



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear fellow parent/guardian:

Well, I think that was a pretty smooth start to the school year, all things considered. I hope you and your little one(s) have settled in and are finding moments of joy and connection among busy schedules and constant reminders to wash hands.

I'm proud of how we've kept the community spirit alive during the pandemic. We've biked to school. We had a magic show and a Hallowe'en dance off. We welcomed new parents. We've even kept PAC funds flowing by collectively returning refundables! Kudos to everyone who participated in these and other school activities. You're keeping the bonds of community strong and alive.

Before I leave you with some FYIs & requests, let me wish you and your family a cozy, safe, and happy winter season!

- **Get clear:** Check out our new [FAQ section](#) or read [this blog post](#) with nuggets of wisdom from veteran VH parents.
- **Lean in:** Request to [join our Slack channel](#), where we organize PAC activities and events.
- **Reach out:** Contact me or any PAC exec for clarity, support, or ideas: chair@vanhornepac.com
- **Support the kids:** Familiarize yourself with the various fundraising efforts outlined in this newsletter. Some of them are simply small changes to our habits!

—Gregg Sayer, President/Chair, Van Horne PAC

RAISE FUNDS FOR VAN HORNE WHILE YOU SHOP!

Do you buy groceries? Gas for your car? Shop online? You can help raise money for the Van Horne PAC this year by doing nothing to alter your shopping habits! Money raised helps us buy books for our school library and computers for the school lab, and invest in other educational initiatives. Order directly [through the Van Horne PAC](#) before Friday, November 27th. Choose from [146+ retailers in BC](#) and the

EASY WAYS TO FUNDRAISE

Return-It Recycling

We have saved nearly 16,253 containers from the landfill and raised nearly \$1,661! To help, collect unsorted, empty containers into clear plastic bags and...

1. Bring them to any Return-It Express location.
2. Drop them off at a parent hub.
3. Bring them to school on Monday mornings, 8:40-9:00, at the 43rd Street ramp.

Learn more about what happens to recyclables [here](#).

COBS **COBS BREAD**

Mention "Van Horne Elementary" when you shop at COBS on Main Street and 5% of your purchase goes to the PAC.

Mabel's Labels **mabel's labels**

Keep track of your child's belongings! Order Mabel's Labels and the PAC will receive 20% of all sales.

www.vanhornepac.com/mabelslabels

Poinsettias

Help raise \$1,000 for learning resources for all grades: www.sirwmvanhorne.growingsmilesfundraising.com.



card denominations you want. Once you are done, click on "checkout" at the bottom of the page, fill out your contact details, and place your order. Then, send the payment by e-transfer to payments@vanhornepac.com. For the security question, write "The name of our school mascot" and include the answer "wildcat." Put your order ID on the e-transfer. Pick up your cards starting from December 4th.

KID-FRIENDLY GINGERBREAD LOAF RECIPE (THANKS, FRANKIE!)

1½ cups all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon baking soda
½ teaspoon salt
2 teaspoons ground ginger
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
¼ teaspoon ground cloves
4 tablespoons unsalted butter, cut into 1/2-inch chunks
⅔ cup golden brown sugar
⅓ cup mild-flavored molasses (not blackstrap)
⅓ cup boiling water
1 large egg

1. Preheat the oven to 350°F. Grease a 9-in square pan. Add a few tablespoons of flour to the pan; shake and turn the pan, allowing the flour to coat the bottom and sides.

2. In a medium bowl, whisk/shive together flour, baking soda, salt, ginger, cinnamon, and cloves. Set aside.

3. In a large bowl, combine butter and boiling water. Whisk until butter is melted. Add dark brown sugar and molasses. When the mixture is lukewarm, whisk in the egg.

4. Add dry ingredients into wet ingredients and whisk until smooth. Pour batter into the prepared pan and bake for about 35 minutes; until a toothpick inserted into the middle of the loaf comes out clean or until the edges look dark and the middle feels firm to the touch.

—Adapted from a recipe by Jennifer Segal (*Once Upon a Chef*)

NEXT PAC MEETING

When: Tuesday, Nov. 24th @ 6:30pm - 7:30pm via Zoom

Where: Zoom instructions will be sent via email

KEY DATES

Nov. 27th: Pro-D Day (no school)

Dec 4th: Gift card pick up

Dec 10th: Poinsettia pickup

Dec. 18th: Last day of classes before winter break

VOLUNTEER

Join our volunteer pool:
www.vanhornepac.com/volunteer

SCARECROW PROJECT

As part of this recycling project, during the first week of November, we saved three big blue bags of flexible plastic from the landfill. Families can continue to collect crinkly plastic, zip lock bags, and candy and chip wrappers, and return them to any London Drugs or Recycling Depot. To learn more what can be collected and how it is recycled, visit:
<https://recyclebc.ca/flexiblepackaging/>