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MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Liebe Eltern, dear parents,

I hope that 2019 is off to a good start with all of you.

We have entered the second half of the year, and my teaching team is thinking about how best to lead the students through the exam period (B1, A2, A1) and for other classes, it is reaching the objectives of their year's curriculum.

Thanks to all the parents for using the cafeteria as a "hang out" place while you wait for Junior classes to finish. It does send a message to our host

school that we are trying to make their custodian staff's work easier.

On January 29th and January 30th (February 19th for DaZ Junior 3 and February 20th for DaZ Senior 2) you can meet your child's teacher for a parent-teacher meeting, which is going to be held in lieu of mid term reports. There will be no regular classes held on the specific date of each classes' parent-teacher meeting.

Looking forward to focusing on mostly learning in the next few weeks.

As always, should you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me at info@vwgs.org

Lidija Bakovic
Schulleiterin/Principal

UPCOMING EVENTS AT OUR SCHOOL

- **Parent-teacher meetings**

When

January 29th/30th or February 19th/20th depending on the class (see dates below).

Junior classes:

Tuesday, January 29th, 4:15 pm to 6:15 pm:

Regular class: DaZ Junior 3

Parent-teacher meetings for: DaF Junior, DaF Junior 1, DaF Junior 2, DaF Junior 3, DaZ Junior, DaZ Junior 1, DaZ Junior 2, DaZ Junior 4. There will be no regular classes for these classes.

February 19th 4:15 pm to 6:15 pm:

Parent-teacher meeting for DaZ Junior 3

Senior classes:

Wednesday, January 30th, 4:30 pm to 6:45 pm:

Regular classes: DaZ Senior 4, DaZ Senior 2 and DSD 2_2020 prep class

Parent-teacher meetings for: A1_A2_Conversation Class, DaZ Senior 1, DaZ Senior 3, DaZ Senior 5. There will be no regular classes for these classes.

Wednesday, February 20th, 4:30 pm to 6:45 pm:

Parent-teacher meeting for DaZ Senior 2

Please note: You will not receive a written evaluation. Written evaluations will only be issued for students whose progress is not on track for the next year's level, and only if none of their parents can make it to the parent-teacher meeting. These written evaluations will provide suggestions on how to best support your child's learning progress.

When there are parent-teacher meeting happening, there will be no regular class.

We would kindly ask you to wait in the cafeteria for your appointment with the teachers, and not in the hallways. Please do not bring the students to school as we do not have capacity to offer supervision. Students having regular class should come to school :).

- **Krapfen sale for our Faschingsfeier / Carnival**

On February 26th the Vancouver Westside German School will celebrate Karneval with our **junior students** again. We are happy to announce that the traditional "Berliner/Krapfen..." are available for pre-order **here**.

Please note, that all (Junior and Senior) students, teachers and support staff will be receiving a complimentary Berliner on Feb 26th or Feb 27th. Please order only if you would like to have extra Berliner. All additional Berliner must be ordered online by 12 pm on Friday, February 22nd, 2019.

All items must be picked up on Tuesday, February 26th or Wednesday, February 27th between 5:00-6:30 pm in the cafeteria of Prince of Wales Secondary School.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- **Christmas Market Performance Junior Classes**

Parents, family, friends, and the team of VWGS enjoyed the performances of our students at the Vancouver Christmas Market in December 2018. Thanks to everyone for coming by and celebrating this tradition with us.



- **Meet our teachers**

Jana Hagspiel

My name is Jana Maria Hagspiel. I grew up in Vorarlberg, a small province in beautiful Austria, right at the borders to Switzerland and Germany.

I am a certified Primary School Teacher and graduated from the University College of Teacher Education in Vienna in 2016. I worked in various primary schools in Vienna, where I taught children aged 6 – 10 years.

Besides working with kids, a big hobby of mine is acting. While I was working at the Bregenz Festivals, one of the most famous cultural events in Central Europe, I participated in several plays and operas and attended several courses on public speaking, pronunciation and presentation skills. This was also the main topic of my bachelor thesis. Other hobbies of mine are singing, dancing, music and enjoying a good cup of coffee with friends.

I moved to Canada together with my partner at the beginning of 2017 and since April 2017 I have been working at the Vancouver Westside German School, where I teach on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.



Andrea Freytag

My name is Andrea Freytag and I grew up in Spielberg, Austria and my passion was always to work with children. I have one son (6 years old) who goes to VWGS. I hold a master's degree in Education and a certificate for being an elementary school teacher from the university in Vienna. After moving to Vancouver in 2008, I worked at VWGS for 4 years and as an Educational Assistant/Special Educational Assistant at a private school. During my time off I did two online courses at the ILS institute on counselling in nutrition for babies, kids and teenagers as well as Educational Counselling. At the moment I work for the Vancouver School Board part time and enjoy spending time with my son playing soccer, tennis and board games.



- **Exchange student from Germany looking for host family**

Interested in hosting an exchange student from Germany for a year? A 15-year old girl from Berlin will be spending the 2019/20 school year in Vancouver and is looking for a host family. The expenses of her stay will be covered by her family. If interested, please send an e-mail to info@vwgs.org to receive further details.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

For detailed information, please visit our **School Calendar**. This is a great opportunity to see and check what's going on at VWGS.

- **January 29th, 2019:** Parent-Teacher meetings Junior classes (except DaZ Junior3)
- **January 30th, 2019:** Parent-Teacher meetings Senior classes (except DaZ Senior 2, DaZ Senior 4, DSD 2)
- **February 19th, 2019:** Parent-Teacher meeting DaZ Junior 3
- **February 20th, 2019:** Parent-Teacher meeting DaZ Senior 2
- **February 26th, 2019:** Faschingsfeier/Carnival (Junior Classes)

COMMUNITY EVENTS

- **Vortrag: Deutschland und Russland - Eine Kulturgeschichte, Dr. Florian Gassner, CENES UBC**

Dr. Florian Gassner will give a lecture about the topic "Germany and Russia - A cultural history" at the bi-weekly Outreach program of the German-Canadian Care Home. The program starts at 2:30 pm. Coffee and cake are served before the program at 2:00 pm.

When

Saturday, February 9, 2019 at 2:30 pm

Where

German-Canadian Care Home, 2010 Harrison Drive, Vancouver, BC, V5P 2P6

- **Vancouver Alpenclub presents: A Valentine's dance**

Join the Vancouver Alpen Club for their **Valentine's Dance Party**. They celebrate love with a night of dancing, amazing food, drinks and a lot of fun. Don't miss their famous band 'Peter Juric & The Continentals' well known from their annual Oktoberfest.

When

Saturday, February 9 at 8:00 pm

Doors open at 7:00 pm

Where

Vancouver Alpen Club (Ballroom), 4875 Victoria Dr, Vancouver, BC, V5N 4P3

Tickets

Tickets are available at the door (\$20) or **online** (\$15 plus applicable fees).

- **Friday dance at the Vancouver Alpenclub**

Friday Dances at the Vancouver Alpen Club stands for live music and dancing the night away with a great variety of International and Latin dancing, including waltz, foxtrot, swing, tango, cha-cha, rumba, samba, mambo, salsa and more. The music is provided by the Euro Band.

When

Friday, February 15 at 7:30 pm

Where

Vancouver Alpen Club (Jägerstube), 4875 Victoria Dr, Vancouver, BC, V5N 4P3
Guests \$15

Members \$10

KEEP UP THE GERMAN

Here is a selection of useful links:

BBC German - German classes and courses.

DeutschAkademie - German grammar trainer.

Lingudora - Discover, practise, test the German language.

DeutscheAussprache - Exercises for correct pronunciation.

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