



Director's Message
Ralf Gabriel

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

Spring is here! We are leaving behind the cold winter days and the children have started to explore the outdoor spaces at UVIC. The Saturday students returned from spring break to our annual Easter egg hunt – you can find some pictures in the photo gallery – while the older ones returned to their academic classes on Tuesdays.

Talking about academics: We can report that our DSD1 and DSD2 students have finished their written and their oral exams. While the DSD 1 students are still anxiously waiting for the results (which we should receive in May), we congratulate Daniel Simbeck and Emil Pahnke, our only two DSD2 candidates this term, on successfully passing their exams!

For the next school year there will be a change in the leadership of the school: While Debbie Sherwood will stay on as school administrator, and I will stay on as the school's director, we are anticipating a change in the school board, as our school president, Werner Simbeck, is going to retire from his position after 10 years of service. You will find more about Werner on the next page. Werner will remain President until the next AGM in October 2024, when we will elect a successor. If you have an interest in running for this position, or would like to nominate a candidate, please get in touch with me. Every future president should be affiliated closely to VGS, i.e. having a child in the school.

If you would like to contribute in any other way to our school, we would love to hear from you: Do you have any fun talents or skills you would like to share with us? Contact us! Also please feel free to contact us at any time if you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions. We are always happy to talk to you!

I would like to thank all of you for your continued support – Ich wünsche uns allen einen schönen Frühling und einen fantastischen Sommer!

Ralf

Save the Date!

May 21, 2024: Last Tuesday Class of the school year!

As every year, Tuesday classes finish earlier than Saturday classes, as they are not affected by long weekend cancellations!

June 15, 2024: Last Saturday Class of the school year and end of year party!

On June 15th, your children will receive their VGS report cards and after that ceremony we will have the annual end of year picnic for students, teachers, and parents on the grounds of UVIC. More detailed information will be provided in an email closer to the date.

The **school calendar** for the upcoming school year 2024/25 is not set yet. We will inform you about the first day of school per email. You can also check the calendar on our website. It will be updated as soon as we have discussed the new academic year.

Also, keep an eye on your mailbox for news about the **early bird bonus**, if you are planning to reregister your child at VGS!

THANK YOU to the outgoing VGS president – Farewell words from Werner Simbeck



I have been fortunate to be the president at VGS for 10 years now. Wow, time sure has flown by. It has been lots of fun help steer VGS with the help of so many other dedicated board members, volunteers, parents, teacher and staff members and in particular with my supportive and super hard working wife Sonja.

Now that our son has completed successfully his DSD2 class, it is time to say good bye, that is I will be stepping down as president come September. I hope that VGS will continue to educate for years to come many more German speaking kids, so that they may continue our language and culture and hopefully be able to pass it down to their children.

*Best wishes / Viele Grüße
Werner*

Photo Gallery Easter 2024!

