

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: Mr. Alec Smecher

MAY NEWSLETTER

Hello Strathcona families,

The arrival of spring brings with it an exciting time at Strathcona Elementary. This is highlighted by many schoolwide events that have taken place over the past two months and also events to look forward to in May and June. The spring concert, Multicultural Fair, and Welcome to Kindergarten events were all very well attended. We look forward to seeing everyone at Sports Day which will take place in a couple of weeks.

I have been fascinated to hear about the variety of exciting and engaging field trips and field studies opportunities that different classes have been going on, ranging from the Vancouver Aquarium, Science World, Stanley Park, and the Legacy Carving Project at Britannia Secondary and the VSB. I'm sure there will be more to look forward to!

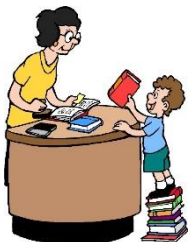
As spoken about at last week's PAC meeting, students, staff, and families are all excited about the expansion of the school garden taking place in the courtyard this spring! Ms. Persoon is spearheading this project with the help of students...it will be great to see it come to life! Stay tuned for updates.

Another piece of exciting news will be the unveiling of a new Strathcona Dragons logo design that will be used on Strathcona student clothing. Students have been involved in the process of the design and will be voting on their choice for the final logo!

Lots of excitement for the final two months of the school year!

Cheers,

Jason Eng
Principal



MS. HONG'S LIBRARY CORNER

Star Wars Reads Day Friday, May 3rd!

Students are invited to the library at recess and lunch for fun Star Wars activities. Everyone is encouraged to dress up!

Just a reminder to check at home for any overdue library books! Thank you.

SCHOOL ORGANIZATION FOR 2019-2020

We are in the process of establishing our enrolment projections for the 2019 – 2020 school year. If you know that your child will not be returning to Strathcona in September 2019, please call our office at 604-713-4630 to notify us.

SUMMER SCHOOL REGISTRATION

Summer School Registration is now open. Please go to <https://summer.vsb.bc.ca> for more information.

SUMMER EXPERIENCE AT LAURA SECORD

Come join the Summer Experience at Laura Secord. We are the only French Immersion Summer School site in the Vancouver district. Come make new friends, practice your French, review skills and discover new passions. We offer morning and afternoon programs with a supervised lunch hour. Come for half the day or make a day of it!

Morning session: 9:00 AM - 11:40 AM
 Afternoon session: 12:20 PM - 3:00 PM

Registration begins April 29th and is open to all students currently enrolled in Early or Late French Immersion, or the Intensive French Program. All students are eligible for one free program. Pair it with a second program for a 3-week immersive experience. More information and registration details available at: <https://summer.vsb.bc.ca>.

Getting Ready for French Immersion Kindergarten (Pre-K)

Help prepare your child for a successful year in French Immersion Kindergarten. This paid (\$330) course will focus on preparing young students for the routines of Kindergarten, including classroom expectations, songs, games, numbers and literature in French. Students will also practice fine motor skills through fun activities.



GRADE 7 GRADUATION CEREMONY

To all parents or guardians of Grade 7 students, there will be a graduation ceremony on June 25, 2019 in the auditorium from 11-12pm. More details to follow. Mark your calendars for this exciting moment!

KINDERGARTEN SEPTEMBER 2019

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.

With fun activities, your child will have eyes, hearing, talking, health, behavior, and dental checks.

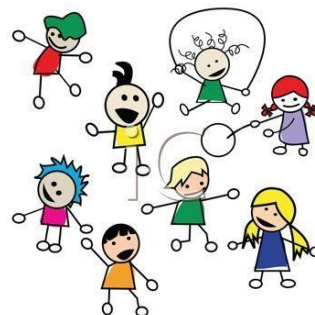
Location:
 Ray-Cam Co-operative Centre
 920 East Hastings Street

Dates:
 May 1 and 29, and June 29

Call Harinder at 604-675-3980 to sign up for a 2 hour appointment.

For more information:
 Ray-Cam staff - Carin @ 604-257-6949;
 BC Children's Hospital RICHER NPs @ 604-875-2246

OR Drop in to check things out!
 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

Thursday, May 2	Big One at 2pm. School-wide earthquake drill.
Friday, May 3	Star Wars Reads Day! Students are invited to the library at recess and lunch for fun Star Wars activities. Everyone is encouraged to dress up!
Thursday, May 9	Twins' Day – find a friend – or friends, and plan to dress alike!
Friday, May 10	Graduation photos in the morning
Thursday, May 16	Sports Day
Friday, May 17	Pro-D Day, school not in session
Monday, May 21	Victoria Day, school not in session
Thursday, May 23	Indigenous Moving Forward Ceremony

Friday, June 7	Rainbow day! Dress up in rainbow colours for school spirit!
Monday, June 10	Volunteer Tea 8:30-9:30am
Wednesday, June 19	Indigenous Day assembly, 1pm
Tuesday, June 25	Grade 7 Graduation, 11am
Thursday, June 27	Last day of school for students

STUDENT SHOWCASE



Division 18 had a week of exploration at AquaSchool at the Vancouver Aquarium. We found shoreline crabs, touched sea cucumbers, listened to a shark expert, and were shocked to learn that birds are related to dinosaurs. Most importantly, we learned about what we can do to take care of the ocean and all its creatures.



Can you spot the crabs @ the beach?

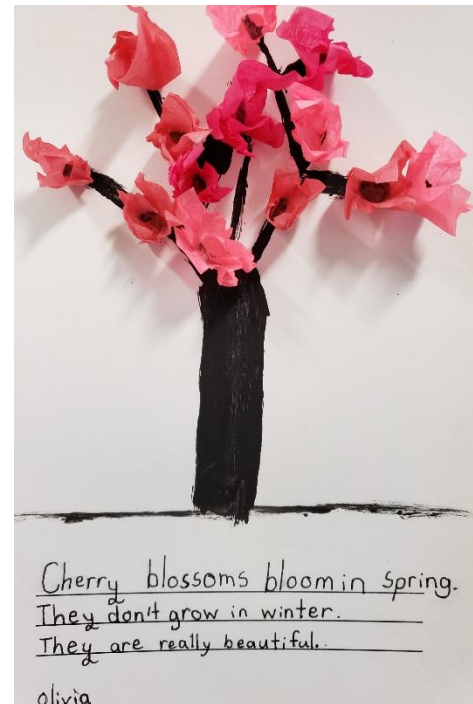
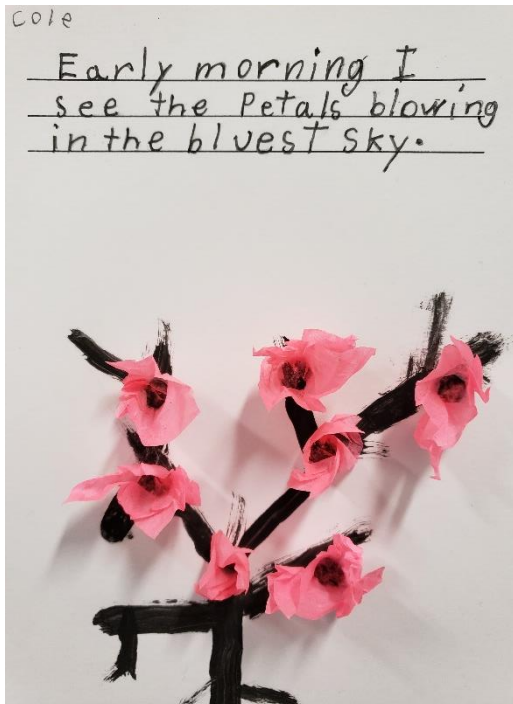


Take a closer look!

Shoreline crabs live under the rocks.

After we studied the crabs up close, we kept our promise and returned the little creatures to their homes under the rocks.

Division 14 created pieces of art work to celebrate the beauty of cherry blossom trees.



Division 17 are working towards growing their own vegetable garden with the help of growing chefs. We have tasted and explored lots of tasty new vegetables like daikon, celery root, and fennel. We are also learning how to care for our seedlings. The special helper waters them everyday and we rotate them to make sure they all get enough sunlight.





PAC CORNER

If you're a parent of a child at Strathcona, then you're part of the PAC! We've been very active this spring:

Bingo Night

Please join us for a PAC BINGO night in the auditorium (date to be finalized). All Strathcona kids will be given a free BINGO card and BINGO prizes will be for kids! We will also have a raffle for adults with prizes donated by local businesses.

This is a community event first and a fundraiser second. We are raising funds to revitalize our playground.

We need your help volunteering on the day of! Please sign up here: <https://bit.ly/2ZC5N2F> or contact Krista at krista.sigurdson@gmail.com or 604-314-7697.

Food Security

The PAC has formed a food security committee that is dedicated to increasing knowledge of nutrition and ensuring that all children at Strathcona have access to healthy food. The committee is currently discussing programs that are used to deliver nutritious food to our children while at school. Another topic of interest is using the school garden to help increase understanding of nutrition and how fruits and vegetables grow. If you would like to be involved in the committee or if you have an issue regarding food security that you would like the committee to address, come to the next PAC meeting or send the PAC an email.

Technology Committee

The PAC has formed a technology committee to look at ways to improve students' opportunities to learn and work with computers and technology at Strathcona. We are looking at grant opportunities and fundraising. If you'd like to get involved, please email us at pac_str@vsb.bc.ca!

Henry Hudson EFI Proposal

We are pleased that the school board has decided not to proceed with the proposed move of Henry Hudson's Early French Immersion (EFI) spaces to Strathcona. The PAC was very active in consulting with parents, teachers, and other stakeholders, and came to the conclusion that the proposal would have negative impacts on equity, out-of-school care, seismic safety, etc.

Playground Committee

The Playground Committee is getting ambitious! We will be broadening our scope from the courtyard spaces to include the school grounds as a whole. Our multi-year goal is to bring a top-notch play environment to Strathcona's school grounds. Watch for information on community consultation, planning and fundraising. We have skilled and committed parents and would love your help! Please contact us at pac_str@vsb.bc.ca.

Annual General Meeting

We will be scheduling our Annual General Meeting for June. This will be your chance to help choose a team for next year's PAC and approve a budget. For details, please make sure you're signed up for the PAC email list (<http://eepurl.com/ggoJnb>) or our Facebook group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1748127745327343/>). And as always, you can contact us at pac_str@vsb.bc.ca.

Many thanks to all the PAC volunteers who are making this happen! It's exciting to see the Strathcona's community spirit come to life.

Alec Smecher
PAC Chair



Community Centre News

Food Program at Strathcona Community Center activities for May:

Breakfast Program - May 1st – May 31st (M-F, 7:30-8:55am, closed Victoria Day May 20th)

Backpack Program - May 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st (Fri. 2:00-4:00pm)

Chat and Chew food club - May 2nd -30th (Tuesdays and Thursdays 12-12:55pm)

Cooking fun with families - May 6th, 13, 27th (Mondays 12—2:30pm, closed Victoria Day May 20th)

Backpack sharing table - Ramadan celebration - May 3rd (Fri. 2:00-4:00pm)