

LORD STRATHCONA ELEMENTARY

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Principal: Mr. Jason Eng Vice Principal: Mr. Dominic Maggiolo

PAC Chairperson: Ms. Theodora Lamb

NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Hello Strathcona Families,

As we are just a few weeks away from the winter break, it is the perfect opportunity to reflect on the first couple of months of the school year! Staff and students have been very busy immersing themselves in teaching and learning opportunities that are engaging, exciting, and promote critical thinking and creativity.

Story Studio is up and running once again and many classes are utilizing the space or creating mini story studios in classrooms. Students are so excited to share their projects and stories with me as they are created. I am also so impressed by the amount of project based learning opportunities taking place that is student centered, personalized, and again promotes student creativity but also problem solving skills. The Student Showcase section is the highlight of all newsletters and I encourage you to check it out!

It was nice to connect with several of you this past Monday at the PAC meeting and put some plans in place for the 2021-22 school year as well as establish PAC priorities for the short and long term. I look forward to our continued work together this year to support Strathcona students, staff, and families.

One of my highlights of the school year so far was the annual Strathcona Pumpkin Patch, which appears to be evolving and becoming more elaborate each year! Not only do I love seeing excited students roaming around in search of the perfect pumpkin...I really enjoyed the opportunity to connect with many of you in person. Thank you to our many volunteers who braved the elements and helped out throughout the day!

Looking forward to the final few weeks of 2021... stay safe and healthy!

Jason Eng

Principal Strathcona

SUPERVISION OF STUDENTS

Students are supervised before school from 8:45 AM to 9:00 AM and after school from 3:00 PM to 3:20 PM. Children should not arrive before 8:45 AM or leave after 3:20 PM unless specifically requested to do so as part of an organized/supervised activity, otherwise they will be unsupervised.

TRAFFIC SAFETY

Please remember to exercise caution when dropping off or picking up children from school. Familiarize yourself with restricted areas and avoid double parking and U-turns. Remind your children not to run between cars to cross the street. Please acknowledge and respect all traffic signs and parking regulations. Thank you for your cooperation in not doing student drop off in the staff parking lot.



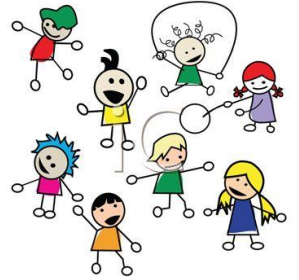


SAFETY PATROL

The corner of Jackson and Keefer is a very busy one every morning and afternoon. We have decided that it would be a good opportunity for our grade 6 and 7 students from Strathcona to participate in this great Safety Patrol program. The students received training from a VPD police constable and are now being chaperoned for the next two weeks to make sure they are safe and comfortable to patrol the crosswalk. Make sure to acknowledge them and please have your children cross at that crosswalk. They will be there rain or shine to assure safety for all.

KEEP MOVING, IT'S GOOD FOR YOU!

ParticipACTION reports that Canadian kids need to sit less and move more! With this information in mind, we are continuing to ask students to head outdoors at recess and lunch so they can run, play and be active during their breaks! Please make sure that your children are dressed for all types of weather as they will be going outside on most days. For more information please visit www.participaction.com



DIGITAL RESPONSIBILITY

The following link is a guide for parents on digital responsibility. A wonderful resource to support families at home.

<https://saferschoolstogether.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Raising-Digitally-Responsible-Youth-Guide-2020.pdf>

MINI-SCHOOL REGISTRATION INFORMATION FOR GRADE 7 STUDENTS

REGISTRATION FOR MINI SCHOOLS FOR 2022 ENTRANCE FOR GRADE 8S ONLY.

VSB's Mini School programs provide enrichment opportunities for highly motivated students who are Vancouver residents, consistently work at an Applying level and have excellent work habits. **Students must apply to each program separately as per each program's process.**



Each year over 1,400 students apply for approximately 500 grade 8 spaces in the Mini School programs. As a result of the COVID-19 Health and Safety protocols for schools, there have been changes made to the application process for VSB Mini School Programs for 2022-2023.

This year there will not be a District-wide Assessment/Test for Grade 7 students as part of the Mini School application process. Interested students need to complete both the District Registry process (available [here](#) from November 8 - December 16, 2021), and then apply directly to the Mini School programs through Mini School program websites. When applying to the District Registry, students will have the opportunity to upload up to five documents (PDF, JPEG, DOC).

Program information nights will be held online or through digital platforms. Information about each information night will be posted on the program websites.

All Vancouver School District secondary schools have a variety of challenging and exciting programs and courses. Many schools have also developed their own school-based enrichment program for a wide variety of interests and abilities.

Mini-school programs begin at grade 8. See 2022 Secondary Programs Brochure for a description of each Mini-school program:

https://www.vsb.bc.ca/Student_Learning/Secondary/Mini_Schools/Documents/sbfile/211004/Secondary-Program-2022-web3.pdf

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

https://www.vsb.bc.ca/Student_Learning/Secondary/Mini_Schools/Pages/Default.aspx

REGISTRATION PROCESS FOR KINDERGARTEN



Kindergarten registration for children born in 2017 begins on November 1.

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 (Early French Immersion, Montessori, Indigenous Focus School, Early Mandarin Bilingual, Nootka Fine Arts) and/or a cross boundary placement.

The priority registration period for Kindergarten opens on **November 1 and closes at 4 pm on January 31**. 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: Verifying documentation

- Contact your English catchment school office to set up an appointment to bring your supporting documentation
- Bring supporting documentation to your English catchment school office during your scheduled appointment

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)



1 Apply Online



2 Visit your catchment school with necessary documents

If you want to apply for a District program or cross-boundary, you must first apply to your English catchment elementary school. Applications for District programs and cross boundary placements will begin to be accepted in early 2022.

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 and January 31

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 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 31 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.

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).



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

WHAT'S GOING ON AT STRATHCONA

Thursday, December 2	Grade 6 & 7 Immunization Clinic
Friday, December 17	Last day of school before Winter Break

STUDENT SHOWCASE



3rd Annual Strathcona Pumpkin Patch



Trashformation - Division 4

Art that you wouldn't expect; kids are taking action!

Have you ever participated in a contest where you had to use your creativity? Division 4 participated in a unique contest focusing on making a project using recycled items. If you think you'd be interested, please consider reading this article.

What is the *trashformation* project?

The city of Vancouver organized the project for students from kindergarten to grade 12 to build animals to raise awareness about the current climate situation. It really shows how one person's trash is another person's treasure. Students gathered up recycled material and turned it into cute and funny creatures which gives Vancouver students a chance to be creative. The contest has grown in popularity throughout the years. And there is a reason the city of Vancouver organized this project as you most likely know there is so much garbage on our planet just lying around so why not make art!

How it works:

Trashformation is all about 2 simple things: recycling and animals. Magical, Mythical or Real, it's all up to you. This project is so fun and challenging because students must make something with very limited materials.

Why is this project important?

The goal of the *Trashformation* project is to have a zero-waste city by 2040, the city has decreased waste by over 30% since 2009. We are on track for a zero-waste future. It also aims to change the way participants think about waste generation and raise awareness about current environmental issues, like climate change and general pollution, as, our rivers, lakes, oceans, and waterlines are being polluted with plastic: by transforming trash into animals. It's also about peacefully protesting and standing up for animal rights.

This project was put into action at least two years ago to raise awareness about pollution. Therefore, the city of Vancouver has organized this project for K-12 students, to remind us to reuse more, and waste less.

Please recycle properly, we want to end water pollution! We hope you join *Trashformation* next year with your creativity. Now stop reading and go try this project!

Here are Division 4's *TRASHformation* projects:

