



The Lion Lowdown May 7, 2021

Calendar

May 12 – Kindergarten Welcome

May 17-21 – Zumba Lessons

May 18 – PAC AGM Meeting, 6:30pm

May 21 – Pro-D Day (school not in session)

May 24 – Victoria Day (school not in session)

June 2/3 – White Hatter Internet Safety Presentations

June 10/11 – Grade 7 Year End Activity Days

June 14 – Body Science Parent Evening with Saleema Noon Educators, 6:30pm

June 16/17 – Body Science Class Presentations with Saleema Noon Educators

June 18 – Sports Day

June 21 – National Indigenous Peoples' Day

June 24 – Grade 7 Leaving Activity

June 29 – Last Day for Students (students attend for the morning only)

New Daily Health Check Form – Digital and Print Version



Thank you for continuing to conduct a daily health check with your child. It is an important measure to help keep our school community healthy and safe. To better assist families, the Ministry of Education has developed an online K to 12 Health Check which can be found here:

<https://www.k12dailycheck.gov.bc.ca/healthcheck>

A mobile phone app version can also be downloaded, called K to 12 Health Checker.

Print versions are available in multiple languages on our District website [here](#).

What do I need to know?

1. **Please ensure you are conducting a health check with your children each day.** Please see the K-12 Health Check included in every newsletter for guidance. While most of the time, we simply have colds, Fraser Health is advising even minor colds symptoms be checked out right now. While symptoms are minor, they can lead to transmission of COVID-19 back to households and to more senior adults in our community or workplaces. We would also like to encourage everyone to wear masks and for adults to practice physical distancing from those outside their households when dropping off and picking up. Thank you to everyone for your support, kindness and cooperation.
2. **Playgrounds closed afterschool.** Students and families are reminded that our playgrounds are closed before and after school. School staff will be outside to supervise and will request children and families to not use the playgrounds. Our onsite daycare will also be utilizing our playground

facilities and need the outdoor space. As such, all families are asked to proceed directly home after dismissal.

3. **When parents/guardians need to come to the building:** If you need to visit us in person, we ask that all parents/guardians wait outside at the front door – please do not enter the building. If we miss you, please call us at 604-888-6444 and we will come to help you. Thank you for your cooperation.



4. **Water Bottles: With the weather warming up, it is essential that students have a water bottle at school.** Students are asked to bring a water bottle each day with their name on it. Our regular water fountains are currently shut off as per COVID-19 protocols and each student having a water bottle would be very helpful throughout the day. Students can fill up their water bottles at the water bottle filling station as needed throughout the day.

5. **Masks:** We have WLE Masks (black with adjustable ear elastics) available for students and families to purchase for \$8.00 through SchoolCashOnline. We do still have a limited number of free reusable masks in the office for students. If your child would like one, they can come to office to request one.
6. **SchoolMessenger:** We are regularly using SchoolMessenger via Text, Email and Phone. If you have not registered for texts, please visit [Parent-Info-Pkg-SchoolMessenger-2021Jan26.pdf](#)

StoryWalk arrives at West Langley

A StoryWalk® is an innovative and delightful way for children – and adults – to enjoy stories in the great outdoors. Pages from a children’s book are attached to yard signs along a path outdoors. As you stroll down the trail, you’ll go from page to page, enjoying the story along with a walk in nature.

Our first StoryWalk will be “You Are A Lion” – a book all about yoga. We hope this will be fun and interactive for children as they move through the story boards. The StoryWalk will be set up along the northeast side of our school each morning and taken down at the end of the school day. Our story walk will be available May 3-14. Thank you to Mrs. Rannie and her team for taking on this great literacy project for our school!

Kindergarten Welcome!

We would like to welcome you to the West Langley Community and invite you to join us with your kindergarten student to our Kindergarten Welcome event.

On May 12 between 2:30pm and 5:00pm, West Langley Elementary will be hosting our Kindergarten Welcome meet and greet. At this time, your child will be able to meet the kindergarten teachers, Ms. Diane from Strongstart and Ms. Crockett, our school librarian, and receive an activity bag to keep. You will also receive information about the school entry process (gradual entry) and what September will look like for your kindergarten child. After meeting the teachers, you will receive an email with further details on how you and your kindergarten child can use the activity bag to continue learning at home.

In June, you will receive more detailed information about the gradual entry process, including a schedule for the first few weeks of school. In August, you will begin to receive Back to School information about West Langley and our return to school plan.

Due to COVID protocols, we are asking everyone attending our Kindergarten Welcome to consider driving as it will be a drive-through event only. We ask that all family members

attending remain in your car. If you are unable to drive, we ask that you follow the signs posted and practice physical distancing expectations.

We are asking each family to sign up for a time using our School Appointments online at <https://wle.schoolappointments.com/admin/>. If this is your first time using School Appointments Online, please see the attached instructions on how to register.

If you are unable to join us on May 12, please contact the school office by calling 604-888-6444 to make arrangements to pick up your activity bag.

Tea Towels

We have another tea towel fundraiser for our school. Each student's self portrait has been created and our entire school was silk-screened onto high quality 100% cotton tea towels. These one-of-a-kind keepsakes are beautiful reminders of a year gone by and make perfect gifts for family and friends for any occasion - Mother's Day, seasonal holidays, birthdays, even hostess gifts!

You have the opportunity to buy these priceless works of art and support our school community. All proceeds from these student tea towels will go towards enriching your child's school experience. Multiple orders can be accommodated.

We also have a limited supply of individual class towels – available while supplies last!

The cost is \$14 per towel. Please go to schoolcashionline to order your teatowels! <https://sd35.schoolcashionline.com/Home/SignIn>
Details will be available online starting Monday, May 10



Outdoor Learning

As the weather is improving, we are being encouraged by Public Health and our District to take students outside as much as possible.

Please help us ensure your children are prepared to be outside. Please help your child apply sunscreen before the school day and ensure your child knows how to apply sunscreen on their face, neck and arms. (No aerosol or spray bottles please)

Students should bring (all clearly labelled):

- Hat
- Sunglasses
- Sunscreen (no aerosol or spray bottles please)
- Full, labelled water bottle every day as our water fountains are shut off with the exception of our water bottle filling fountain. Many families are already doing this, and we appreciate your ongoing support.

- Active Footwear and clothing as we will be spending more time being active outside, including gym activities and we want to ensure all students are able to participate.

Please remember to treat our outside space as an extension of our classroom and not approach classes while outside as we are learning. If you need to drop your child off late or pick up early, we ask everyone to continue to use the school office sign in/sign out process.

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.

K-12 COVID-19 Rapid Response Team

This week the Ministry of Education provided an update on K-12 COVID-19 rapid response teams which are now deployed in each health authority to support students and staff. As the pandemic evolves, these teams will help the province respond quickly and adapt, where necessary, to keep schools safe. To read more about what the teams will be doing in our community, view the news release [here](#).

BCCDC Survey – BC COVID-19 SPEAK

The BC Centre for Disease Control is inviting families to take part in a survey to examine how British Columbians have been affected and how their experiences may inform recovery and re-opening. The survey closes May 9. Please see details [here](#).



Have you registered for Kindergarten 2021-2022?

Kindergarten Registration for the 2021-2022 school year will begin on January 18 and continued through to March 31, 2021. If you have not registered, please

contact our school office as soon as possible. All children who will be five years old by December 31, 2021 are eligible to register for Kindergarten classes that will begin in September 2021. This year you will be able to register either online OR in person.

Online registrations can be sent to Mrs. Horngren-Rhodes at chorngrenrhodes@sd35.bc.ca.

International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia - Monday, May 17th.

Now is the time to start planning – and parents can be involved in your celebrations as well! One school community in Vanderhoof is working with the public library to create a display for students and parents. Another community group has offered to supply some new SOGI-inclusive books and they are drawing from two PFLAG books lists as recommended reading for parents: this one on coming out and this one on trans identities. For example, Transgender Children and Youth: Cultivating Pride and Joy with Families in Transition is a great resource for parents with trans children. Find posters to use and share here!

Immunizations for Kindergarten and Grade 6

The immunization programs for kindergarten, Grade 6 and 9 students from the 2020-2021 school year are currently under development. Further details will be provided once we receive information from Fraser Health and our plans have been confirmed. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

PAC News!

- 1) Our next PAC Meeting will be our Annual General Meeting and is scheduled for May 18th at 6:30pm. Please consider volunteering to be a member of our executive. (please see more information on the next page)

- 2) We have several events coming to West Langley sponsored by the WLE PAC:

White Hatter Internet Safety:

Weds June 2nd - Social Media Safety and Digital Literacy Gr 4/5

Thurs June 3rd - Social Media Safety and Digital Literacy Gr 6/7

Body Science Online with Saleema Noon Educators

Monday, June 14th – Parent Zoom Meeting at 6:30pm

Wed and Thurs, June 16th and 17th – Student workshops via Zoom in class

Zumba Lessons

Students will learn a choreographed dance May 17-21



ELECTIONS ARE COMING!

Please consider being a part of our new WLE Executive Committee & PAC for the 2021-2022 school year!

Looking to fill all positions!


Get Involved!

- President
- Vice President
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- DPAC Representative
- Members at Large x3

Ask questions!

Learn about our school community

Contact the nominations committee with questions or to nominate yourself or someone else at jenniferrannie@gmail.com or scan ->



EVERYONE WELCOME!

West Langley Elementary



Parent Advisory Council

Annual General Meeting

Tuesday, May 18th

6:30 pm

via Zoom virtual meeting

link posted on the West Langley PAC Facebook page



There will be door prizes!
Everyone Welcome!