

**Director's Message**

Once again it seems that 10 months have passed very quickly!

To all our graduates – from A1 all the way to DSD 2 – I would like to express my congratulations on your achievements.

As you all know, this will be my farewell newsletter as I'll be leaving Victoria in summer. Therefore, I'd like to take the opportunity to thank you all for your support and your active engagement in school affairs during the past two years of my tenure. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with and getting to know each and every one of you and feel fortunate to have been part of such a welcoming German community here in Victoria.

A huge thanks also to the members of the school board who supported me at all times and volunteered their time to keep VGS on track - and, last but not least, a big thank you to our enthusiastic teachers and their commitment to our community.

I hope that learning will continue throughout the holiday and that you will encourage your child to read in German, watch German movies - or maybe you are even planning a holiday in a German speaking country!

On behalf of the staff and the board, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a wonderful summer.

Early Bird Registration

Families who would like to profit from our early bird offer need to register their children before June 10th. This will save you the \$50 registration fee! See info on the next page

**Book Return!**

Please return all books before June 9th. This does not apply to the books you've paid for (work books and course books), but to all novels that were read in class. Failure of returning these books may result in not receiving your report card!

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Last Day of School & Abschlussfeier!

June 9th is the last day of school and also the day of our *Abschlussfeier*. We will start at 9.30am as usual in the A-wing of the Clearihue building. There will be "Kaffee & Kuchen" and you can also buy pretzels and "Bauernbrot".

For the first hour, the children will present their exhibition topics followed by some crafts where everyone can join in. Subsequently, the morning will conclude with the year end ceremony in the auditorium of the David Turpin Building. Report cards will be issued during the ceremony. Parents are asked to stay with their children for the entire time!

School Days will remain the same

Tuesdays and Saturdays will remain the instructional days for German classes for the next academic year. The envisioned change to Saturday-only classes is no longer pursued, as too many parents have expressed their concerns about not being able to join us on Saturdays.

Early Bird Registration & Tuition Information

VGS has been able to keep tuition the same for many years. Unfortunately, the tuition for the academic year 2018-19 will be raised slightly. We know that for many families, this tuition increase is not welcome news. But it is vital for VGS in order to provide quality of teaching. We will use the new funds to support teacher training and workshops for teachers. VGS, will of course, remain a non-for-profit school.

At the same time we will be introducing a flat fee for material for all classes which will eliminate all book fees. This will bring savings for some (unfortunately not for all) classes.

The new fee structure is as follows:

Registration fee: \$50 (non-refundable)

Material fee: \$30

Course fee: \$595 (for DSD classes \$620)

Sibling Discount: 15% on course fee

Early birds will receive a \$50 discount! In order to qualify for the early bird bonus, you'll need to register your child and make a non-refundable payment of \$50 by June 10th.

Registration is now online through our website:

<https://www.victoriagermanschool.org/online-registration-childrens-classes/>

After filling out the form, don't forget to pay your \$50 non-refundable fee in order to complete the early bird registration process. Payments can only be accepted via e-transfer or by cheque.

Meet the new director:



Deborah Weber grew up near St. Gallen, Switzerland, and has been interested in language learning her whole life. She lived and taught German in Spain for a year, and pursued an undergraduate degree in the French-speaking part of Switzerland. Deborah first came to Canada as a university student, and fell in love with the west coast and a bright, funny Victorian named Nick. They moved to Montreal together where Deborah worked as a teacher at the

Montreal German School and completed her MA in Second Language Education. Seven years ago they moved back to the west coast. Deborah finished her teacher education at UBC and started working as a French Immersion teacher for the Vancouver School Board. A few months ago, Deborah, Nick and their two-year old daughter Rohanna moved to the Island, ready for a new adventure. Deborah is very excited to once again have a chance to contribute to German-language education in Canada and is looking forward to being part of the German-speaking community in Victoria.

Save the Date!

Tuesday, 22 May

Last day of Tuesday classes

Friday, 01 June

Stammtisch - most likely at the Bent Mast

Saturday, 9 June 9:30 am -12:30 pm

Abschlussfeier at VGS

Please come and have a look at our students' work during the morning exhibition and afterwards join them for the final assembly in the auditorium of the David Turpin building

Saturday, 10 June @ 20:00 pm

Deadline for early bird registration

Saturday, 8 September @ 9:30 am

Tuesday, 11 September @ 3:45 pm

First day of the new school year 2018-19

For up-to-date information, please refer to our calendar:

<http://www.victoriagermanschool.org/calendar/>

Osterfest Impressions

