

This month at the  
**Victoria German School**

*Ways to support your child's German language development...*

- ✓ Support them as they complete their weekly homework assignments
- ✓ Speak German at home as much as possible
- ✓ Borrow books, DVDs, or videos from the VGS library and share them with your child

			<b><u>Annual General Meeting followed by regular Board Meeting</u></b>
<b><u>Laternenfest</u></b>	<b><u>St. Martinstag</u></b>	<b><u>Purdy's Deadline</u></b>	
<b>Sat. 6<sup>th</sup> Nov.</b> 12:00-12:30pm UVic	<b>Thurs. 11<sup>th</sup> Nov.</b> 5:00-7:30pm St. Barnabas Church	<b>Sat. 13<sup>th</sup> Nov.</b> 12:30pm UVic	<b>Sat. 27<sup>th</sup> Nov.</b> 9:45-11:45am UVic: Board Room

A warm welcome to our newest Grundstufe II teacher, **Andrea Widegreen**.

Andrea just arrived from Germany where she worked as a teacher of German as a second language. She holds a Masters Degree in German and Scandinavian languages from the Albert-Ludwigs-University in Freiburg, Germany. We are very happy to have her as part of our excellent team of teachers!

**We are excited to announce that we will be offering an Adult German Conversational class starting January 2011.** This class is perfect for those who are interested in practicing spoken German, and it is a great complement to our Beginner and Advanced Adult classes. Furthermore it can help you speak more German at home with your child! The next session starts January 8th and runs for 10 weeks. Please contact us at [info@victoriagermanschool.org](mailto:info@victoriagermanschool.org) to sign up.

### **Fundraising Bottle Drive Success!**

Many thanks to all VGS families who contributed items for the bottle drive. We raised \$117! A special thank you to Jason Poilievre for the use of his truck, as well as our crew of fathers who volunteered to help sort all the bottles!

### **Purdy's Chocolates in time for Christmas!**

Order your favourite chocolates through this fundraiser, and Purdy's will give back 25% of the total order cost to our school!

Catalogues were distributed to all families last Saturday. *All orders must be received by Saturday November 13<sup>th</sup>*, and the chocolates will be delivered to the school on Saturday December 4<sup>th</sup> for pick-up.

There are three ways to order:

**Catalogue:** Mark the items you would like to purchase, and return the order form (with your name on it!) to the school with cash or cheque covering the total cost plus GST.

**Online:** order directly from the Purdy's website at [www.purdysgpp.com](http://www.purdysgpp.com). Click on 'Sign up as a group member' and enter the VGS group number: 8237

**Email:** Send your order requests to [sanni1@telus.net](mailto:sanni1@telus.net) (please note that your order cannot be processed until we receive payment). Please make *cheques payable to Susanne Rosebrock*.

### **Help Wanted...**

\*Hallway Monitors needed! Hallway monitors help out on Saturdays from 9:30-12:30, to ensure the safety of our children, act as the point of contact for inquiries, and help with library sign-outs, etc. If you are interested in volunteering as a hallway monitor, please contact Ulrich Mueller at [umueller@uvic.ca](mailto:umueller@uvic.ca).

\*Are you able to offer a bit of your time and expertise to the school? We are currently seeking volunteers to construct a very simple set for the Weihnachtsfest play, as well as somebody to help with website input. Please contact us at [info@victoriagermanschool.org](mailto:info@victoriagermanschool.org) for further details.

## Lending Library: New and Improved!

We are pleased to announce our improved lending library! The school is proud to offer a collection of almost 500 items, including books, videos, DVDs, and audio recordings that are available for at-home use. Exposure to the German language outside of the classroom is an integral part of language development, and we hope that families will take advantage of the great resources available in our library.

The collection has been organized into three groups: Green for our youngest students, Blue for Grundstufe II, and Red for teens and adults. As each student has individual needs, there may be some cross-over between the groups, which have been created merely as a suggestion. Each class has a booklet with a sign-out sheet for each student; we ask that parents record the materials they borrow on their child's sign-out sheet. We are currently in the process of converting our videos to DVD, and we thank you for your patience with this ongoing project. We will also be adding a donation jar; feel free to lighten your pockets of any loose change – everything is appreciated!

Special thanks to Erika Goetz-Lad for her initiative with library improvements, and to Peter Golz for his help with video conversion!

## Laternenfest: Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> November, 12:00-12:30pm

Please join children and teachers, as we take to the halls of the school in our annual Laternenlauf! The children have been working hard to create their special lanterns for this traditional German celebration, and will have a chance to show them off at the Lantern Festival. We will gather on the second floor of the UVic Clearihue Building (next to the Spielgruppe classrooms) at 12:00 noon, and go on a parade with lanterns and festive songs. Everyone is welcome – siblings, parents, grandparents! Please note, as this is a large group activity, we ask that parents be responsible for any extra children that they bring.

Don't let the rain stop you – this will be an indoor walk!

## St. Martinstag: Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> November, 5:00-7:30pm



“Discover a wonderful German tradition: the lantern parade in honour of St. Martin. Lanterns can be lit and traditional German songs are sung by children and adults. Please join us for this heartwarming event with your children, family and friends on Thursday, November 11th, 2010 at the St. Barnabas Church (Begbie und Belmont) at 5:00 pm.

A short performance about St. Martin will be followed by the lantern walk and a warm-up in the church or at the fire outside until 7:30 pm, which includes hot apple juice (\$1.50) and freshly-baked pretzels (\$1.50). Since St. Martin teaches us to share, we ask for warm, dark men's socks which “Our

Place” will hand out to the homeless of our city. Please bring a lantern, rain wear, a cup and a sock donation.” — ‘Friends of St. Martin’ & the St. Barnabas Church

For more information about St. Martin, please visit

<http://www.communigate.co.uk/wilts/stmartinslanternwalk/page4.phtml>

**Weihnachtsfest**

Sat. 11<sup>th</sup> Dec.

**Christmas Holiday**

12<sup>th</sup> Dec. – 4<sup>th</sup> Jan.

**First day of classes**

Wed. 5<sup>th</sup> Jan/Sat. 8<sup>th</sup> Jan