



## 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

# NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

Dear Strathcona Families,

October is one of the busiest months of the school year, but it is also my favorite! I cannot believe how fast it went by, and how much was accomplished! I hope parents were able to connect with teachers last week at goal setting conferences, and that students and families are ready for a successful November and December of learning and engagement. Halloween traditions, old and new, were fantastic at Strathcona this week. The school was decorated, on Halloween we had our annual costume parade and the primary pumpkin patch was a big hit! Thanks to all our volunteers who helped make this idea a reality.



On the athletics front, the Strathcona Dragons are off to a fantastic start! Both the girls and boys had successful soccer seasons, culminating in two teams qualifying for City Championships. Cross Country was well represented by both primary and intermediate students and included participation in a variety of mini meets as well as the district meet at Trout Lake. Fantastic showing by all runners in a variety of age categories against student athletes from across the city! Thank you to all parent volunteer drivers who are supporting Strathcona athletics by transporting students to and from games/meets. A special thank you also goes out to our coaching staff! Looking forward to volleyball season league games starting up this week.

On the PAC front, I know preparations are in place for Movie Night on November 7th, as well as the next PAC Meeting on November 20th. Thank-you for your ongoing support of Strathcona, and I look forward to BBQing next Thursday!

I hope that everyone had a safe and exciting Halloween!

Jason Eng  
Principal

### **COMMUNICATING STUDENT LEARNING**

Most Vancouver elementary public schools, along with schools throughout British Columbia, have moved 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, 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
- a minimum of three ongoing communications of student learning in various subject areas; these communications include Parent Conferences on October 23 and 24 and February 12 and 13

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



### **FALL WEATHER AND RAINY DAYS**



With a change in seasons comes a change in weather. Students will be going outside for recess and lunch on most days, so please ensure your children are dressed appropriately for the colder, wetter weather. Also, don't forget to label your child's clothing. Our lost and found area is filling up, so please stop by to retrieve any lost items that belong to your child.

## **BEDTIME AND SCHOOL**

Here are some quick tips for a good night's sleep:

- Have scheduled bedtimes and wake-up times, even on weekends.
- Make sure bedrooms are dark, cool, and quiet with a comfortable mattress and pillow.
- In the morning, open the curtains to let the light shine in!
- Regular physical activity during the day, to tire out the body.
- Turn off any computers, TVs, tablets and cellphones at least 30 min before bedtime. These devices produce bright lights and loud noises that keep your mind stimulated and awake.
- Avoid eating a large meal just before bedtime.
- Avoid drinks that have caffeine such as pop, energy drinks, tea or coffee at least 4 hours before bedtime.



## **REGISTRATION PROCESS FOR KINDERGARTEN**



Kindergarten registration for children born in 2015 begins on November 1<sup>st</sup>.

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 1<sup>st</sup> and closes at 4 pm on Friday, January 31<sup>st</sup>. 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 1<sup>st</sup> and January 31<sup>st</sup>

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 31<sup>st</sup> and the second Friday in June students on the ordered waitlist will be accommodated as space becomes available.

Kindergarten Registrations Received AFTER January 31<sup>st</sup>

In-catchment Kindergarten students who apply after January 31<sup>st</sup> 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 31<sup>st</sup>.  
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)

**MINI-SCHOOL REGISTRATION INFORMATION FOR GRADE 7 STUDENTS**

*REGISTRATION FOR MINI SCHOOLS FOR 2020 ENTRANCE FOR GRADE 8S ONLY.*



Applying for Mini School and Test Registration  
VSB's Mini School programs provide enrichment opportunities for highly motivated students who are Vancouver residents and consistently achieve B averages or higher. **Students must apply to each program separately by picking up an application package at the school where the program is offered.**  
Each year over 1,400 students apply for approximately 600 grade 8 spaces in the Mini School programs. Acceptance is based on test marks, grade 6 and/or 7 report cards, applications and interviews.

Please remember that all VSB secondary schools have a variety of challenging and exciting programs and courses, and that many students who take the regular programs graduate, receive scholarships and attend the university of their choice. Many schools have also developed their own school-based enrichment program for a wide variety of interests and abilities.

Mini-school programs beginning at grade 8:

[https://www.vsb.bc.ca/Student\\_Learning/Secondary/Mini\\_Schools/Documents/sbfile/190627/Secondary-Program-June-2019-web.pdf](https://www.vsb.bc.ca/Student_Learning/Secondary/Mini_Schools/Documents/sbfile/190627/Secondary-Program-June-2019-web.pdf)

Contact the programs directly for information, contact information and application forms.

Visit: [https://www.vsb.bc.ca/Student\\_Learning/Secondary/Mini\\_Schools/Pages/Default.aspx](https://www.vsb.bc.ca/Student_Learning/Secondary/Mini_Schools/Pages/Default.aspx)



**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

**WHAT'S GOING ON AT STRATHCONA**

Tuesday, November 5	Uzume Taiko performance for students
Wednesday, November 6	Traffic and Community Safety talk with Vancouver Police Department (11:15AM-12PM)
Thursday, November 7	Remembrance Day Assembly PAC Movie Night – showing ‘Sing’ at 6-8:30PM
Friday, November 8	Pro D Day – NO SCHOOL
Monday, November 11	NO SCHOOL – Stat Holiday
Tuesday, November 12	Photo retakes at 1 PM
Wednesday, November 20	PAC Meeting (6:30-8PM)
Friday, November 22	Jersey and Teams Day
Wednesday, December 11	Winter Concert
Thursday, December 12	Winter Concert
Friday, December 20	Last day before Winter Break



# STUDENT SHOWCASE



## DIVISION 10 AND DIVISION 6

Division 10 and Division 6 took advantage of I Love Transit week and rode the bus for free to Stanley Park! There, they spent a beautiful fall day enjoying the scenery, exploring the animal habitats around Lost Lagoon, and the tidal pools at Second Beach. What an awesome day!



## DIVISION 17

Division 17 little buddies are having a wonderful time learning math games from their big buddies in Division 2. Big buddies are showing great leadership.

Division 17 are continuing to explore numbers within 1-10, this week we tried to figure out all the different combinations we could make that added up to 5!



## CROSS COUNTRY

The Strathcona Cross-Country Running Team wrapped up a very successful season on October 17 at the Trout Lake District-wide meet.

We had a fun group of parent volunteers this year who helped out at our zone mini-meets as well as Trout Lake.

Kudos go to Sidney – 1<sup>st</sup> place for grade 7 girls, Avani – 6<sup>th</sup> place for grade 2 girls, Lara – 8<sup>th</sup> place for grade 4 girls, Max – 12<sup>th</sup> place for grade 3 boys, and Hector who demonstrated true determination crossing the finish line with one shoe on foot and the other in hand!

The entire team deserves big congratulations for their hard work and dedication. BIG thanks to my coaching partner, Carrie Leung, and Joel Lew for his always-reliable technical support at Trout Lake.

- Jenny Albutat







# PAC CORNER

**Halloween:** On Halloween, the PAC board will be handing out safety packages (light up bracelets and a safety tip sheet) through classroom teachers. Your children can keep these bracelets, or if they'd like to have them reused for next year's packages, they can return them to the school office where Claudia and Angela will get them back to the PAC board for us to reuse.

**Movie night:** We are looking forward to Fall Movie night on Thursday Nov 7th at 6pm-8:30pm! This year we'll be showing SING! Please arrive at 6pm for a low-cost dinner of hotdogs (meat or veggie), popcorn, a fruit/vegetable and water. We need your help volunteering. Please sign up here for a shift that works for you: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0945a8a72ca3f85-fall> Please all kids come with an adult and have your kids stay out of the balcony.

**PAC meeting:** Our next PAC meeting is Wed Nov 20th 6pm dinner, 6:30-8pm meeting. We have some surplus budget due to an anonymous donation and fundraising success from BINGO night. The school has identified technology (i.e., tablets and lap-tops) as a priority. We also want to hear from you with your proposals of things you would take the lead on with PAC funds. Please bring these to the November meeting!

**BINGO night:** We are looking to put together a committee to organize BINGO night in the spring. Without help, it can't happen! Two of the committee members who organized last year are no longer at our school. If you are interested in organizing the raffle, silent auction, BINGO game or food service, let us know!

**Coffee cart:** Coffee cart is the last Friday of the month this year. Our next one will be: Friday Nov 29th 8:30-9:30 in the courtyard.

Cheers, Krista (PAC Chair)

[pac\\_str@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:pac_str@vsb.bc.ca) or [krista.sigurdson@gmail.com](mailto:krista.sigurdson@gmail.com)



WEAR  
YOUR  
JAMMIES  
OR COZY  
CLOTHES!

THURS  
NOV  
07

## FALL PAC MOVIE NIGHT!

**Auditorium and Cafeteria  
6pm-8:30pm**

- low cost dinner and popcorn served at 6pm
- Movie starts at 6:30pm. Cafeteria will be open for those who want to talk or bring a board game to share.

**FREE TO VOLUNTEER TO HELP?  
SIGN UP HERE:**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0945A8A72CA3F85-fall>

# PARENTING IN A DIGITAL WORLD

**For Parents of School-Aged Children**

***Wednesday, November 13, 2019***

***Doors open at 6 pm***

***Session begins 6:30 pm***

***Windermere Secondary-Auditorium***

***3155 East 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Vancouver***



With society heading in a direction of being constantly connected to technology, what do we need to know as parents to protect our children and teach them responsible and appropriate use of technology? The parameters of rules and expectations that you put in place at home will undoubtedly guide their behaviour in the years to come. Please join us for an informative presentation which will cover the following topics and more!

**PARENTS: Do not miss this free event!**

- **Social Media Update** - The most current apps & trends in their social media lives
- **Pick Your Battles!** - You will have to balance the yin with the yang, promote independence whilst taking a strong stance on certain subjects
- **Current Research** - Brain development & technology, violent video games
- **Digital Footprint and Reputation** - With their future approaching, recruiters and employers are taking note – What will they find?
- **Tips & Tricks to Use at Home**

**Please RSVP to reserve your seat! Register [here](#)**



**SAFER SCHOOLS TOGETHER** – an organization focused on promoting a climate and culture of safety in schools through comprehensive education - [www.saferschoolstogether.com](http://www.saferschoolstogether.com)