th

- Canucks for Kids Floor Hockey

Tuesday, January 13th -

- **TIDAL WAVE TUESDAY** - Wear your BICS Spirit Wear

Wednesday, January 14th

- BICS PAC Meeting, 7:30 PM in the Library

Thursday, January 15th

Friday, January 16th

Upcoming:

January 19th

Hot Lunch Orders due

Div. 2 Mt. Seymour Snowshoeing

January 27th

School Lockdown Drill

January 27th

Grade 6 Vaccination Clinic

January 28th

Div. 3 Field Trip to MOV

January 28th

Community Potluck at the Legion

Sarah Ward Parent Evening at Kay Meek Theatre (see below for more information)



BICS PAC CORNER

Hot Lunch Term 2 2026 : January 23 – March 13

- HOT LUNCH: [ORDER LINK](https://munchalunch.com/login)
(<https://munchalunch.com/login>)
- ORDER DEADLINE: January 19, 2026 11:00PM
 - Lunches will not be available to order after this date. Please be sure to order BEFORE this date.

PAC Meeting: Wednesday, January 14th

BICS PAC is pleased to welcome Assistant Superintendent Ian Kennedy and our Indigenous Education Success Teacher Sylvia King. They will share information about our Indigenous education program throughout the district and at BICS. BICS is proud to work with the greatest number of Indigenous learners in West Vancouver elementary schools. Mr. Kennedy will also share information about district programs that will be of interest as students transition to high school.

SAVE THE DATE!

Intermediate Spring Concert – Wednesday, May 13th 2025 at 6:15pm

Now it's time for Divisions 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 to get ready for their upcoming Spring Concert on May 13th 2025 at 6:15 pm. The Concert Band and Choir will perform along with original songs created and presented by each of our intermediate classes.

Thank you to everyone who was able to come out to the Winter Concert in December. The primary students, along with the Concert Band and Choir, were able to put on an amazing show!

Save the Date! – Intermediate Spring Concert – Wedne

READING SUGGESTIONS

The Most Magnificent Thing by Ashley Spires

What do you do with a Chance by Kobi Yamada

The Invisible String by Patrice Karst

SEAWOLVES SPLASH

Every Tuesday is Tidal Wave Tuesday at BICS! We encourage everyone to show their school spirit by wearing BICS spirit wear or school colours. Our tidal wave represents the energy, strength, and sense of community that we bring to our school each day. The orca, a powerful and intelligent animal found in the waters surrounding Bowen Island, symbolizes connection, teamwork, and belonging. Just as orcas travel in pods, we thrive when we support one another as a school community.

By wearing our spirit wear, we celebrate our island roots, our shared pride, and the strong connections that make BICS such a special place to learn and grow.



PARENT RESOURCES

As we begin the new year, we are asking all students and families to recommit to reducing cell phone use and to the school district's Personal Digital Device expectations. Consistent routines after the break help students re-engage quickly, keep instruction on track, and reduce distractions in shared spaces.

Expectations at a glance:

- Elementary (k-7): Cell phones are not used during the school day, including before and after school and at recess and lunch times. Laptops may be used to support learning during instructional time, only with explicit staff permission.

Family actions that make a difference:

- Minimize adult cell phone use in and around school
- Refrain from sending your child texts or calls during the school day; contact the office for urgent needs only.
- Review the school district's guidelines for personal digital device expectations.
- Help your child understand that when schoolwork requires technology, they need to choose a laptop over a phone, as it helps to reduce distractions and support learning
- For a one-page overview of expectations, [see our Parent & Guardian Infographic](#).

Thank you for working with us to uphold these important expectations.

FRIENDLY REMINDERS

If your child will be away from school, please remember to **call 604-347-9337 and press 2 for our callback line** to report their absence or **send an email to BICS@wvschools.ca**

Thank you for helping us keep our attendance records accurate and our students safe!

VOLUNTEER AND PARENT ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- PAC Volunteers (hot lunch, events)
- Connect with your child's classroom teacher to find out ways to help (reading, hands-on activities, field trips, etc.)
- BICS Garden: We are looking for parents and community members to revitalize our school gardens. Email the school if you are interested.
- Coffee and Conversation with admin and staff: Connect casually Feb. 5th from 8:30-9:30 am in the non-fiction side of the library

DPAC parent evening with Sarah Ward on Executive Functioning

Wednesday, January 28th
\$20 per ticket

Sarah Ward is an internationally recognized expert in executive function. Her practical, research-informed strategies are widely regarded as groundbreaking in supporting student learning and independence.

Drawing from executive function coaching approaches used with elementary, secondary, post-secondary students and adults, this session will help build academic success by exploring time management, task prioritization, long-term project planning and the development of independent learning habits.

REGISTER HERE

KAY MEEK THEATRE
1700 MATHERS AVE
WEST VANCOUVER
6:30 - 8:30 PM



What Parents will Gain From This Evening



Understand

Parents will gain a clear, reassuring understanding of how executive function skills develop over time, why children may struggle with organization and time management, and what is developmentally typical at different ages.



Learn

Parents will learn practical, easy-to-use strategies they can apply at home to strengthen their child's time awareness, organization, study routines and follow-through for academic success.



DPAC



Make mealtime
family learning time

Family Literacy Week
January 25 – February 1, 2024

FAMILY LITERACY WEEK on Bowen Island

Family Literacy Week Take-Home Kits

Presented by the Bowen Island Public Library

Drop by the library from January 25 – 30 to pick up a free kit. Available while supplies last.

Family Snacks & Stories

Presented by the Bowen Island Public Library

Sunday, January 25; 1 PM - 2:30 PM

Try some new snacks and stories & explore the library's cookbook collection.

For children of all ages and their caregivers. Register at: bip.ca/flw.

Winter Storybook Picnic

Presented by Bowen Children's Centre & Bowen Island Family Place

Tuesday, January 27 @ Bowen Island Family Place, 10 am - noon

Bring your picnic blankets and your favourite fuzzy friend for our Winter Storybook Picnic! For children ages 2-5 with their caregivers. To register, email: coordinator@bowenislandfamilyplace.com

Multicultural Potluck Dinner

Presented by BIM Community Recreation in coordination with the Bowen Literacy Task Group

Wednesday, January 28, Royal Canadian Legion, 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Celebrate Family Literacy Week with food, stories, and community! Join us for a multicultural potluck dinner celebrating learning, culture, and connection around the table. This is a free event but registration is required.

Bowen Island Family Week Celebration is an initiative of the [Bowen Island Literacy Task Group](#), whose members include: Bowen Island Public Library, the Hearth, Arts on Bowen, BIM Community Recreation, Bowen Island Museum & Archives, Bowen Island Children's Centre, Bowen Island Community School, and the Bowen Island Health Centre.

For more details on each event, check out: facebook.com/BowenLiteracyTaskGroup



or visit
bip.ca/flw

Decoda
Literacy Solutions

Registration Link:

<https://kaymeek.com/events/dpac-parent-evening-sarah-ward-on-executive-functioning-2026-01-28-630-pm/seats/>

WEST VANCOUVER SCHOOLS ADMISSIONS INFORMATION

K-12 admission applications for both in-district and out-of-district students opens on January 15! If you have students in your family or network who are looking to join our district, please help spread the word about this important date.

West Vancouver Schools offer a wonderful opportunity to be part of a community that values excellence in education. Our schools take pride in creating meaningful learning experiences and providing opportunities that support the growth, well-being, and success of every student.

To learn more about registration expectations and processes, please visit our admissions page:
<https://westvancouverschools.ca/admissions/>

We look forward to welcoming new students and families to our vibrant and supportive school community!