



DR. A.R. LORD NEWS

Code of Conduct
“Create Peace: Be Kind, Be Safe,
Be Respectful, Be Responsible”

Important News in this Issue:



Snow Closures (p.2)

Kindergarten Registration (p.2)

Absences (p.3)

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Email: drarlord@vsb.bc.ca
Website: lord.vsb.bc.ca

Principal - Ms. M. Trovao

Office Assistant - Ms. S. Liu

Acting Superintendent of
Schools- Mr. John Lewis

School Trustee- Lisa Dominato

Director of Instruction
Field Studies -
Ms. Magdalena Kassis

PAC Contact Info-
arlordpac@gmail.com

School Hours:

8:55 am – Warning Bell
9:00 am – School Starts
10:40 – 11:00 am -Recess
12:10 – 12:57 pm – Lunch
Break
3:00 pm – End of School Day

School Mission Statement

Our mission at Dr. A.R. Lord School is to develop a safe and positive school environment with creative and challenging learning experiences for all students to achieve their potential.

In order to help us attain this positive school environment, we constantly review and practice our school code of conduct. Expectations are that everyone in our school abides by our code.



Principal’s Message

What happened to 2017? It is hard to believe that in less than a month it will be 2018. A huge thank you to all the students, the staff and parent community for welcoming me into the Lord Family. The first few months have been very busy but amazing. What a great community. Here are a few events that have occurred since our last newsletter.

I would like to welcome Mrs. Sidhu who will be joining our staff to teach the grade 5/6 class while Mrs. Skucas is enjoying her time with her new baby. Congratulations Mrs. Skucas.

On Wednesday November 8th, the staff and students hosted a Remembrance Day Ceremony to pay our respects for those that sacrificed so that we may enjoy the freedoms that we have today. Our Ceremony was very moving. Thank you to all the students and staff that contributed, to make it a special Ceremony. Special thanks go out to our Remembrance Day Committee: Mrs. Skucas and Mrs. T. Young.

It seems so long ago but thank you to all the families that were able to attend Parent Conferences. This event is always a good opportunity to connect with your child’s teacher and the staff that support them. Hopefully you had the opportunity to discuss the new format for reporting. Communicating Student Learning Reports will be going home in January.

November and December are busy months that provide students opportunities to participate in a variety of activities. We have classes participating in field trips to the Vancouver Museum, Science World and the Burnaby Museum. Some of our students will be heading over to Templeton on Friday, December 8 to work with the STEM students. Our Environmental Caretakers are busy working on our school garden. Classes are working together to plant garlic. All classes were asked to discuss the following question; “Why would we need to collect leaves for our garden?” Students from Kindergarten to grade 7 have been sharing their answers over the PA during morning announcements. Try asking your child this question and see what their answer is.

Thank you to Mrs. Bains, Mrs. Phongmany and the Spirit Squad for organizing all the fun Spirit Days at Lord. This month we had Crazy Hair & Dress-Up Day. The Spirit Squad has also organized the Food Drive for the Greater Vancouver Food Bank. The food bank is recommending donations of canned items such as soup, tuna, turkey, chicken, fish, chili, beans, chick peas, as well as items such as pasta, pasta sauce and brown rice. Other items that would be appreciated but at times forgotten is food for babies and toddlers. Please bring in your donations by Wednesday, Dec. 20.

Warm up your vocal cords and join us in the gym on Wednesday, December 20 at 2:15 pm for our school Winter Sing Along. Ms. T. Young is looking for photos for the Winter Slideshow. If you have any photos that you would like to share please copy on to a flash drive and hand it in to the office by Wednesday, December 13. Please make sure you label your flash drive so that you get it back.

Thank you to the PAC for organizing hot lunches, the Scholastic Book Fair, Chocolate Fundraiser, Fruit and Veggie program, the Gear Swap and East Van clothing sales to name a few. Thank you so much for all your support.

On behalf of the staff I would like to wish all of our families an amazing winter break. See you back on January 8, 2018!!!

Margie Trovao
Principal

Snow Closures & Snow Safety

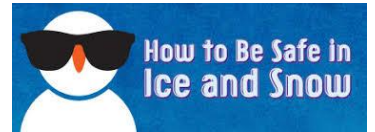


When the forecast predicts a heavy snowfall and freezing temperatures, please listen to the news beginning at 6:00 am for information regarding school closures. **Please do not call media outlets or the school to determine whether schools are closed. Please listen to the following news stations: CKNW (980 AM), CKWX (NEWS 1130 AM), CBC RADIO (690 AM, 105.7 FM), BCTV/Global (cable channel 11), FAIRCHILD Radio (CJVB AM 1470/CKHG FM 96.1) or CITY TV (cable channel 13). In addition, information on snow closures will be available on line at www.vsb.bc.ca.** The decision to close schools in Vancouver is made directly by the Vancouver School Board. It is not the decision of individual schools. The VSB makes the decision by 6:00 am and notifies the above news stations. The school closure information is broadcasted throughout the morning on the listed news stations and is not just a single announcement at 6:00 am.

Snow Safety

We are providing parents with snow and ice safety information and would ask that you take the opportunity to discuss these rules and guidelines with your child(ren) to ensure the safety and well-being of all students at Lord:

- *No throwing snow or ice balls
- *No face washing
- *Respect the structures others have built
- *Dress appropriately for wet and cold weather (i.e. boots, mitts, coats)
- *Walk carefully on wet or icy surfaces



Winter Wardrobe



Please make sure your child is coming to school with clothes appropriate for the weather. This time of year, the weather can be unpredictable and conditions can change throughout the day. Although the sky may be clear in the morning, it may reach freezing conditions or change to rain or snow during the school day. Warm, waterproof jackets, boots, hoods and mittens are necessary for this time of year. Students both prefer and need to play outside during the recess break, but we need to ensure they are warm and dry. We do have Rainy Day options for inside at lunch when it is very wet. Thank you for helping to keep our children warm, dry, happy and healthy. **As always please label clothing!**

Kindergarten registration for children born in 2013 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 **Wednesday November 1st and closes at 4 pm on Wednesday January 31st**. Students who submit an application within this priority period will be accommodated before late applicants.

In the event there are more in-catchment applicants than the school can accommodate 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.

When registering your child please bring:

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

If you wish 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 be accepted in early 2018.

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. (Policy Regulation JECC-R)



Student Sign Out Procedure

When you pick up your child during the school day, please ensure that you sign them out at the school office, **even if the classroom teacher is aware**. If there is an emergency and you do not sign out your child, they will be unaccounted for, and the school will identify your child as a 'missing' student and will commence a search of school grounds. If the school staff do not locate the child, and are unable to reach a parent promptly, the school will call the Vancouver Police Department. Therefore, clear communication is essential for ensuring the safety of your child and to prevent unnecessary searches.

Thank you for helping us keep your children safe!



Reporting Student Absences:

Student safety is of paramount importance at the Vancouver School District. Ensuring student safety is a shared responsibility. In order to assist schools, we ask parents to notify schools of student absences. If your child will be absent from school, please phone the school to report this absence as early as possible. Parents should leave a message on a dedicated answering service by calling 604-713 5159. This will prompt you to enter our school's 2-digit extension number which is #47. Messages will be received before the office is open. School offices are busy places: consistently notifying the school in advance of your child's absence will significantly improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Safe Arrival Morning Routine.

To Report Your Child's Absence – Please Call **the number** above prior to 9 am on the first day of the absence. Please keep this information posted in an easy, accessible area.

The school will let you know if there are any changes to this new system.

Message from PAC



Thank you to all who came out for the November PAC meeting. It's hard to believe that this year is almost over. We have held many great events at the school since September, and hope you enjoyed attending them as much as we enjoyed putting them together. The PAC is already looking forward to the New Year - so be prepared for the fun to continue.

Volunteering at the school is always a great resolution for the New Year. We promise to make it fun and easy on you!

Some updates on current and upcoming activities:

PAC meeting: Wednesday December 20th at 6:30 in the library. It is quite possible there will be some sweet treats to help celebrate the season. And as always, FREE child minding is available.

Winter Gear Swap: Boxes are still on the main floor. Feel free to take any items you like.

Hastings Farmers Market Hastings Park: Sunday December 10 and Sunday December 17 10-2pm. The Vancouver Farmer's Market has graciously donated a booth to Dr. A. R. Lord, where we will be selling tote bags and t-shirts. Come out and support not only us but the other wonderful vendors. The Hastings Park Market features 30+ farms and producers offering a great selection of winter produce, ethically raised meat, fish, & eggs, artisanal cheeses, bread, & prepared food, craft alcohol, wild harvested product, handmade craft. Market money makes it easy to fill your baskets with goodness. Why not make a day of it and enjoy lunch at one of the delicious food trucks.

Purdy's Chocolates: There are still chocolates available for any last minute sweet tooth fix (yours counts too!). Forms available at the front desk.

Hot Lunch: We have two more lunches before the end of 2017. The much anticipated White Spot burger fest on December 14th and a final pizza party on December 21st. As always, please come out and help feed the kids if you have some spare time during the lunch hour.

As you are shopping this holiday season, please don't forget to log into your favourite online retailers through our Flip Give Program. Every purchase through this program gives a percentage back to our school. You will be sure to find many of your most frequently shopped retailers represented. The address can be found on our website (www.arlordpac.ca) under Fundraising, or enter this: <https://www.flipgive.com/teams/49445-dr-ar-lord-elementary-pac> into your browser. Keep updated on these, and all PAC activities, by visiting our website (www.arlordpac.ca), following our social media accounts (@ARlordPAC), and subscribing to our email list. We also post all information on the bulletin board by the back and front doors for easy reading.

Please remember to send any questions or comments directly to the PAC at info@arlordpac.ca or by popping a note into the PAC box at the front desk. We are always looking for input and volunteers.

Enjoy your holiday, and here's to a wonderful 2018!

Kindly,
PAC Exec.

Important Upcoming Dates and Events:

Thurs. Dec. 14	PAC Hot Lunch;
Wed. Dec. 20	Winter Sing-Along (2:15 pm in gym);
Wed. Dec. 20	PAC Meeting (6:30 pm in Library);
Mon. Dec. 25 – Jan. 5	Winter Break
Mon. Jan. 8	First Day back from Winter Break
Mon. Jan. 29	Pro-D
Wed. Jan 31	Communicating Student Learning Reports going home

