



The Lion Lowdown October 16



Calendar

October 15 – BC Great Shakeout Earthquake Drill (10:35am)

October 20 – PAC Meeting, 6:30pm (no childcare provided)

October 19 – Last day to purchase Pumpkins for the Pumpkin Patch

October 22 – Pumpkin Patch (see below for more information)

October 23 – Pro-D Day (School not in session)

October 27 – Parent Teacher Interviews, 1:17pm Early Dismissal

October 28 – Parent Teacher Interviews, 1:17pm Early Dismissal

October 30 – Wear your Halloween costume to school!

Parent Advisory Council

Our next PAC meeting will be Tuesday, October 20, 2020 at 6:30pm in the school gym. We are asking everyone to wear a mask if possible and sanitize their hands upon arrival (hand sanitizer is provided).

Elections for the 2020-2021 School Year will take place at this meeting. If you are interested in volunteering or would like to nominate someone, please email westlangleypac@outlook.com. Please see the attachment to this email for more information. A paper notice of the attachment was also sent home with students.

Please note, at this time we will not be providing childcare for our monthly meetings at this time. Thank you for your understanding.

What do I need to know?

1. **Schoolcashonline:** This is the payment system we use at West Langley Elementary. It allows you to pay either with credit card or e-cheque. If you have never used School Cash Online we encourage you to sign up using the attached instruction sheet.
 - a. **Current Items for purchase:**
 - i. Student Planner and school supplies
 - ii. Pumpkin for our upcoming Pumpkin Patch

2. **Pumpkin Patch:** Our first WLE Pumpkin Patch (Rain or Shine!! is taking place Thursday, September 22. Please purchase your pumpkin through Schoolcashonline by Monday, October 19th. We will only have a couple extra pumpkins on the day of available for purchase.



WLE Pumpkin Patch!

West Langley Elem. is proud to host our first ever pumpkin patch! All students will be invited to roam the patch (in their cohorts) and choose a pumpkin for the season.

When: October 22, 2020

Where: West Langley Grass Field

Who: All West Langley students

Cost: Small pumpkin (9") \$4

Medium pumpkin (12") \$6

On School Cash Online until Oct 19

Ask any questions to your teachers!

HAPPY
Fall Y'ALL

3. **Dogs on School Grounds:** First, as much as our whole staff and most of our community love dogs, there are some members for whom dogs bring on significant anxiety, and who can find it stressful to have dogs, no matter how friendly, waiting at their classroom doors at drop-off and pick-up. We have also had a few situations where students get over-excited when they approach a dog on the school grounds and end up causing that dog considerable stress, occasionally resulting in a negative interaction for both human and dog. We ask that, if your dog comes with you to pick up or drop off, you please wait *well away* from the building. Dogs should wait at the fence in the front, on the walkway to the south, beyond the playground to the north, and on the gravel field at the back of the school. Also, parents of children without dogs, please remind your children that they should always ask the owner's permission to pet a strange dog (or even a familiar one in a new situation) before reaching out. If we all work together, we can provide a safe, stress-free environment for all members of our community, human and canine.
4. **Drop off and Pick Up:** When needing to get out of your car for pick up and drop off, please park in the gravel field if there are no other spots available. To assist with visibility, please avoid parking at the entrance to the school.
5. **U-Turns** – making a U-turn at any point on the road leading up to the school or in our school parking lot is unsafe and disrupts the flow of traffic. Please drive in and follow the traffic loop and refrain from making U-turns. Thank you for your cooperation.

6. **Accessibility Parking spot** – we have one designated accessibility parking spot. It is marked with a blue sign and a painted box on the pavement. If you do not have an accessibility pass, do not park in this spot as we have families who require the space. If you park in this spot without a pass visible on the rearview mirror, you will be asked to move your vehicle right away. Thank you for your assistance in ensuring an inclusive and safe community for everyone.



7. **Be prepared to go outside** in any weather. Students should have coats, boots and umbrellas if raining as we will be spending more time outside this year.
8. **Students needing to leave the school:** If your child needs to leave part way through the day, please note that we are asking parents or designate to physically sign their child out with the office. Our Admin Assistant will meet parents/designate at the front door. Thank you for help.
9. **Halloween:** We are encouraging any interested student to wear their Halloween costumes to school on Friday, October 30. While we will not be hosting a Halloween Carnival this year, we will have fun in our classes. Please note that while kind and generous, treats from home can not be shared with classmates this year.

It is fun to dress up for Halloween and a great way to show school spirit! Families and students are reminded that costumes should allow students to freely participate in daily activities and align with our District and School Code of Conduct. Accessories such as scythes, swords, guns or other toy “weapons” should stay at home. Additionally, please refrain from wearing costumes that are violent, gory, sexualized or demonstrate cultural appropriation so that we have a safe and inclusive environment for everyone. Last year I was so impressed with our fabulous costumes and Halloween spirit and I am confident this year will be another positive one at West Langley!

Parent Teacher Interviews

Our Parent Teacher interviews will be virtual this year and will take place as follows:

Tuesday Oct. 27th 2:00pm – 7:30pm

Wednesday Oct. 28th 2:00pm – 4:30pm

Early Dismissal will take place at 1:17pm on both days.

The interviews can be booked using School Appointments Online. If you are unable to participate on the days above, please contact your classroom teacher to make an alternate arrangement. Each appointment is 15 minutes long.

Our online booking will open Thursday, October 15 at 5:00pm and will close on Wednesday, October 21 at 10:00pm.

Please register at <https://wle.schoolappointments.com> and follow the [Quick Parent Instructions Form](#) and/or the [Parent Instruction Guide](#).

Each family will be emailed on the account we have on file outlining the time of their interview and a link to select to participate in the call by Monday, October 26th. You will not need your child's TEAMS account to participate. Please be ready to start your virtual meeting at your set time as your child's teacher will need to end their meeting promptly to attend to their next meeting. Thank you for your help and cooperation.

Information About School Status During Inclement Weather?



Snow closures and power outages are an annual occurrence in Langley School District. So, where do you go to get information about the status of schools during periods of inclement weather? If you are able to access the internet via computer or smartphone, current information about Langley schools can be accessed on all school websites or www.sd35.bc.ca. Updates are also posted to Twitter @LangleySchools and Facebook at www.facebook.com/langleyschooldistrict. If you don't have internet connectivity but your phone is working, call a relative or friend in an area that has not been affected by the storm and ask them to check the district website for you. Local radio stations are also informed of school status in Langley. Tune in to CKWX 1130AM, CKNW 980AM, Country Radio 107.1FM, Pulse 107.7 or CBC 690AM or 88.1FM for updates.

Please note that Langley District schools are all considered 'open' until a decision to close is required. Decisions on school closures are usually made by 6:30am. As always, it is a parent's decision whether to send their child to school based on safety and individual circumstances. If you feel it is unsafe for you or your child to travel to or attend an open school for any reason, please keep your child home and report an absence to the school.

Election Day

On Saturday October 24, many of our school gyms across the District will be used as provincial election polling stations from 8am – 8pm. As guided by Section 81 of the **Election Act** "accommodation in a school that is the property of a board of school trustees under the School Act must be made available by the board for use as a voting place." As always, the health and safety of our students, staff and school community is a priority. With COVID-19, we understand this may raise some questions and concerns about the use of District property.

In an effort to be transparent with our families, we want you to know the following:

- 32 school sites will be used. Please see full list here <https://www.sd35.bc.ca/news-events/district-board-news/view/election-day-use-of-school-sites/>

- Gymnasiums will be used. No public access to other parts of the school.
- Set-up will occur the day before. No students will be onsite due to Pro-D day.
- Elections BC staff will follow their own cleaning protocols on election day.
- District custodial staff will be cleaning sites prior to school opening on Monday.
- Please take note of extra traffic in the area of these sites on election day.

FORMS



School Forms

Thank you to everyone who have returned their forms. Please return forms to the school as soon as possible. If you have lost your forms, please contact the school office and we will send new forms home. Thank you for your assistance.

Translated Daily Health Check Form

The new daily health check is translated into multiple languages. Please use these as a reference when completing the daily health check with your child. Thank you for doing your part in following our procedure and keeping the community health and safe. Click [here](#) to access the online form to use as a reference at home.