



# James Kennedy Elementary School École Élémentaire James Kennedy

9060-212 Street, Langley, BC V1M 2B7 Ph: 604-888-5257 Fax: 604-888-4324



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## Principal's Note.....

Dear Parents/Guardians,

For the most part I need to say a huge thank you to all the drivers who are cooperating with each other and respecting the guidelines of the parking lot, especially the No Parking Lane alongside the sidewalk of the school in the morning. Here are the guidelines for that lane:

- it is drop off only in the morning – PLEASE do not park your vehicle in the morning – parking is allowed in the afternoon as it is not possible to have kids lined up ready for pick up, so parking and leaving your vehicle is fine
- if it takes longer than a few seconds to drop off your child in the morning (for example, you have to help with a carseat, you have to get backpacks out of the trunk etc.) PLEASE turn off your engine – an idling car is not healthy for people or the environment
- PLEASE respect the handicapped spots in the drop off lane
- PLEASE do not double park/stop in order to drop off or pick up – the danger to children running between vehicles is very real
- PLEASE always use one of the crosswalks to get from the parking lot to the school

As with everything we do as adults, our children are watching and learning from us. Taking a few extra moments in the morning to ensure that you are cooperating with other parents in the school and following the guidelines that apply to everyone not only ensures that our driveway works as safely as possible, but also models for your children that respecting rules that are meant to help everyone is an important practice. Putting your needs ahead of everyone else's, on the other hand, gives quite a different message.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at 604-888-5257 or [rwalker@sd35.bc.ca](mailto:rwalker@sd35.bc.ca) Thank you!

### Live and Learn and Pass It On

"I've learned that to experience the wonder of life through the eyes of a child is the most rewarding feeling in the world." – Age 68

November 10, 2011

## Calendar of Upcoming School Dates

Remembrance Day (students do not attend)	Nov 11
Calendar Variation Day (students do not attend)	Nov 14
Babysitting Course	Nov 15
PAC Meeting	Nov 16
Babysitting Course	Nov 22
Newsletter	Nov 24
Hot Lunch Day	Nov 25
Christmas Concert Matinee	Dec 7
Newsletter	Dec 8
Last Day before Christmas vacation	Dec 16

## Remembrance Day Assembly

My sincere thanks to Mrs. Macdonald and Division 13 students, as well as the Grade 5 students from Divisions 5 and 6, several students from Division 9 and a group of students from Division 2, for their presentations at the Remembrance Day Assembly today. They helped us remember the importance of honouring the sacrifices made by everyone involved in defending the freedoms we all enjoy. I'd also like to compliment our entire student body for the very respectful attitude they displayed before, during and after the assembly – well done, James Kennedy students!

## Cell Phones at School

While we would prefer that cell phones not be brought to school (if anything happens to them, we cannot be involved in sorting through the situation) we do recognize that many parents see them as necessary for their children to have. Please be aware that due to the challenges cell phones pose for us at the school level (cameras, texting, disruptions to classrooms) our school policy is that they must be turned off when on the school grounds and left in backpacks through the school day. This is a common policy across schools in the District. Please be aware that if a cell phone is misused at school, there are several possibilities for discipline, including confiscation of the phone for a period of time.

## Purdy's

Just a reminder that Purdy's orders are due back into the office no later than November 17th. The school receives 25% from each purchase. Please help support our school and satisfy your chocolate craving at the same time!

## **What Information Will Be Included In Your Child's Report Card?**

As you are probably aware, members of the BC Teachers Federation are currently engaged in Phase 1 job action in their contract dispute with the BC Public School Employers Association. Teachers throughout the province have withdrawn a range of services, as permitted under Essential Services legislation and determined by the BC Labour Relations Board.

Under the LRB ruling teachers 'need not perform' many of the services they normally do, including:

- preparing or distributing report cards;
- providing any student assessment data to principals or school office staff, except for Grade 12 marks required for graduation, post-secondary applications and scholarship purposes;
- participating in meetings or interviews with parents/guardians outside of instructional time.

This means - unless circumstances change - most parents will receive first formal report cards this fall that do not include many of the assessment criteria usually provided. Information that will be in report cards includes: your child's attendance record, the name of your child's teacher or teachers, and the courses your child is enrolled in.

In cases where principals or vice-principals are teaching marks will be provided for aspects of the curriculum they deliver. As noted above, the report cards of Grade 12 students will also include 'marks required for graduation, post-secondary applications and scholar and scholarship purposes.'

As required under the School Act, Langley School District will distribute first report cards this fall and will include as much information as can be provided. If you have questions about how your child is doing at school you are encouraged to contact your child's teacher.

## **Grade 6 Late French Immersion**

Today your child, in grade 5, should bring home information regarding French Immersion for grade 6. Late French Immersion Open House for parents will be offered at:

Alex Hope - January 26th, 1:15-2:15 p.m.,  
Betty Gilbert - January 25th, 12:10-2:30,  
Noel Booth - December 8th, 10:45-12:00

## **Healthy Kids Program (Dental and Optical Coverage)**

The BC Healthy Kids program helps middle and low income families with the costs of basic dental care and prescription eyewear for their children. Eligible clients include dependent children under 19 years of age who receive Medical Services Plan premium assistance through the Ministry of Health Services. Families who have been approved for MSP premium assistance will be signed up with the Program. Coverage begins at the start of the next month. No additional application from is needed to register. For information on how to apply for MSP, contact the Ministry of Health Services at 604-683-7151.

## **Please Dress for the Weather**

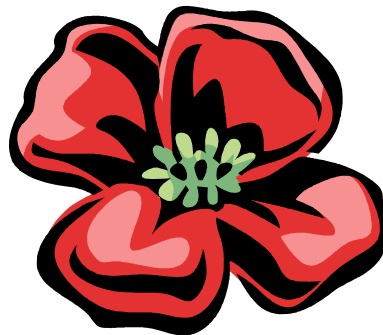
With the cooler, rainy weather upon us, parents are reminded to make sure your child is dressed appropriately for outside weather. In addition, it would be a good idea to send an extra set of clothing to be kept at the school, which will help avoid calls home for dry, clean clothes – those mud puddles do seem to call children's names quite often....

## **Remembrance Day John McCrae, May 1915**

In Flanders fields the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row,  
That mark our place; and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved and were loved, and now we lie  
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:  
To you from failing hands we throw  
The torch; be yours to hold it high.  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow  
In Flanders fields.



## ***COMMUNITY EVENTS... What's happening in the neighbourhood?***

### **Crafters and Small Business Owners**

Hello! It's that time of year again. Time to book your table for the ALEX HOPE ELEMENTARY 6th ANNUAL CRAFT & SMALL BUSINESS FAIR!

When: Saturday, November 19, 2011  
Time: 9:30 - 3:00  
Where: Alex Hope Elementary School  
21150 - 85 Ave, Langley, BC  
V1M 2M4  
What: Craft & Small Business Fair

#### **TABLE RENTAL \$25**

If you have further questions please contact Karen  
at rk.moore@telus.net or 604-888-4399.

### **Celtic Christmas Craft Fair**

The White Spot Pipe Band is hosting a Celtic Christmas Craft Fair on Saturday, November 19th from 10:00 - 4:00 at the Fort Langley Community Hall, 9167 Glover Road.

We will be offering a range of crafts from jewelry to candles, clothing to Christmas ornaments, and baked goods. Come enjoy Celtic food and Scottish piping and drumming. Door prizes. Admission by donation.

### **Township Program Opportunities**

At our last PAC meeting, two Township of Langley Recreation, Culture & Service staff members made a presentation regarding programs that could be offered at the Walnut Grove Community Centre for our families. The PAC asked them to provide the information so we could share it with all of our parents, not just the ones that were at the meeting.

They offer afterschool programs at the school or at the community centre. Anything that is in our seasonal leisure guides we could accommodate based on your schools wants or needs. Fees would be dependent on guaranteed minimums. Some examples of the types of programs and costs based on 8 minimum include:

- Sports	\$6.00/hour/student
- Homework clubs	\$6.55/hour/student
- Dance	\$7.27/hour/student
- Cooking	\$9.31/hour/student
- Swimming lessons*	
	(level 1-4) \$5.60/class/student
	(level 5-10) \$6.25/class/student
- Arts and Crafts	\$7.56/hour/student

\*Swimming lesson rate is based on 4 minimum; 6 maximum.

### **Parenting in the Cyber-Age**

Langley Parents as Partners in Learning presents, "Parenting in the Cyber-Age" on Thursday, November 24th from 7:00-9:30 pm at Brookwood Secondary School, 20932-37A St. Langley. The cost is \$15 per person or \$25 for two people. Registration forms can be picked up in the JKE office or online at the JKE website under "Newsletters". To register online please go to [www.parentsaspartners.wordpress.com](http://www.parentsaspartners.wordpress.com) and click on Workshop Registration.

### **Kindergarten Registration for 2012/13**

All children who will be five years old by December 31, 2012 are eligible to register for Kindergarten classes that begin in September of that same year. Registration for Kindergarten will take place on the third Monday in January of the year for which the child is eligible (**January 16, 2012 for the 2012-2013 School Year**). Registration for French Immersion will begin the first week back in January 2012. Please make sure your child's name is on the list at the School Board Office located at 4875-222 Street, Langley. Even if you have a child in the French Immersion program already, which will give your child priority placement, you must have their name on the list. If it is not on the list by January 3, 2012, please contact the school directly.

Please note: Proper documentation is essential. Your registration may be delayed if the required documentation is not provided.

- Proof of age (Birth Certificate)
- Proof of Canadian Citizenship or Permanent Resident Status must be provided for both student and parent (Canadian Birth Certificate, Canadian Passport, Canadian Citizenship Card, Landed Immigrant documentation, Permanent Resident documentation/cards)
- Proof of Residence (Mortgage Papers, Property Tax Notice or Lease/Rental Agreement)