

École Laura Secord Elementary

secord@vsb.bc.ca

604-713-4996

Safe Arrival Line 604-713-5159 ext. 74

Principal: Laurent Brisebois

Vice Principal: Cynthia Ramamonjisoa

Secretary: Jessica Miller

Trustee: Janet Fraser



October 20

Upcoming Events

October 20

No Students

Pro D Day

October 23-26

PAC Scholastic Book Fair

October 25 & 26

Parent Teacher Conferences
2:00 p.m. Dismissal (both days)

October 25

Photo Retake Day

October 27

PAC Pumpkin Patch
PAC Halloween Dance

November 2

Immunization Clinic

November 2 & 7


PAC Family Portrait Night

Weekly Family Update

Dear Secord Families,

We are very excited to share the new Code of Conduct with our school community! We had assemblies last week to share the Code of Conduct with our students which helps guide our actions in the school.

École Laura Secord Elementary Code of Conduct								
SETTING								
	Classrooms	Hallways & Bathrooms	Playground & School Grounds	Lunch Time	Library & Innovation Lab	Assemblies	Gym	
EXPECTATION	Respect Ourselves	Try our best Be on task Work hard Be prepared Be safe	Walk Be attentive Look where you're going Be calm	Have fun Be safe	Eat what you can & pack up the rest Focus on eating Be mindful	Study, read Use computers & technology appropriately	Sit in one spot Enjoy the presentation	Have fun Be a good sport Be safe Try your best
	Respect Others	Be kind Use positive words Keep hands, feet & mouth to yourself Be helpful	Be kind & respectful Use a quiet voice Walk on the right-hand side In the washroom, flush & wash your hands	Play safe Take turns Be helpful Include others Share equipment	Be polite Practice good table manners Sit down to eat Use a calm voice Everyone should feel welcome Be nut & allergy aware	Use a calm, quiet voice Return your books on time Maintain a peaceful environment	Keep your hands, feet & mouth to yourself Participate when appropriate Listen/watch Use appropriate applause	Be safe Use positive, encouraging words Respect the people and the rules of the activity Take turns Include others
	Respect our School	Contribute to a peaceful learning environment	Put litter, compost, and recycling in the appropriate place Keep the common space clean Maintain physical space No vandalism	Use equipment properly Put litter in garbage can Respect the no wheels on school property rule	Put litter, compost, and recycling in the appropriate place Clean up after yourself	Treat books/materials carefully Follow the Acceptable Use of Technology Agreement	Be a respectful & enthusiastic member of the audience	Use equipment appropriately Clean up all equipment & put the equipment back where it belongs



École Laura Secord Elementary School

Code of Conduct

I take care of myself
Je prends soin de moi-même
I take care of others
Je prends soin des autres
I take care of this place
Je prends soin de ce lieu

Mission Statement

École Laura Secord Elementary is committed to uphold a safe, inclusive, equitable nurturing and healthy environment in which all learners can develop their intellectual, social, emotional, physical and creative potential in preparation for lifelong learning and success.

Statement of Purpose

This code of conduct provides our school community including students, staff, parents and guests with a safe, inclusive and positive learning environment.

Behaviour Expectations

Students and staff worked together to develop the attached chart of acceptable behaviours. Each citizen at École Laura Secord Elementary School is expected to follow the extensive but not exclusive list of behaviour expectations. There is a progression of expectations for students as they become older, more mature and progress through successive grades. This code of conduct applies at school, transitioning to and from school, during school-organized or school-sponsored activities and behaviour beyond these times (including online) that impacts the safe, caring and orderly school environment.

Unacceptable Conduct

At École Laura Secord Elementary School, we work with students to teach and model appropriate, kind and caring behaviours and actions. Unacceptable behaviours include but are not limited to:

- physical aggression or threatening behaviours
- bullying
- disrupting others during learning time
- choosing not to cooperate or not to follow instructions
- inappropriate or offensive language and actions

Students shall not discriminate against others on the basis of Indigenous identity, race, religion, colour, ancestry, place of origin, marital status, family status, age, sex or sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, or physical or mental disability, or for any other reason set out in the Human Rights Code of B.C.

Consequences for Unacceptable Behaviour

Disciplinary action, wherever possible, is restorative rather than merely punitive. The school will treat seriously any behaviour that discriminates based on Indigenous identity, race, religion, colour, ancestry, place of origin, marital status, family status, age, sex or sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, or physical or mental disability, or for any other reason set out in the Human Rights Code of British Columbia. Repetitive or severe unacceptable behaviour may result in increased severity of subsequent disciplinary action. Special considerations may apply to students with special needs/diverse needs if they are unable to comply with the code of conduct due to having a disability/challenge of an intellectual, physical, sensory, emotional or behaviour nature.

We focus on consequences that are restorative rather than punitive. The following are examples of ways we support students in restoring a safe, caring and positive learning environment:

- problem solving discussion and/or reflection sheet
- verbal or written apology
- loss of privilege
- recess or lunch restrictions
- phone call or letter home to parents/guardians
- meeting with parents/guardians
- in-school suspension/formal school suspension

All reasonable steps will be taken to prevent retaliation against a student who has made a complaint of a breach of a code of conduct.

Suspensions

In accordance with the School Act, Sec. 85 (2) (ii) and (d), the Board authorizes the principal or designate of any school in the district to suspend a student from attendance at school for up to five days. Suspensions may be for the following reasons:

- because a student is willfully and repeatedly disrespectful to a teacher or to any other employee of the Board carrying out responsibilities of the Board
- because the behaviour of the student breaches the District Code of Conduct or policy and/or has a harmful effect on others or the learning environment of the school
- because the student has failed to comply with the school code of conduct.

Suspensions over five days are made in consultation with the appropriate director of instruction as per district Student Code of Conduct, AP 350. As per AP 350 7.7 an educational program must be provided.

B.C. Human Rights Code

École Laura Secord Elementary school promotes the values expressed in the BC Human Rights Code respecting the rights of all individuals in accordance with the law – prohibiting discrimination against others on the basis of Indigenous identity, race, religion, colour, ancestry, place of origin, marital status, family status, age, sex or sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, or physical or mental disability, or for any other reason set out in the Human Rights Code of B.C., nor shall a student publish or display anything that would indicate an intention to discriminate against another, or expose them to contempt or ridicule, on the basis of any such grounds.

Racism and discrimination will not be tolerated in our school.

The School Code of Conduct applies at school, during school-organized or sponsored activities, on school buses, and any behaviour even if outside of school or school hours, (including online behaviour), that negatively impacts the safe, caring, or orderly environment of the school, and/or student learning.

The principal or designate has the responsibility to inform other parties of serious breaches of the code of conduct. These parties include: parents of the involved students in every instance. When necessary, School district officials, Police and/or other agencies, as required by law. When deemed necessary, the school community will be notified that the appropriate actions have been carried out.



In light of the current events happening in the world, attached is a sheet with Tips for Caregivers from the district on how to talk about these events in a mindful and age-appropriate manner. It holds great resources as well.

Safety

We ask that
parents/guardians/caregivers who
drop-off and pick-up students after
school stay outside the gates please.

Thank you!

WEST COAST RECESS

Living in a rain forest offers many diverse weather conditions. It makes sense therefore, we are well prepared to be outside in the rain. It is important for children to get outside throughout the day for fresh air and exercise. Research has proven time and time again, the impact that physical activity has on learning. For this reason, many local schools and districts are adopting a West Coast Recess.

Being prepared for the weather

We know that if kids are well prepared to be outside in the rain, they actually enjoy it. As long as they stay dry and warm there is a great deal of fun to be had in all kinds of weather. To be prepared to be outside in the rain it is important for your child to have appropriate clothing such as:

- A rain jacket
- Rubber boots so they can enjoy the puddles
- Rain pants
- An umbrella
- A rain hat or coat with a hood
- A change of clothes just in case. (sweatpants, sock, underwear, t-shirt)



Commonly Asked Questions

I am worried that my child will get sick being out in the rain.

It is not cold that makes us sick but rather viruses. People get sick more often in the winter because they are exposed to each other more in the winter than in the summer. When it is cold outside people tend to stay inside and are more likely to spread germs to one another. Getting outdoors is more likely to protect our kids from illnesses than keeping them indoors. ([Does Cold Weather Cause the Cold or Flu?](#)).

My child has been sick but is now returning to school. Can he stay inside today?

We are quite reluctant to allow this for a couple of reasons. First, if a child is still not quite better it would be better to keep him/her/them at home until they are 100% ready to function fully at school. If your child is too sick to go outside he/she/they is also probably too sick to get through the day's work successfully – it would be best to give another day of rest.

Secondly, we have very limited supervision inside so if more than a couple of students are requesting this it becomes problematic. We do make exceptions to this based on special circumstances so if you want to chat about your child's specific health conditions please phone us at the office (604-713-4996) and we can talk about your concerns.

Why don't you keep them in – they would be far more comfortable – it doesn't seem fair!

We are concerned that if we set things up for our kids to avoid inclement weather by staying indoors, we are teaching them that they need to protect themselves from it. Rather than feeling that they need to stay indoors, we want to encourage them to find ways to enjoy the rain. We also are fortunate to have large undercover areas for students to get out of the rain if they wish. Students are very happy when it rains as they are busy constructing canals, dams, and islands so they are happy when the rain arrives to fill them. These types of imaginative play are very healthy learning experiences for our students. Another reason why it is so important that our kids go outside is that it is extremely difficult for most of them to focus on their schoolwork in the afternoons when they have not had the opportunity to get some fresh air. Past experience from when students used to be kept inside more routinely due to rain showed that students usually had a harder time through their afternoons.

Are the children ever allowed to stay inside due to the weather?

We occasionally have weather conditions that are unreasonable to expect students to stay outside in. These days include hard, driving rain with extreme cold or wind. In these situations, we intend to declare it an inside day however we don't expect to have more than 2 or 3 of them a year. There isn't a standard for keeping kids indoors for school recess. Consequently, site administrators often make this decision based on local situations.

Please note the correction for our dates concerning the three reports to communicate student learning (CSL):

- December 1, 2023 , March 12, 2023 , and June 24, 2023



Second Cross Country

Yesterday, October 19th, brought to a close another sensational, successful, slippery, Second cross-country season. After weeks of sunny zone meets, the final District meet went off in true cross-country fashion; rain and mud! The kids took it in stride and the purple shirts surged to the front of the pack in wave after wave of races. Congratulations to all the nearly 100 students who joined the team and showed up to early morning practices at Trout Lake for several weeks. Your hard work and commitment were rewarded, as those virtues should be.

Last but not least, a huge thank you to the many parents and teachers who volunteered their time to make this opportunity possible for so many kids. From running the early morning practices, to setting up the courses and pop-up tents, organizing and doing attendance in the gym to making sure students got to and from their meets safely ... it would not happen without you!

Parent coaches:

Chris Napier
Anna Rice
Sean Markey
Dave Siddle
Sami Kruse
Morgan Westcott
Craig McKimm

Teacher Coaches/Sponsors:

Ms. Tong
Ms. Felker
Ms. Colero
Ms. Biln
Ms. Erwin
Ms. Gordon
Mr. Chong
Mr. Turner
Ms. Stipec
Mr. Coe

Special Days in October

International Day of Climate Action: October 24 is a day to increase awareness to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-induced impacts.



Navaratri: Navaratri is a Hindu festival that spans over nine nights (ten days) and is celebrated every year in the autumn season. This year it started October 15 and will end on October 24.



Parent Conferences: October 25 & 26

Parent conferences on Wednesday, Oct. 25 and Thursday, Oct. 26 at 2 p.m.

Please remember to pick your child up or arrange for child-care at 2 p.m.

Reminder: Safety and Security

If you would like to meet with your child's teacher, please contact the teacher to book an appointment with them. During the school day and instructional times, it is not possible for our teachers to meet with parents who drop in their classes unexpectedly as they are focused on teaching their students.

If you would like to drop something off for your child during the school day (ex: forgotten lunch box or jersey), please go to the office. Sherri and Jessica will make sure that the item is passed on to your child. Thank you for your help and cooperation.

Remembrance Day Assembly

This year's Remembrance Day assembly will be on November 10, 2023. There will be two assemblies to adjust to different age groups.

9:15 a.m.- 10:15 a.m. - Primary
11:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m. - Intermediate



Kindergarten Music Club

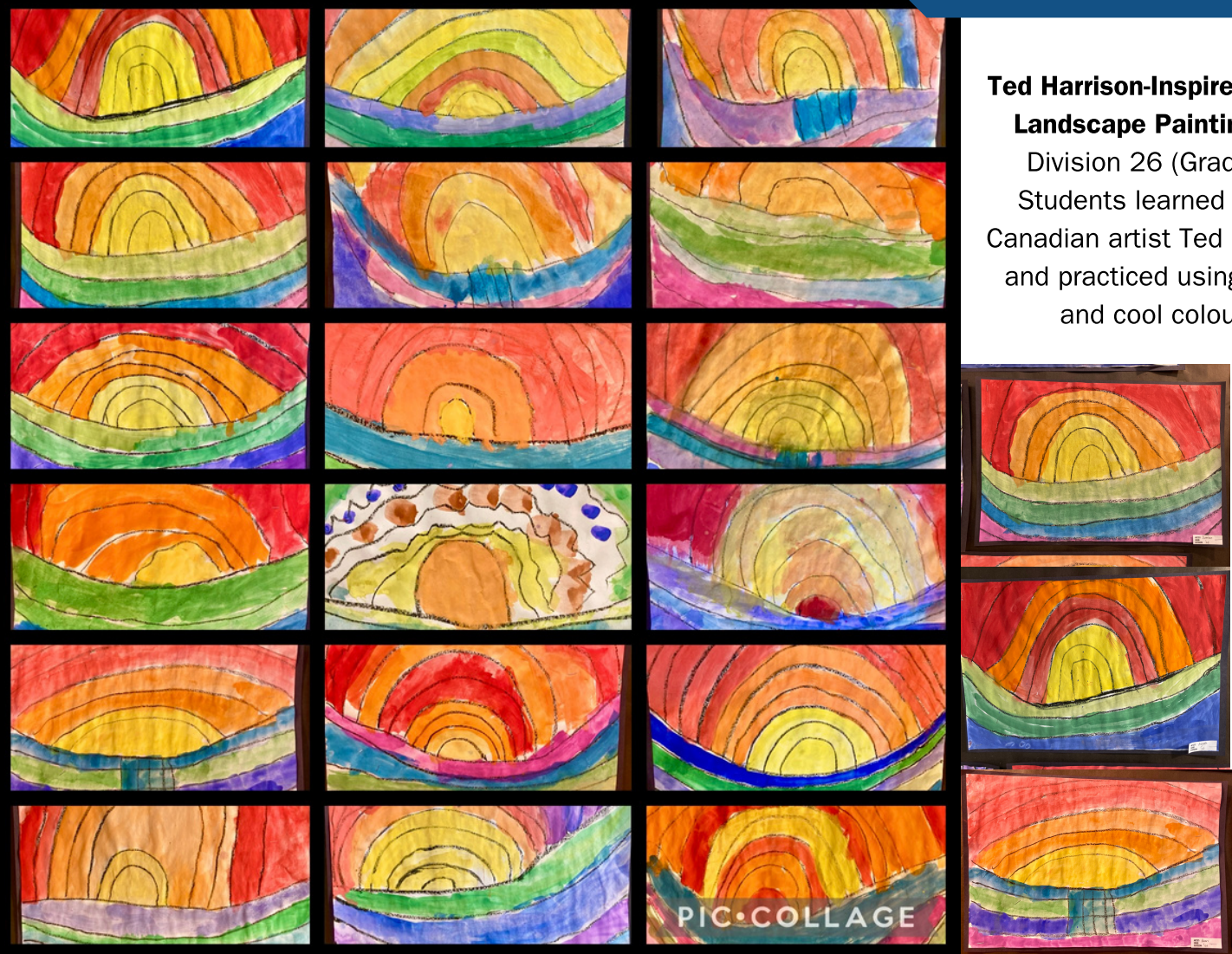


Mme Lisa is running a lunchtime **Kindergarten music club** every Wednesday in the music room. Students from both the English and French stream are encouraged to join, but it is entirely optional. The students will learn songs and games from around the world in many different languages. They will also have the chance to perform these songs at school assemblies throughout the year. Please speak with your child to see if they are interested in joining and let your classroom teacher know.

Secord Art Walk

Ms. Kassam - Div 26

Ted Harrison-Inspired Arctic Landscape Paintings by Division 26 (Grade 1). Students learned about Canadian artist Ted Harrison and practiced using warm and cool colours



Divisions 16 - 20

Mr. Doodle Inspired Sketchbook Covers



LEADERSHIP INFO NIGHT

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 3RD 6-7:30 PM
@ WINDERMERE SECONDARY



JOIN US IN PERSON TO FIND
OUT ABOUT OUR AMAZING
PROGRAM!

WHY?

MEET STAFF AND
CURRENT STUDENTS

LEARN HOW TO APPLY
& PARTICIPATE IN OUR
Q&A SESSION

SCAN THE CODE
TO LEARN MORE



Windermere Secondary would like to invite **all Grade 6 and 7** students and their families to the Windermere Leadership Mini-School Info Night event on **Friday, November 3** from 6-7:30 p.m. at Windermere Secondary School!

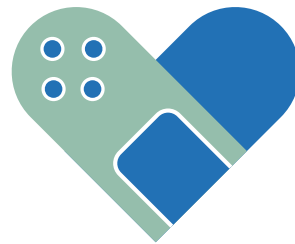
Students that attend the program are part of a community network that prioritizes social responsibility, environmental stewardship, and community engagement. Throughout the program, students fully participate in a variety of school, community, and outdoor activities that provide them with a diverse range of experiences.

At this student-led event, there will be a brief power point presentation, followed by an opportunity to ask questions and to meet our staff and students in person, while exploring some of the work we do. You can learn more about the program here:

<https://www.windermereleadership.org/>

Grade 6 Immunizations

Thursday, November 2: Thank you to all the parents for the 96% return of signed vaccination forms! If you have not returned yours, please bring it to the office on Monday.



PAC News

Please visit our **PAC Website** for all fundraising and events at Secord!

Go to secord.hotlunches.net to check out the menu and place your orders.

Please note a special trial vendor on November 9.

