



Langley Fundamental Elementary School

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Langley Fundamental Elementary website: <http://www.sd35.bc.ca/schools/lfe/default.aspx>

School District #35 (Langley) website: www.sd35.bc.ca

Principal: Mrs. Deah Paton
Vice-Principal: Mr. Casey Durnin
Administrative Assistant: Mrs. Tricia Mein
P.A.C. President: Mrs. Melynn Krausse

Date: Thursday, January 23, 2020

Dear Parents:

In the last newsletter, I mentioned how this second term of school is so important for making academic gains. Classes and routines are well established and there are fewer interruptions around special events and holidays in the second term. It is so important to ensure that your child attends school and is on time every day. I have an information sheet on attendance at the end of this newsletter with some important facts so please be sure to read it. Here are some highlights:

DID YOU KNOW?

- Starting in kindergarten, too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school.
- Missing 10 percent (or about 18 days) can make it harder to learn to read.
- Students can still fall behind if they miss just a day or two days every few weeks.
- Being late to school may lead to poor attendance.
- Absences can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up.

As a district we are continually working on our emergency preparedness plans. It's something we hope never to need but something we absolutely need to prepare for. Next year we will be practicing a "student release" so in the event of a major emergency we know the protocols and are familiar with the procedures. Just like we practice our fire drills, lockdowns and earthquake drills so students are aware of what to do; we also need to practice what dismissal would look like in the event of an emergency.

In an emergency situation we are also looking to put together a team of volunteers that could help out at the school. If you are a firefighter, police officer, or nurse/doctor and live close to the school, please consider being one of our volunteers. We would also welcome a team of parents (who live close by) to help out at school in the event of an emergency. If you are able and willing please email me so that I can include you on our list of vetted volunteers. Thanks.

We have a new Aboriginal Support Worker. His name is Keenan Marchand and he is working at our school on Mondays and Wednesdays. Feel free to stop by and connect if you haven't had the chance to meet him yet.

Reminders for Parents

Please remember that the **church parking lot is for parents of kindergarten and grade 1 students only.**

Learning Commons News

Langley Picture Book Of The Year: Since we returned from the holiday we have started this district wide program. We will be reading 10 picture books aloud to students and just before spring break students will vote for their favorite book. Students throughout the Langley School District will have the opportunity to vote and the winner will be announced. For more information about the 10 selected books please go to <https://lfe.sd35.bc.ca/learning-commons/langley-picture-books-of-the-year/>

Langley Book of The Year: Congratulations to the following students who have qualified for the celebration lunch in May: Anya S. and Livia M.

Reading Link Challenge: We are continuing to meet every Friday from 11:20 – 11:50 in the library. Students have brought home some practise questions to help them study for the challenge. Keep in mind that these are not the questions that will be given during the challenges, but they will still give the students an idea of what types of questions may be used in the challenges. Congratulations to Lauren A. for reading all six of the books.

Upcoming Events

Friday, January 24	Hot lunch/Spirit Day (dress as your favourite character. Movie or book.)
	Ready, Set, Learn program for 3 and 4 year olds 1:30-2:30 pm (must sign up at the office)
Wednesday, January 29	Grade 5 ski program - last day
Friday, January 31	Ready, Set, Learn/Movie Night/Cupcake treat day

House Points

	Christmas Sweater	Total
Canadians	292	1169
Canucks	331	1243
Lions	307	1184
Whitecaps	288	1188

School Goals

Character: We have started our integrity/honest goal. Last week we held an assembly to kick off our new goal.

Numeracy: Check out the problem of the week on our numeracy board.

Writing: Writing continues to be our focus during this second term of school.

Mrs. Paton



Help Your Child Succeed in School: Build the Habit of Good Attendance Early

School success goes hand in hand with good attendance!

DID YOU KNOW?

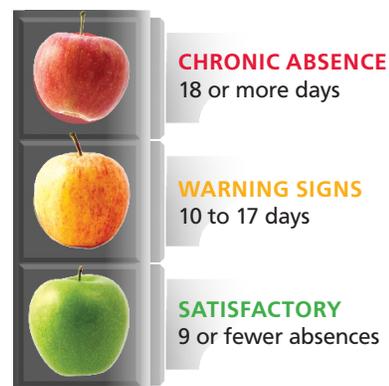
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Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school—and themselves. Start building this habit in preschool so they learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important. Good attendance will help children do well in high school, college, and at work.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Set a regular bed time and morning routine.
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- Find out what day school starts and make sure your child has the required shots.
- Introduce your child to her teachers and classmates before school starts to help her transition.
- Don't let your child stay home unless she is truly sick. Keep in mind complaints of a stomach ache or headache can be a sign of anxiety and not a reason to stay home.
- If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, school counselors, or other parents for advice on how to make her feel comfortable and excited about learning.
- Develop back-up plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbor, or another parent.
- Avoid medical appointments and extended trips when school is in session.

When Do Absences Become a Problem?



Note: These numbers assume a 180-day school year.

For more on school readiness, visit attendanceworks.org and reachoutandread.org

Empowering Parents to Help their Children to Develop Stronger Literacy Skills (Kindergarten – Grade 5)

- **Was your child “Not Yet Meeting” or “Approaching Expectations” on their December report card?**
- **Are you tired with arguing with your child about reading every night?**
- **Would you like to learn new skills that will help you work with your child at home and really make a difference?**

Then you should attend our series of 3 Parent Literacy Sessions on January 30, February 13, and February 27. **Please note that this is a repeat of the Parent Literacy Sessions offered last fall.**

Research has consistently proven that parent involvement increases student achievement in school. Students whose parents are involved in their education, especially their early literacy development, are more motivated to read, demonstrate a greater self-efficacy as readers and voluntarily participate in literacy activities more often. These students are more interested in learning and experience higher competence, exhibit more effort, concentration and attention.

If you would like to participate in this program, you would be expected to attend all three Parent Information Evenings at Parkside Centennial Elementary where we will work together to develop an increased understanding of how to support your child's development as strategic readers and word detectives.

In the weeks between sessions, you will be expected to read daily with your child and support their reading development by using the prompts and strategies that we will discuss.

Dates of Parent Information Evenings: (approximately 1 hour sessions; 6:00 pm start)

- Thursday, Jan 30; Thursday, Feb 13; Thursday, Feb 27.
- Child minding will be provided (Please let me know if you require childminding in your RSVP so I will have enough caregivers available)

If you would like to participate in this program, please RSVP to me by email at cgracie@sd35.bc.ca by January, 24th.

Cathy Gracie

Proud Principal Parkside Centennial Elementary



Skills for Life for Families

A 5-Part Series of Workshops for Parents

What would parenting look like if you experienced less stress and anxiety, had more control over your emotions, and had the space for reflection before taking action? This series of four workshops will help parents learn practical skills in:

- Listening mindfully
- Handling difficult emotions
- Resolving conflict effectively
- Balancing life's demands and challenges
- Enriching your parenting experience

Dates/Time:

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| • February 11th | 6:00-7:30 pm |
| • February 18th | 5:00-7:30 pm |
| • February 25th | 6:00-7:30 pm |
| • March 3rd | 6:00-7:30 pm |
| • March 10th | 6:00-7:30 pm |

Location: Yorkson Creek Middle School – Learning Commons

This workshop series is offered free of charge and will be led by the Langley School District and Community Partners in collaboration with **The Dalai Lama Center For Peace and Education**.

Light refreshments will be served.

To register, please RSVP to...

Tamira.burton@fraserhealth.ca

Or

GMarkin@sd35.bc.ca