

LORD STRATHCONA ELEMENTARY

592 East Pender Street

Vancouver, B.C. V6A 1V5

Tel: 604-713-4630

Principal: Mr. Jason Eng

Vice Principal: Mr. Dominic Maggiolo

PAC Chairperson: TBD

School Trustee Liason: Barb Parrott

MARCH/APRIL NEWSLETTER

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Hello Strathcona Families,

Welcome to Spring! There is so much excitement and energy in the air as the weather improves and temperatures rise. With the relaxation of Covid restrictions, Strathcona continues to operate in a safe manner, respecting every individual's decisions as to what is most important for themselves but also continuing to follow best practices and preestablished routines to keep everyone healthy and safe.

Students, staff, and parents are excited to be involved in the planning of field trips, outdoor education field studies for our 6/7s, a Victoria trip for our senior students, and even Sports Day!

I want to highlight a very important PAC meeting that will be taking place on Monday, April 11, just after 9:00 AM in the courtyard. Hope you can make it, and a huge thank-you to the Strathcona PAC for their continued support of school wide learning initiatives. A part of that meeting will include a showcase of the amazing Strathcona Red Fox Drum Group led by Donna and Robin, our wonderful Indigenous Education Enhancement Team!

I look forward to continuing the dialogue and connecting with as many of you as possible in the coming weeks and months!

Take care everyone and continue to stay safe!

Jason Eng
Principal Strathcona

DAILY ATTENDANCE

Daily school attendance is important for all students. Students who attend school regularly are more engaged in learning, have a greater sense of belonging to the community and are more likely to graduate high school. Perfect attendance should be a goal because even missing two days of school a month works out to a student missing the equivalent of one month of school a year. Research shows that 18 school days missed can lead to one grade lost. Your child should attend school every day unless there is an unavoidable cause like illness. If you have questions around when to keep your child home from school due to illness, please see information at the end of this newsletter, or follow this link:



<https://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/lord-strathcona/Families/Frequently-Asked-Questions/Pages/default.aspx>

When children arrive at school on time they start the day off more positively. When children attend school consistently, they are able to build stronger relationships with their teachers and classmates. It is difficult to 'catch children up' when they miss a significant amount of teacher instruction because of late arrivals. In some cases, valuable teacher time can also be compromised and these late arrivals/absences impact the learning not only of the child who is absent/late but also of his/her classmates.

Please let us know if there is any way we can support you in getting your child to school. Please contact us in the office 604-713-4630 to discuss your ideas or concerns.

ENGLISH KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR SEPTEMBER 2022

We may have spaces left in our English Kindergarten classes for September 2022. If you have a child born in 2017, please register them ASAP in order to help secure your child's placement in their home school. Once classes are full, new Kindergarten registrants will be placed on a waitlist. Please follow this link for information and to begin the registration process: https://www.vsb.bc.ca/School/School-Registration/Kindergarten_Registration/Pages/Default.aspx



STRATHCONA WELCOME TO KINDERGARTEN EVENT

If you have a child entering Kindergarten at Strathcona in September 2022, please join us virtually in mid-May for our Welcome to Kindergarten event. You and your child will also have an opportunity to meet Strathcona staff in-person, learn more about Strathcona Elementary, and participate in some fun learning activities. At the end of the event, you will receive a 'Welcome to Kindergarten' bag filled with supplies, such as books, crayons, paper, and scissors. More details to come, please check your email and junk mail folder regularly!

CHANGE OF ADDRESS OR PHONE NUMBER?

Just a reminder that if you have changed your address or telephone number, you must contact the school office with this new information. Please provide a copy of your lease/rental/purchase agreement for the student's record. For safety and enrolment purposes, it is vital that the school office has this information.

SUMMER SOCCER DAY CAMP

The Royal Soccer Club, a registered non-profit community organization, is proud to host their 30th annual popular grassroots summer soccer day camps. The program is designed to promote personal development, team building and of course, FUN! Offering full day and morning sessions to all children aged 5 to 13, the program runs all weeks in July and August. There are 3 locations across Vancouver (site details available by clicking here or visiting the LOCATIONS page on our website royalsoccerclub.com. To register or for more information, visit www.royalsoccerclub.com or call 1-800-427-0536.



WHAT'S GOING ON AT STRATHCONA

Friday, April 15	Good Friday, school not in session
Monday, April 18	Easter Monday, school not in session
Monday, April 25	Pro D Day, no school for students
Monday, May 23	Victoria Day, school not in session
Friday, June 24	Grade 7 Graduation
Wednesday, June 29	Last day of school for students

STUDENT SHOWCASE



Donna Lokhorst's Drum Group for Women's March



Lion Dance

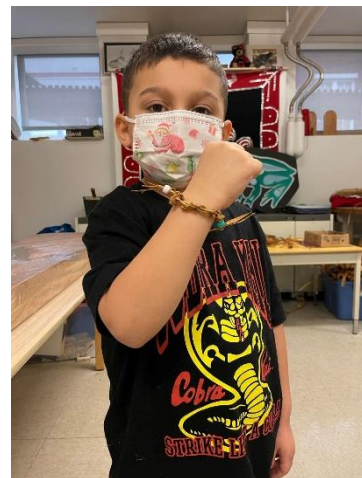


Bracelet Weaving

The school started an Indigenous weaving project in February. Every class had a chance to make cedar rope bracelets with Donna and Robin, our Indigenous Worker and Teacher at the school. The students used cedar bark that they harvested in Katzie Nation in late spring of 2021.

The school started the wool weaving portion of the project on Tuesday, April 5th. Eventually some teachers will be able to use Coast Salish Looms in their classrooms.

Thank you to the PAC, Indigenous Education, and the school for helping to fund the project.





Dear Strathcona Parents/Guardians,

I'm writing to let you know that the PAC board is organizing one more meeting this year in order to **discuss and approve new budget items that have been brought to us by teachers and staff at the school.**

Normally, our meetings are held in the evenings on zoom but we decided to try something different and hopefully take advantage of the Spring weather!

We're going to host our meeting on **Monday April 11th in the school courtyard at 9:10am with coffee/tea/pastries served. The Red Fox drummers led by Indigenous educators Robin Roberts and Donna Lokhorst will be performing for the PAC!**

You will also have the option to join on zoom by going here:

<https://ubc.zoom.us/j/66221012586?pwd=a0xaMll2enVXUWRHMStPeDF6ZkFaUT09>

Meeting ID: 662 2101 2586

Passcode: 2468

Proposed meeting agenda can be found [here](#) and more details will be provided at the time of the meeting about proposed expenses.

If you need childcare for younger children so that you can participate in meeting, please send me an email and I will arrange.

If you are free to help at the meeting (e.g. set up, take down, take notes, etc.), please send me an email.

This general email address will find me (Krista, vice chair): strathconaelementarypac@gmail.com Feel free to reach out with any questions. As you recall, we are still looking for a PAC chair so please understand delays in response.

Warmly, Krista (PAC vice-chair and DPAC rep)

2021-2022 PAC board

- Vice Chair and DPAC Representative: Krista Sigurdson strathconaelementarypac@gmail.com
- Secretary: Megan McKinney strathconapacsecretary@gmail.com
- Treasurer: Dawn Brennan strathconapactreasurer@gmail.com
- Members At large:
 - Carla Frankel (School Grounds)
 - Tiffany Kindrid (Income Equity)
 - Jamie Smallboy (Indigenous Representative)
 - Erika Xu
 - Sarah Fielden
 - Hanna Wagner

How to Wash Your Hands

Hand Washing and Hand Sanitizers

Hand washing is the best way to prevent the spread of infection. Proper hand washing reduces the spread of colds and influenza by as much as 40%.

When you wash your hands, you wash away the germs that you may have picked up from other people, from surfaces or from animals. Teach children to wash their hands thoroughly and often, so that hand washing becomes a life-long habit.

There should be **liquid soap, water and disposable paper towels** available for hand washing.

Use plain liquid soap to wash hands. Do not use antibacterial soaps or cleaners; these can lead to antibiotic resistance. (See: Antibiotic Resistant Bacteria, page 27)

When washing their hands with soap and water, **children should wash for 20 seconds**; sing "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star". Then rinse well.

Use disposable paper towels to dry hands and throw the towel into the garbage. "No Touch" garbage cans help reduce the spread of infection.

When soap and water are not available, children should use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer. Alcohol-based hand sanitizers are safe for children to use.

When cleaning their hands with alcohol-based hand sanitizer, **children should use enough sanitizer to keep their hands wet for 15 - 30 seconds**; follow the directions on the bottle.

Children should wash their hands:

- before and after eating
- after using the toilet
- after sneezing or coughing or wiping their noses
- when their hands are dirty
- after playing with commonly used toys
- before and after playing at a water table
- after playing outdoors or in a sandbox
- after handling animals or animal waste.

When hands are visibly dirty or if there is diarrhea, warm water and soap should be used instead of a hand sanitizer.



Posters, video and more materials that show how to wash hands and use hand sanitizer at:
sneezesdiseases.com/wash-hands