

Secord News

Report Absences: 604-713-5159, ext 74

Volume X, June 2023

SAFETY CORNER

Summer Safety, as we're closing in on the end of the 21-22 School Year.

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Dates to Remember

June 2 nd	Grade 6/7 Dance
June 6 th	Audiology: Hearing Tests Grade 2
June 6 th	PAC Meeting
June 8 th	Metaphor Whole School Performance
June 8 th	Pizza Day
June 9 th	Audiology: Hearing Tests Kindergarten
June 14 th	Grade 6 Immunization
June 18 th	Father's Day
June 21 st	National Indigenous Peoples Day
June 22	Grade 7 School Leaving Ceremony
June 23 rd	Pajama Day
June 29 th	Last Day of School For Students



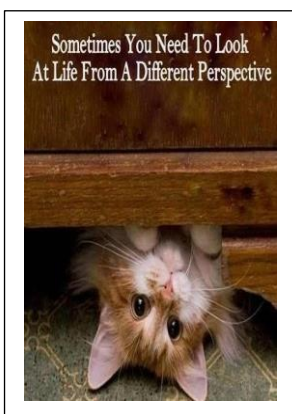
Thank You

We wanted to give a big thank you to the 3 staff members who have come into fill in vacancies and maternity leaves.

Natalie Morrissette who has been our acting Vice Principal for most of this year.
Octavia Gordon who has been here to cover Sarah El-Sayed's maternity leave.
Daniella La Grange who has covered Christina Tehennepe's maternity leave.



Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Display curtesy of Kim Kondra our Indigenous Enhancement Worker



Reminder....

NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS:

Thursday, June 29th until

Tuesday, September 5th!

National Indigenous Peoples Day: June 21st

In 1996, June 21st was declared [National Indigenous Peoples Day](#) in Canada. Why June 21st? For generations many Indigenous peoples and communities have celebrated their culture and heritage on or near this day due to the significance of the summer solstice as the longest day of the year.

Please join us in celebrating and acknowledging all the contributions made over the years by our Indigenous friends, families, students, and neighbours

Principals Message

Dear Second Families,

As the 2022-2023 school year begins to wind down, we would like to take this opportunity to thank our amazing community of students, parents, and school staff for modeling care, resilience, and flexibility at a time when we needed it the most. It has been a year of changes, challenges and learning and re-imagining which everyone embraced while continuing to provide the best education and connections they could for our students. We have been reminded many times of the virtues that were taught this year. Collaboration, teamwork, support has taken on new meaning, and we were fortunate enough to be a part of such a caring community who modeled resilience daily. We have been completely humbled by our community’s ongoing support, dedication, and care.

First and foremost, a special thank you to our PAC (Parent Advisory Committee) and to the parents who volunteered in various roles during the school events such as sports and teams, book fair, Grade 6/7 Dance, the Moosehide Campaign, the Anti-Racism Committee, Winter Warmer Committee, Pumpkin Patch Committee, Camp Fundraising etc. to name a few. Your advocacy and supports were and continue to be invaluable to our community. This year required increased innovation and opportunities for engagement, and our parent community modeled that wonderfully.

A huge thank you to all staff for their effort, dedication, and care for our students and to all Secord families, parents, caregivers for their ongoing support.

To all in our Secord Community, we wish you the best this summer and hope you have many opportunities to re-connect with loved ones, find time to refresh and recharge and celebrate all your accomplishments this year.

With Gratitude,

Laurent Brisebois and Natalie Morisette

Ecole Laura Secord Elementary Admin Team

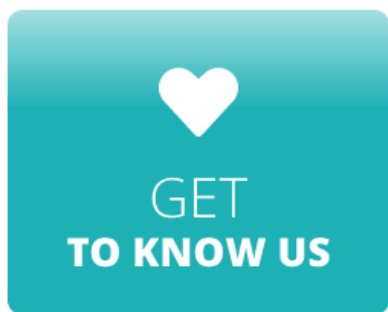
Scrabble Day



The Land of All

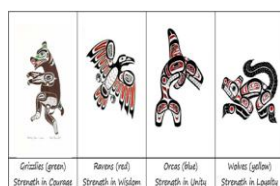
Our Diversity Group got together to raise awareness about our All-Genders Washroom and Human Rights around washrooms and to talk about the diverse needs of all people. The Group came up with educating all primary classes using the book called “Neither” written by Arlie Anderson. The grade 6-7 students read this story and the students had an opportunity to create their own diverse individual for the Land of All where everyone is always welcomed. The student work has been proudly displayed in the hallway near the library. Make some time to look at the great artwork.





Without a doubt students and parents know our staff at Laura Secord. But do you know us as well as you think you do? Each month we'll tell you a new tidbit about a staff member. You may be surprised 😊

If you have been wondering about what Jessie Brown, our previous Vice Principal has been up to. He has moved to Tecumseh Elementary as Principal. In addition, I can share with you that he is now the proud Dad of a new baby boy called Thomas.



The last House Team event; Pajama Day is on June 23rd – students and staff show your school spirit, roll out of bed and wear your pajamas to school!

SECORD ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL CALENDAR
2023 – 2024

School Operation Overview

Number of Days in Session	188
Number of Days of Instruction	181
Number of Days of Non-Instruction	6 Non-Instructional Days 1 Administrative Day (June 28)

Important Dates

First Day of School for Students	Tuesday, September 5, 2023
Day in lieu of National Day of Truth & Reconciliation	Monday, October 2, 2023
Thanksgiving Day	Monday, October 9, 2023
In lieu of Remembrance Day	Monday, November 13, 2023
Last Day of Instruction Before Winter Vacation	Friday, December 22, 2023
Winter Vacation Period	Wednesday, December 27, 2023 - Friday January 5, 2024
School Re-opens after Winter Vacation	Monday, January 8, 2024
Family Day	Monday, February 19, 2024
Last Day of Instruction Before Spring Vacation	Friday, March 15, 2024
Spring Vacation Period	Monday, March 18 – Thursday, March 28, 2024
Good Friday	Friday, March 29, 2024
Easter Monday	Monday, April 1, 2024
School Re-opens after Spring Vacation	Tuesday, April 2, 2024
Victoria Day	Monday, May 20, 2024
Last Full Day of Pupil Attendance	Thursday, June 27, 2024
Administrative/School Closing Day	Friday, June 28, 2024

Professional Development and Non-Instructional Days
(school not in session)

Friday, September 22, 2023	Professional Development Day (Date set by school)
Friday, October 20, 2023	Professional Development Day (Province wide)
Friday, November 24, 2023	Professional Development Day (District wide)
Friday, May 17, 2024	Professional Development Day (Date set by school)
Friday, February 16, 2024	Professional Development Day (District wide)
Monday, April 22, 2024	Professional Development Day (District wide)

Parent Conference Dates

Wednesday, October 25, 2023	2:00 pm
Thursday, October 26, 2023	2:00 pm
Wednesday, February 07, 2024	2:00 pm
Thursday, February 08, 2024	2:00 pm

Early Dismissal Times

Notice of Late Return

if your child will be returning to school late in September (after September 8th), it is critical that you submit a <https://forms.office.com/r/2vccWUHCCX> to the office prior to June 29th so we know that your child(ren) will indeed be returning to Secord School.

Thank you

Laura Secord Peer Helpers 2022-2023

It is with heartfelt thanks we give to our Laura Secord Peer Helpers for all your hard work, dedication, and leadership throughout this year. You have worked tirelessly volunteering your time to work with our young students, with our Secord community and our city. From the Hand-to-Hand project supporting our citizens in the Downtown Eastside; to the Diversity Group and their leadership teaching lesson on acceptance and inclusion within our school community. Our Ready Bodies Learning Minds, Peer Helpers who worked all year teaching students in our motor lab enhancing, reading, writing and self-regulation skills. Also, thanks to our Peer Tutors for piloting a new initiative in dedicating their time after school to tutor students with reading and math. You are an inspiration to our school, and we are so very proud of your achievements this year. You have truly made a difference towards the positive culture of our school. We thank you all for your generosity and kindness in the spirit of giving to others.



Father's Day poems:

*Only a dad, but he gives his all
To smooth the way for his children
small,
Doing, with courage stern and
grim,
The deeds that his father did for
him.
This is the line that for him I pen,
Only a dad, but the best of men.*
—Edgar Guest (1881–1959)



“A father is someone you look up to no matter how tall you grow.”
—Unknown

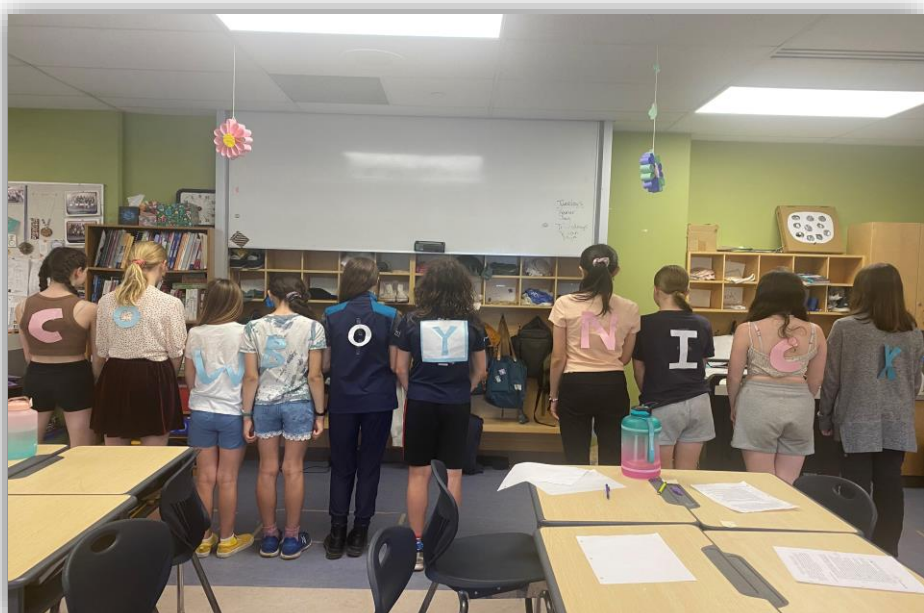
Fun Fact:

I discovered in my research in Canada.

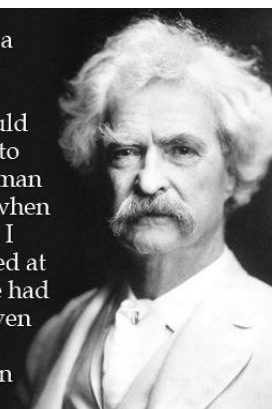
Father's day is traditionally celebrated with roses. Red for Dad or white if he is deceased.

This was a new fact for all in the office.

If you do celebrate this way let us know.



“When I was a boy of 14, my father was so ignorant I could hardly stand to have the old man around. But when I got to be 21, I was astonished at how much he had learned in seven years.”
— Mark Twain



Safety Awareness Corner

Awareness without action is worthless.

Keep your kids safe this summer! We'll take a bit of a break from Covid-19 safety and focus on other areas in our day to day lives.

1. Sun Safety. Sunscreen with an SPF of 15 or higher should be used and reapplied every 2 hours. Use hats and sunglasses as well.
2. Water Safety. Make sure your kids stay in shallow water unless they're experienced swimmers, and never allow your children to dive in unfamiliar waters.
3. Caregiver Safety. Many parents work and need to find alternate care for their children when school is out. Make sure you know and trust your child's caregivers and be sure your child knows how to contact you in case of an emergency.
4. Car Safety. Never leave your child alone in a car. Leaving a child in a parked car can lead to heatstroke and can be fatal.
5. Outdoor Safety. When riding bikes, roller skating or scooters, make sure your children have on helmets. Summer sports should include correct protective gear.
6. Home Safety. Keep children away from grills and fire pits and make sure they know your family's fire safety plan. Keep windows secured and screens closed. Make sure small children can't climb onto anything to access the window.



FATHER'S DAY IN CANADA

In Canada, Father's Day is celebrated with a lot of enthusiasm and fanfare. Since the tradition of celebrating Father's Day moved to Canada from the US, Father's Day in Canada is also celebrated on the third Sunday of June. Just as in the US, people in Canada too wear roses to express gratitude for their father. Traditionally, if the person is wearing a red rose, it symbolizes that the person's father is alive. Likewise, a white rose means that the person's father is no more.

Children in Canada express affection and honor for their dad by presenting them cards, flowers, and chocolates. In modern times, several other gifts of love including neckties, shirts, electronic gadgets, stationery items, etc. are also gifted to fathers by loving children. Another noticeable trend about Father's Day celebration in Canada is that apart from their biological father, people wish "Happy Father's Day" to their grandfathers, stepfathers, foster fathers, uncles, or any other man who is as affectionate and loving towards them as a father.

Dining out with family is another popular Father's Day tradition in Canada. No wonder, restaurants and eating joints witness a bumper rush on the occasion.

Who "Invented" Father's Day?

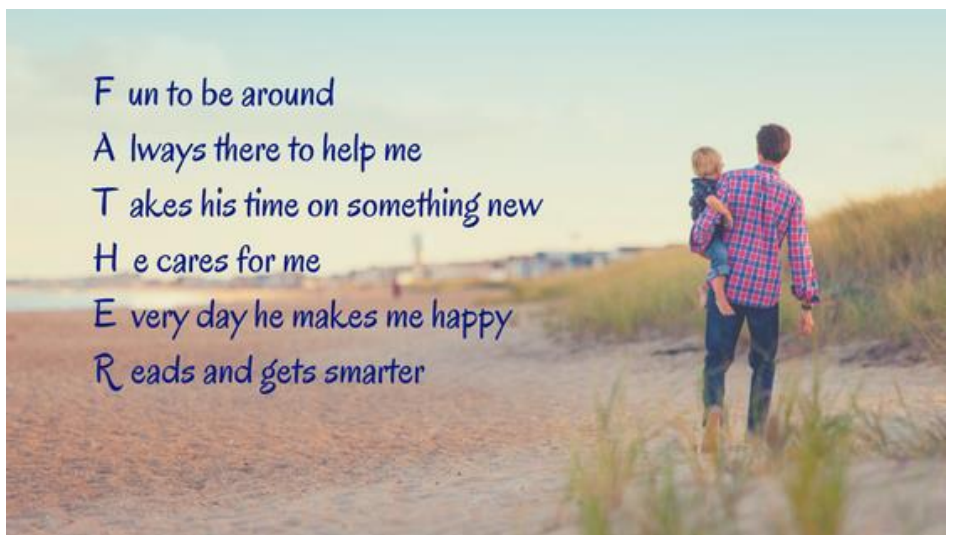
Like [Mother's Day](#), the modern American version of Father's Day has a history that goes well beyond greeting cards. The first known Father's Day service occurred in Fairmont, West Virginia, on July 5, 1908, after hundreds of men died in the worst mining accident in U.S. history. The Sunday service happened because of the efforts of Grace Golden Clayton, the daughter of a dedicated reverend.

While missing her own dad, who had died in 1896, Mrs. Clayton wanted to honor the many fathers who had died in the mining explosion, which killed more than 360 men and boys, and left about 1,000 children fatherless. Although the Fairmont service was the first known to honor fathers, it did not turn into an annual event, nor was the idea promoted (a large July 4 celebration in Fairmont and a tragic young death from typhoid fever took over the news at the time).



Mrs. Sonora Smart Dodd. Popularized the day starting in 1910. The mother of Father's Day was raised by a single dad. Credit: Visit Spokane

Fun to be around
Always there to help me
Takes his time on something new
He cares for me
Every day he makes me happy
Reads and gets smarter



Div 26 Brilliant Butterflies



Div 19, 20, 21 Watercolour Jellyfish



Div. 26 Mother's Day Blurred Pictures

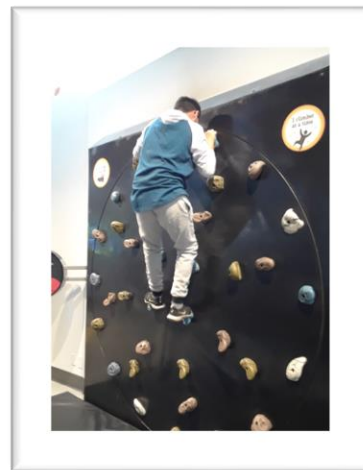
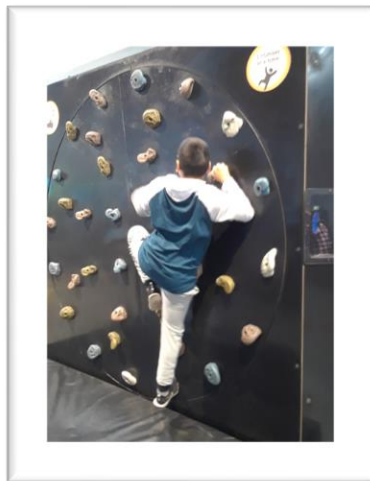
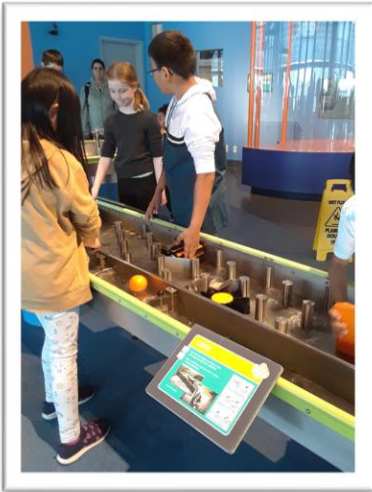


Div. 17 and 18 Fantastical Creepy Crawlies



Secord Activities in May

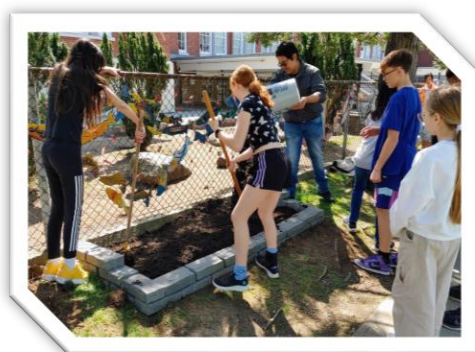
Division 21 at Science World



Rings and Rocks



Div 18 18 getting the residential school memorial garden going.



PAC Page: What's New with Your PAC

PAC Annual General meeting June 6 - looking for new executive members!

The PAC AGM (Annual General Meeting) is on June 6, from 7-8:30pm. The meeting will be online (register [here](#)) or in person at the Innovation lab adjacent to the library. Join us to vote in the new executive for next year, or better yet, get involved yourself! We have a number of positions open and are always looking for newcomers. If you would like to nominate someone for one of our Executive positions or throw your own hat into the ring, please click [here](#) to sign up. All positions are open:

- Chair/Co-chair
- Vice Chair
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Communications Coordinator
- DPAC Rep
- Members-at-large



- **Please click on the link below to see the agenda and review the proposed budget before our June 6th PAC meeting at 7pm. It will be our AGM where we vote for the new Execs and on the budget for next year. If you want to run for any Exec position, nominate someone, have any questions about the budget or want to propose any amendments, you can do so at this meeting.**

- <https://secordpacwebsite.wixsite.com/secordpac/meeting-agenda>
- **The meeting will be hybrid so you can join us via Zoom, <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84451200000>, or in person in the Innovation Lab. As always, there will be free childcare. Hope to see you all there!**

PIZZA DAY

- June 8th, 2023.
- Order by June 4th at secord.hotlunches.net



WEEKLY HOT LUNCH

Monday, Wednesday and Friday (except PD and holidays). Please order at <https://www.cestmoncafe.com>. Please refer to the [Secord PAC Website](#) or [Laura Secord Parents Facebook Group](#) for details on ordering correctly



PAC Fundraisers;

Spirit Bear Coffee



Order: <https://secord.hotlunches.net>

Details: <https://secordpacwebsite.wixsite.com/secordpac>

Raven and Hummingbird Tea



Order: email ckansy@gmail.com

Details: <https://secordpacwebsite.wixsite.com/secordpac>

True Earth



(Proceeds go to Greening Committee)



Mabel's Labels



Laura Secord Elementary
2500 Lakewood Dr
Vancouver, BC
V5N 4V1

Phone 604-713-4996

Director of Instruction:
Janice Myers

Liaison School Trustee:
Janet Fraser

PAC Chairs:
Nusha Balram &
Anna Bishop



We're on the Web!
<http://secord.vsb.bc.ca>

Vancouver School Board

School Calendar

PAC

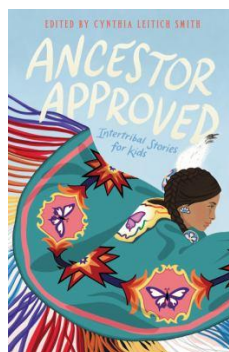
PAC is on Twitter!
[@SecordPAC](https://twitter.com/SecordPAC)

National Indigenous Peoples Day June 21

With National Indigenous People's Day coming up on June 21, we are reminded about the diversity of Indigenous cultures and traditions, the attempted erasure of their practices, and the persistent under-representation of Indigenous voices in the school setting.

It was for all these reasons that one of the Laura Secord Anti-Racism Committee goals this past school year was to work with the school to bring in interactive, cross-curricular Indigenous dancing workshops to students and teachers. Thanks to [Madelaine McCallum](#), an inspiring and talented Cree and Métis dancer, the goal became a reality on April 18th. Madelaine is a facilitator and survivor who shared her wisdom with interactive workshops throughout the day for 500 students and teachers. Feedback from the students and teachers was incredibly positive. Students learned about Métis culture and jig dancing, and many shared with their parents the moves they learned. Let's continue to advocate for budget and efforts to be put towards more of these kinds of opportunities. We look forward to when she can come to the school again soon. In the meantime, here are two ideas:

What are we reading this week? Consider [Ancestor Approved: Intertribal Stories for Kids](#), a collection of intersecting stories from various Indigenous authors, centered around a Pow Wow.



Looking for a way to celebrate in the community on June 21st? Join us after school, at the [National Indigenous Peoples Day Celebration at Grandview Park](#), where there will be Indigenous entertainment and activities.



As always, please stay in touch. We want to hear your ideas about how the ARC (Anti-Racism Committee) can support the Laura Secord community. You can reach us at laurasecordarc@gmail.com

