

LORD STRATHCONA ELEMENTARY

592 East Pender Street
Vancouver, B.C. V6A 1V5
Tel: 604-713-4630

Principal: Mr. Jason Eng Vice Principal: Ms. Janine Lamb

PAC Chairperson: Ms. Krista Sigurdson

School Trustee Liason: Barb Parrott

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

Dear Strathcona Families,

The anticipation of December at Strathcona has arrived! Everyone is excited about the winter concert, pancake breakfast, family portrait night, school grounds revisioning, winter hamper distribution, and eventually a two week break!

Staff and students are thrilled with the launch of PBIS at Strathcona...the Strathcona Dragons Training Day was a huge success, and students are doing an excellent job modelling expected behavior in the cafeteria, hallways, auditorium, and outside during recess and lunch. Excellent work Dragons! Thanks to all our staff for their contributions in making this happen.

This newsletter is full of information and upcoming dates to mark on your calendar, so please take note!

I will keep this month's message short, but want to take a moment to wish everyone a happy holiday season with family and friends, when it arrives.

Jason Eng

Principal

PANCAKE BREAKFAST AND PAJAMA DAY

This year we will be hosting a Pancake Breakfast and Pajama Day to celebrate the holiday season. We would be most pleased if your family joined us between 8:15 and 9:00 am on Wednesday, December 18th for a free breakfast of pancakes, fruit, and juice in the lunchroom. There will also be some festive music! We hope to see many of you at this event.



BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL SUPERVISION

A reminder that students are supervised by staff before school from 8:40AM until 9:00AM and from 3:00PM to 3:20PM in the afternoon. Children should not arrive before 8:40AM or leave after 3:20PM unless they are part of the daycare, the breakfast program, or an organized/supervised activity, otherwise, they will be unsupervised outside. We are finding a number of students coming into the school, some before 8:00AM, which is a concern for student safety.

WINTER HOLIDAYS

The last day of school before the holidays is Friday, December 20th, 2019. Students will be dismissed at their regular dismissal time of 3:00 PM. Winter holidays are from Monday, December 23rd until Friday, January 3rd. School reopens on Monday, January 6th, 2020.

SNOW CLOSURE

In the event that schools are closed due to weather conditions, the Vancouver School Board will contact the following radio and television stations to make an announcement by 6 am:

- CKNW (980 AM)
- CKWX (NEWS 1130 AM)
- FAIRCHILD RADIO CJVB AM 1470
- CBC RAIDO (690 AM, 105.7 FM)
- BCTV/ GLOBAL (CABLE CHANNEL 11)
- CITY TV (CABLE CHANNEL 13)

In addition, information on snow closures will be available on line at www.vsb.bc.ca



Dear Strathcona Families,

The Winter Concert is fast approaching!

Please save the following dates:

Wednesday, December 11th, 2019 @ 6:00 PM

Thursday, December 12th, 2019 @ 1:00 PM

The following classes will be performing:

- Div 5F Grade 6/7 Anne-Marie Belanger
- Div 6 Grade 5/6 Eileen Deforge
- Div 7F Grade 4/5/6 Bronwen Keddie/Marie Parellada
- Div 8F Grade 4/5 Annie Simard
- Div 10 Grade 4/5 Chelsea West
- Div 12 Grade 3 Jenny Albutat
- Div 18 Grade 1 Evelyn Tam
- Div 20 Kindergarten Jessica Federico
- Div 21 Kindergarten Alix Moore
- Div 22F Kindergarten Collette Gagne



Please mark your calendars. Hope to see you there!

Classes not performing at this concert will be performing at the spring concert.

SAVE THE DATE



Thursday, January 9, 2020 is our Information Session for Early French Immersion. This session is intended for any family interested in having their child attend French Immersion in Kindergarten at Strathcona. Please join us in our library in the main building ('A' building) of our school at 7:00 pm. This Information Session is for parents and guardians, unfortunately, babysitters will not be available.

BABY TIME DROP IN PROGRAM

Young children ages 2-3 years old and their caregivers can learn through play, language, and positive social interactions. Every Thursday, from 10:30AM-12PM in the Family Room (C004). Contact Tracy at (604) 713-4630 for more info.

PARENT & CHILD DROP IN

Children age 3-5 years old and their caregivers are invited to join in an atmosphere of creativity and play. Activities include crafts, stories, games, songs, group play and more! Every Tuesday, from 1pm- 2:30pm in the Family Room (C004). Contact Tracy at (604) 713-4630 for more info.

MULTICULTURAL FAIR 2020

Multicultural Fair is happening on March 11, 2020. Any families who would like to share their cultures and traditions with our students on that day, please contact Tracy at tkong@vsb.bc.ca for more information.



VSB LEGACY CARVING PROJECT

In honour of truth and reconciliation, the District partnered with local Indigenous artists to bring one 44-foot Reconciliation Pole and two Welcome Figures to the Education Centre. A collection of three poles together is a national first for a public school. Follow this link to see a 6 minute video:

<https://web.microsoftstream.com/video/5d6b03c9-9f39-49e1-bcac-f7f23b37126f>

COMMUNICATING STUDENT LEARNING

Most Vancouver public schools, along with schools throughout British Columbia, are moving from a model of 'reporting to parents' on a regular and pre-determined schedule to 'communicating student learning with parents' on an on-going basis throughout the school year. This year all teachers at Strathcona will be using this Communicating Student Learning (CSL) approach. Parents will receive five communications from teachers within a school year:

- a written progress report at the end of January
- a written summative report at the end of June

The written reports will include descriptive comments and a summary of student progress in relation to the learning standards from the BC Curriculum.

In addition, there will be a minimum of three ongoing communications of student learning in various subject areas. One of these communications already occurred in October at Parent-Teacher conferences, and another will take place in February.

Please follow this link for more information on CSL: <https://www.vsb.bc.ca/site/csl/k7/Pages/Parent-Information.aspx>



KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Kindergarten registration for children born in 2015 begins on November 1st.

All Kindergarten applicants are required to submit an application to their English catchment elementary school. This includes families who wish to apply for choice programs (French Immersion, Montessori, etc.) and/or a cross boundary placement.

The priority registration period for Kindergarten opens on Friday, November 1st and closes at 4 pm on Friday, January 31st. Students who submit an application within this priority period will be accommodated before late applicants.

Applying for Kindergarten is a 2-Step process:

Step 1: Completion of an online application form.

Step 2: Bringing supporting documentation, along with your child, to your neighbourhood English catchment school.

Supporting Documents Needed:

1. Proof of residence in Vancouver
2. Child's birth certificate
3. Immigration documentation (if applicable)
4. Immunization records
5. Court Orders/Documents (if applicable)

If you want to apply for a Choice program or cross-boundary, you must first apply to your English catchment elementary school. Applications for Choice programs and cross boundary placements will begin to be accepted in early 2020.

In the event there are more in-catchment applicants than available space* at the school, the following process will be used to prioritize enrolment:

Kindergarten Applications Received Between November 1st and January 31st

1. In-catchment Kindergarten applicants with siblings in attendance at the school (and who will be attending next year) will be placed first.
2. The names of all other in-catchment registrants will be entered into a random draw for the remaining Kindergarten spaces.
3. Students who cannot be accommodated will be placed on a waitlist in the order in which their name was drawn.
4. Between January 31st and the second Friday in June students on the ordered waitlist will be accommodated as space becomes available.

Kindergarten Registrations Received AFTER January 31st

In-catchment Kindergarten students who apply after January 31st will be accommodated if there is space. If there is no space their names will be added to the bottom of the existing waitlist.

Note: There will be no priority given to registrants with siblings if they register after January 31st.

For more information on kindergarten registration visit: <http://www.vsb.bc.ca/kindergarten>

* Available Space includes physical capacity, resources, staffing, or educational programs available or planned for a school as defined by the district. (Administrative Procedure 300)



GRADE 6/7 PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT

Grade 6/7 Parent Night at Britannia Secondary: Please join us to find out more about Britannia Secondary School. What programs do we offer? What about clubs and teams? Supports? What to expect in Grade 8? There will be time for questions, too. When and Where? Wednesday, February 5th at 6:30 pm in the school library at Britannia Secondary School.



Is your child going into Kindergarten in September 2020?

Kindergarten can be an exciting and stressful time for you and your child.

Support for School Success invites families who have a child entering kindergarten to join in fun activities to provide support for learning, behaviour and physical health.

What will these activities include?

With fun activities, your child will have these checks:

- Eyes
- Hearing
- Talking
- Health
- Behaviour
- Dental

Who?

This event is supported by community workers, child health providers, and educators for children entering Kindergarten at:

Grandview
Britannia
Strathcona

XPey' (formerly known as Macdonald)
Seymour
Queen Alexandra
Crosstown

Where?

Ray-Cam Co-operative Centre
920 East Hastings Street

When?

Wednesdays

Your appointment will take 2 hours.

January 15, February 5, March 11, April 8,
May 6 and 27, and June 17

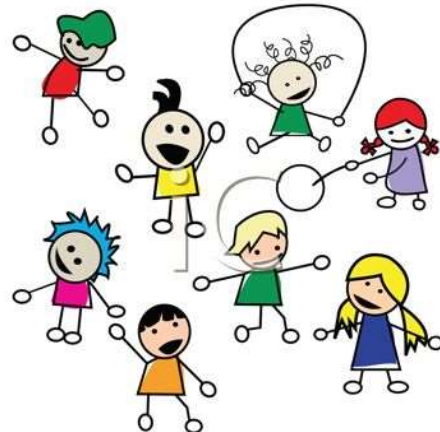
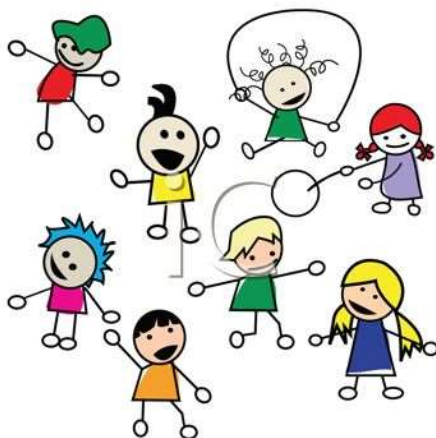
How do you sign up?

Call Harinder @ 604-675-3980

For more information:

Ray-Cam staff - Carin @ 604-257-6949;

BC Children's Hospital RICHER NPs @ 604-875-2246



**You can bring a friend or family member with you for support.
There will be a snack, lunch and a small gift bag for your child.**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS



WHAT'S GOING ON AT STRATHCONA

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Wednesday, December 11 | Winter Concert at 6:00 PM |
| Thursday, December 12 | Winter Concert at 1:00 PM |
| Wednesday, December 18 | Pancake Breakfast |
| Friday, December 20 | Last day before winter break |
| Monday, January 6 | School re-opens after winter break |
| Thursday, January 9 | Kindergarten French Immersion Information Night at 7:00 PM in the Library (for incoming 2020 Kindergartens only) |
| Monday, January 20 | Pro-D Day, school not in session |
| Thursday, January 30 | Report cards go home |



PAC CORNER

Dear Strathcona parents,

The PAC School Grounds committee has organized an open house with a landscape architect on Monday December 9th from 5-7pm in the auditorium. This event will gather community and parent feedback on how our school grounds can be improved. Please come! This is a public event for the neighborhood so please spread the word to those who are interested in the future of our school grounds.

The committee is looking for volunteers to help out that evening with set up, facilitation, and clean up. Please let Carla know if you can help out by emailing carlachai@gmail.com.

There will be student workshops held this week on Tuesday, Dec 3rd and Wednesday, Dec 4th. If you can help during the day with those workshops, please email Carla.

Krista Sigurdson
Strathcona PAC chair

Strathcona School Grounds Re-Imagining Open House

The Strathcona PAC invites you to
create a better schoolyard together!

Strathcona Elementary Auditorium
Monday, December 9, 2019. 5-7pm
(Presentation at 5:30PM)



Snacks and refreshments served

All neighbours welcome!

contact: pac_str@vsb.bc.ca



Community Centre News

Winter Solstice Celebration is returning to Strathcona Community Centre

Workshops, entertainment, treats and fun.

Saturday December 21 | 6:00pm – 10:00pm

visit Strathcona Community Centre for details.

Strathcona Community Centre Association Presents

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

| Saturday, December 14th 10 am - 12 pm |

Registration

Children (0-17 yrs) \$1.00
Adults (18+ yrs) \$2.00

Join us for a festive morning
of pancakes, activities and a
visit from Santa himself!



Please visit www.strathconaacc.ca for more information!

we are currently accepting registrations for:

STRATHCONA CC WINTER CAMP

9AM-3PM | DEC 23-24, 27, 31 & JAN 2-3

*Registration is by referral only until December 5th
speak with your family's support worker or
contact Strathcona Community Centre - 604.713.1838 | Carrie Leung - ckwok@vsb.bc.ca
for more information.*

all other registration begins December 6th

STRATHCONA
COMMUNITY CENTRE
We take care of each other

VANCOUVER
BOARD OF PARKS
AND RECREATION

School Age Immunization Clinics at Robert and Lily Lee Family Community Health Centre
Need to get caught up on childhood immunizations?
Come and see us at RLLF Community Health Centre

Immunization Clinic Dates in December and January:

December 12th 2019, 9-11:30am

January 16th 2020, 9-11:30am

January 30th 2020, 9-11:30

Please call #604-675-3980 to book an appointment

Address: 1669 East Broadway, Vancouver (Commercial Drive and Broadway)

WINTER SPORTS SAFETY

How can we be safe when tobogganing, skating, skiing, and snowboarding?

- ◆ Wear an approved helmet
- ◆ Use equipment that fits properly and is well maintained
- ◆ Use a neck warmer instead of a scarf to prevent strangulation
- ◆ Use sun protection (sun block and sun glasses) even on a cloudy day
- ◆ Know your ability and experience
- ◆ Go inside to get warm if shivering



STAYING HEALTHY OVER THE HOLIDAY SEASON

- ◆ Get enough sleep
- ◆ Eat well balanced meals
- ◆ Take time to relax
- ◆ Do things you enjoy
- ◆ Enjoy your family, friends and traditions



Some individuals/families experience loneliness, increased stress or depression over the holiday season. Talk to the public health nurse or your primary health care provider for help.



Where do I find more information?

- Robert and Lily Lee Family Community Health Centre, 604-675-3980
- Health Link BC - online www.healthlinkbc.ca or dial 811
- www.vch.ca/schoolhealth

General Gordon Elementary

**Grade 6 Late French Immersion
Information Session**

For schools WEST of Main Street

**Please join us for an informative
evening with details on our
Late French Immersion Program.**

Thursday, Jan. 9, 2020

Time: 7- 8 pm

**Location: General Gordon Elementary –
Multipurpose Room
2268 Bayswater St.
Vancouver, B.C. V6K 4P5**



Britannia Secondary
Grade 6/7 Parent Night

**Wednesday, February 5
6:30- 7:30pm in the school library**

Please join us to find out more about Britannia.

- What programs do we offer?
- What about clubs and teams?
- Supports?
- What to expect in Grade 8?

**Babysitting will be provided if needed.
Please contact Krista Ediger to arrange @ kediger@vsb.bc.ca**

Refreshments will be served. We look forward to seeing you!