



**Victoria
German
School**



Victoria German School

Newsletter

October 2018



Director's Message

Deborah Weber

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Dear parents, students and friends of the Victoria German School,

The new school year is well under way and I have had the pleasure of meeting many of you in the past two months. I hope to get to know the rest of you in the days and weeks to come!

I am happy to report that our student numbers have been stable in the last two years. Currently, 112 students are enrolled in our classes (109 last year), of whom 79 are children (61 last year) and 33 adults (48 last year). We continue to offer a wide variety of classes, from pre-school and elementary classes to diploma courses for teenagers and adult classes at three different levels. It is very encouraging that our pre-school class has doubled in size compared to last year. It shows families' continued interest and commitment to our school, for which we are very grateful. Our goal is to continue growing, and we are working on a number of strategies to reach more students and families. We rely on your recommendations, so please continue to spread the word about our great classes!

Student Numbers 2018

- **79 children**
- **33 adults**
- **112 students total**

Another goal this year is to continue improving the quality of our services. As a school, we want to invest more in teacher education and training. We believe that supporting our teachers in their professional development will make a significant difference for our students and our school as a whole. In this spirit, the school arranged for our teachers to attend German language teaching workshops in Vancouver this October. Our teachers were able to connect with other German teachers from around the province and took home some great new ideas to incorporate into their teaching practice. The school will continue to set up professional development opportunities for our teachers throughout the year.

In a further effort to give our teachers opportunities to grow, some of our experienced teachers have taken on a mentorship role this year, as we welcomed our new teachers, Daniela Keller (GS2 Immersion) and Tanja Dietrich (A1 Deutsch & A1 Immersion). Both Daniela and Tanja are originally from Germany, and both are experienced educators. Daniela is an early childhood educator and figure skating coach and Tanja is a trained science teacher. Both Daniela and Tanja have done an amazing job in the past two months and we are very happy to welcome them to our school!

Apart from language classes, our school continues to play an important role in the community, offering many opportunities to socialize and celebrate cultural events together. As we do every year, we will be celebrating St. Martin's Day in November: taking part in a lantern walk and enjoying Bretzel and hot cider together. Some of our younger students have already started to work on their lanterns and we are very much looking forward to seeing the results soon!

St. Martin's Day is coming up! Check out events section for more info.

In closing, I would like to thank you all for the warm welcome I have received as the new director of the Victoria German School this fall. It has been an incredibly busy, but also stimulating and inspiring two months. Thank you for your patience and for your commitment to our school. I am very grateful to be part of and to contribute to this wonderful community.

Vielen Dank und auf ein gutes Schuljahr! - Deborah

Meet our New Teachers and Volunteers!



Daniela Keller, Teacher
GS2 Immersion



Tanja Dietrich, Teacher
A1 Deutsch & A1
Immersion



Jessica Post, Volunteer
A1 Immersion



Lisa Manzeneder, Volunteer
Spielgruppe Deutsch



Lena Seitz, Volunteer
A2 Deutsch

Events & Dates

Nov. 11th 2017 @ 4:30 pm St. Martinstag (Lanternwalk)

St Barnabas Church
1525 Begbie St, Victoria, BC

Martin's Play, Lanternwalk,
hot apple cider and fresh
pretzels in the hall or around
a fire outside! (cash only)
In the spirit of St. Martin we
ask for a donation of dark
socks for Our Place, socks
will also be for sale at the
event Please bring a lantern,
rain wear and arrive early –
limited parking!



Saturday, Dec. 15, 2018 @ 10:00 am Weihnachtsfest (Christmas party)

As every year, there will be a Christmas Party this year.
There will be students' performances, music, delicious
food, and a visit from the Weihnachtsmann. Location TBA
soon!



What Else You Can Do to Support Our school: Volunteer & Fundraise!

We need a new treasurer! Please volunteer an hour a week of your time!



We have a very engaged board and an excellent school administrator who will support you in this position. Please contact Deborah (info@victoriagermanschool.org) if you are interested.

Responsabilites include:

- Bank account maintenance: Depositing tuition/other revenue, monitoring the bank accounts, and signing checks.
- Expense management: Verifying expenses and paying bills in a timely fashion.
- Financial transaction oversight: Remaining knowledgeable about who has access to the organization's funds, and any outstanding bills or debts owed, as well as developing systems for keeping cash flow manageable.
- Works cooperatively with the School Administrator and Director as needed to monitor actuals and prepare financial documents for the board of directors.
- Budgets: Working with the Director and School Administrator to develop the annual budget for approval by the board, and comparing actual revenues and expenses incurred against the budget.
- Reports: Keeping the board regularly informed of key financial events, trends, concerns, and assessment of fiscal health in addition to completing required CRA financial reporting a timely fashion after the completion of the fiscal year.

Participates in board meetings, acts as a VGS signing officer, and also as backup payroll administrator as required.

Thrifty's Smile Card Fundraiser

The Victoria German School is approved for Thrifty's Smile Card Fundraising

How you can participate:

- Get a registered Smile Card from Debbie on Tuesday or Saturday at the desk
- Load money on the card and use it for grocery shopping at Thrifty's
- Thrifty's will donate 5% of every dollar spent to VGS
- No cost to you and will not affect your air miles!

We can raise up to \$1200 within the scope of the program and this will enable us to provide professional development for our teachers.



Student Work & Fall Impressions



Grün
So grün wie ein Frosch - froschgrün
So grün wie Gras - grasgrün
Gelb
So gelb wie die Sonne - sonnengelb
So gelb wie eine Zitrone - zitronengelb
Rot
So rot wie Feuer - feuerrot
So rot wie eine Kirsche - kirschenrot
- Sophia Schlag, A2



Ich lag auf einer moosgrünen Wiese. Als ich meine Augen schloss, tippte mir ein feuerrotes Teufelchen auf die Schulter und lachte wie verrückt. Dann sagte er ich soll mitkommen zu seiner nachtschwarzen Höhle. Es war stockdunkel und eiskalt. In der Ecke stand ein silbergrauer Käfig mit einem froschgrünen Vogel. Ich wollte ihn haben aber der feuerrote Teufel wollte ihn mir nicht geben. Ich war so wütend, dass mein Kopf tomatenrot geworden ist und ich aus der Höhle gerannt bin. Das Ende.
-Daniel Simbeck, A2