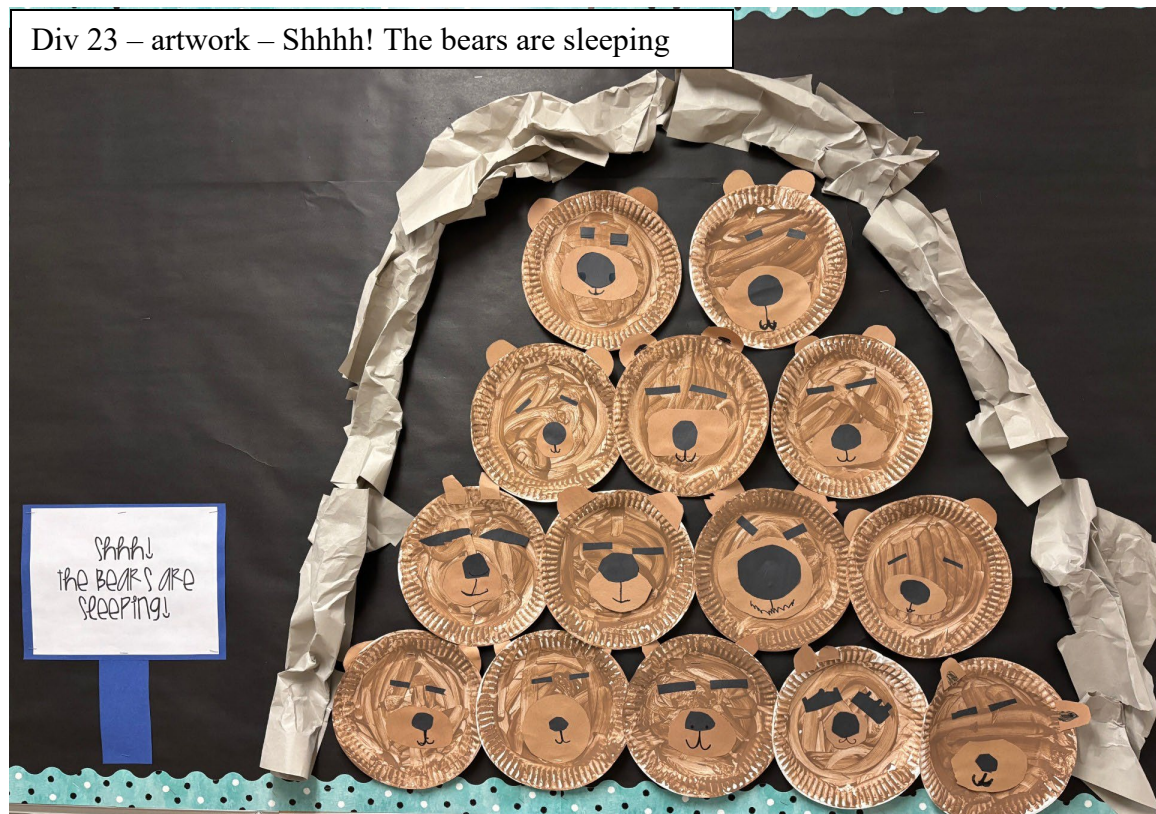


Friday, January 16, 2026

## January 16, 2026 - Weekly Update

This is the time of year when many of us might feel a little like bears, tempted to curl up somewhere cozy and wait for spring. And yet, Term 2 is one of the most exciting times in our school. There is so much learning happening in every classroom, as students build confidence, deepen their thinking, and try new things. With new clubs underway and lots of curiosity in the air, this is a particularly important time to be at school each day. We are so happy to spend our days with all our students!



### Looking Ahead

Jan 19 – 23 – Carnaval Week (more information below)

- Wednesday – Wear beards and plaid day!
- Friday – Ice castle building day!

Jan 26 – Professional Development Day – No school for students

Jan 28 – Lockdown Drill

Friday, January 16, 2026

## Information Items

### Rugby

Hello families of Grade 3/4/5 students!

Rugby season is upon us once again. We are lucky to have UVIC Vikes player Caelyn back coaching our team this year and are in need of players! Your child is welcome to join if they play club rugby or if they have no experience at all. Practices will be Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2:45-3:45PM starting January 27. A permission form and proper gear is required, so please contact Mme Melissa at [msharratt@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:msharratt@sd61.bc.ca) for a form or with any questions.

### Carnaval Week

To get ready for next Friday's Carnaval ice castle building event, we recommend starting to freeze blocks of ice this weekend. More details can be found in the poster below!

#### **Carnaval week at Macaulay!**



Bonhomme Carnaval was first given the Key to the City on February 1, 1955 by then mayor of Quebec City Wilfrid Hamel, symbolically affirming his role as King of the festivities. Bonhomme is still given the Key on each Carnaval opening night. A King needs a palace... and what better castle for a 7 foot, 400 pound (of compacted snow) snowman, than a castle made of ice! Each year le Palais de Glace de Bonhomme (Bonhomme's Ice Palace) is built.

On **Wednesday, Jan 21st**

We are inviting everyone to wear plaid and participate in a beard challenge!

\*beards can be made with household items, craft supplies or make up.

On **Friday, Jan 23rd,**

Macaulay students will build our Palais de Glace for Bonhomme!



Students are invited to bring AT LEAST one ice block (and as many as they want) to school in the morning and leave it in their line-up spot. We will work together, each adding our blocks, to create a mini version of Bonhomme's Ice Palace!

- Students can make their ice blocks in any shape and in any size.
- Freeze water in a bowl, a Tupperware (or similar) container, in a balloon, etc.
- Please do **NOT use food coloring** (as it stains clothes and hands)
- Please remove **the blocks from containers**, store them in a bag to carry
- The blocks will be left outside in their morning pick up lines until building time.

If you have any questions, please contact ehenry-- [ehenry@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:ehenry@sd61.bc.ca)



Friday, January 16, 2026

### Kindergarten Registration

French Immersion registration is now closed. Families should receive an email by the end of the day on Wednesday to confirm their spot. For those on the waitlist, parents will need to re-register their child in the English stream during the week of January 26-30. More information will be shared in next week's update.

### PAC fundraiser




**West Coast Seeds**

## Seed Sale Fundraiser

**in support of École Macaulay Elementary  
PAC Initiatives**

**JANUARY 10 – 26**

- 
- To order, click on this [LINK](#) 
  - Scroll down and click the green banner at the bottom of the page that says "Click here to shop benefiting École Macaulay Elementary PAC" to begin shopping.
  - On the checkout page, please be sure to add the name of your student and their teacher before making your purchase.
  - Your order will ship to the Macaulay School PAC and seeds will be sent home with students. If you would like to make alternative arrangements, please email: [macaulaypac@gmail.com](mailto:macaulaypac@gmail.com)

Thank you for supporting our students!



**40% of the revenue from each seed packet sold will be donated to the Macaulay School Pac**

Friday, January 16, 2026

### Victoria Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils

Join VCPAC for an inspiring evening dedicated to building stronger literacy foundations in our community. Hear from educators, connect with local families, and discover practical ways to support your child's learning journey. Featured speakers include: Dr. Shelby Pollitt, Literacy Coordinator in SD62; David Hovis, Director of Instruction, Learning & Inclusion in SD61; and Breanna Glover, District Literacy Teacher in SD61.

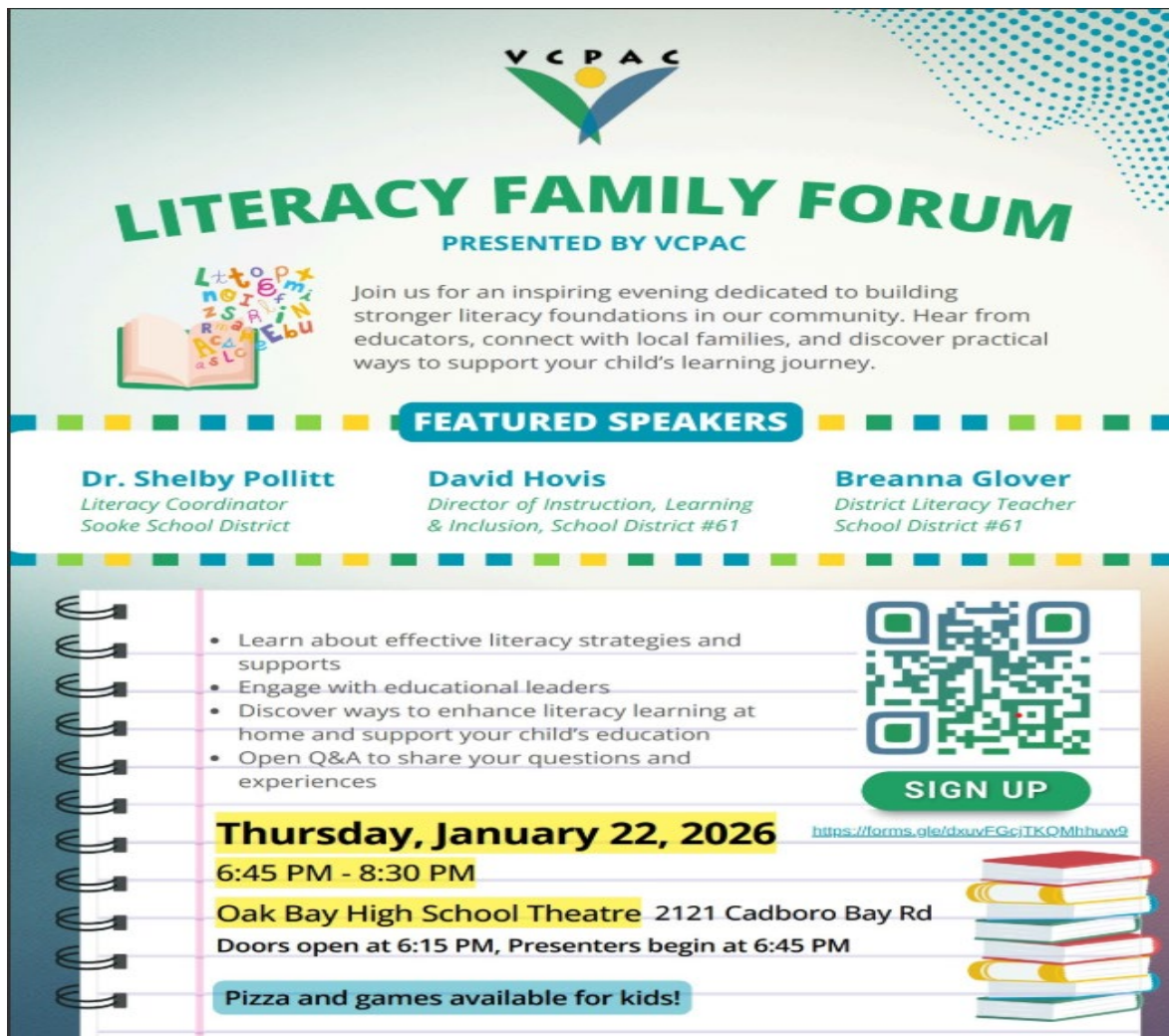
Thursday, January 22, 2026

6:45 pm - 8:30 pm (doors open at 6:15)

Oak Bay High School Theatre

Childminding, pizza and games will be provided for the kids

[Register here](#)



The poster for the Literacy Family Forum features a light blue background with a pattern of small blue dots in the top right corner. At the top center is the VCPAC logo, which consists of a stylized green and blue bird-like shape with a yellow sun in the center. Below the logo, the title "LITERACY FAMILY FORUM" is written in large, bold, green capital letters. Underneath the title, it says "PRESENTED BY VCPAC" in smaller blue capital letters. To the left of the main text is an illustration of an open book with colorful letters floating around it. To the right, there is a paragraph of text inviting families to join for an inspiring evening. Below this, a section titled "FEATURED SPEAKERS" in white text on a blue background lists three speakers: Dr. Shelby Pollitt (Literacy Coordinator, Sooke School District), David Hovis (Director of Instruction, Learning & Inclusion, School District #61), and Breanna Glover (District Literacy Teacher, School District #61). The bottom section of the poster is designed to look like a spiral notebook with a blue binding on the left. It contains a bulleted list of topics to be discussed, a QR code for registration, a "SIGN UP" button, the date and time of the event, the location, and a note about pizza and games for kids. A stack of colorful books is illustrated on the right side of the bottom section.

**VCPAC**

# LITERACY FAMILY FORUM

PRESENTED BY VCPAC

Join us for an inspiring evening dedicated to building stronger literacy foundations in our community. Hear from educators, connect with local families, and discover practical ways to support your child's learning journey.

## FEATURED SPEAKERS

<b>Dr. Shelby Pollitt</b> <i>Literacy Coordinator Sooke School District</i>	<b>David Hovis</b> <i>Director of Instruction, Learning &amp; Inclusion, School District #61</i>	<b>Breanna Glover</b> <i>District Literacy Teacher School District #61</i>
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- Learn about effective literacy strategies and supports
- Engage with educational leaders
- Discover ways to enhance literacy learning at home and support your child's education
- Open Q&A to share your questions and experiences

**Thursday, January 22, 2026**

**6:45 PM - 8:30 PM**

**Oak Bay High School Theatre** 2121 Cadboro Bay Rd  
Doors open at 6:15 PM, Presenters begin at 6:45 PM

**Pizza and games available for kids!**

**SIGN UP**

<https://forms.gle/dxuvFGcjTKQMhhuy2>