



NELSON NEWS

A monthly newsletter brought to you by Lord Nelson Elementary School

VOL. 1, ISSUE 1

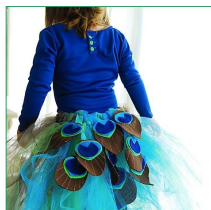
SCHOOL SCHEDULE	
8:55	Warning Bell
9:00	Instruction Begins
10:30-10:50	Recess Break
12:10-12:55	Lunch Break
12:55	Warning Bell
12:57	Instruction Begins
3:00	Students Dismissed

SEPTEMBER 2017

Stories in this Issue



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Important Dates...mark your calendars!

- Sept 29-30th PAC Costume Sale: School gym
- Oct. 2—24 Gym Sense Program
- Oct. 3 Fruit & Veggie Program: Carrots
- Oct. 6 StrongStart closed
- Oct. 9 Thanksgiving Stat Holiday/school closed
- Oct.12 Illustrator Visit
- Oct.16 Div.14 to Van Tech
- Oct.16 PAC Meeting, 6:30-8pm
- Oct.17 Individual Photo Day
- Oct. 20 Province Wide Professional Day/school closed for students
- Oct. 23-26 Library Book Fair
- Oct. 24 Fruit & Veggie Program: Pears
- Oct. 25 Goal Setting Conferences/2:00 pm dismissal
- Oct. 26 Goal Setting Conferences/2:00 pm dismissal
- Oct. 27 Walkathon
- Oct. 31 Hallowe'en PAC Monster Mash



Principal's Message

Dear families,

Welcome to the 2017-2018 school year at Lord Nelson Elementary! We are fully underway and although it's only been a few short weeks school has been in session, both staff and students are settling into their daily routines without a hitch. As you may be aware, it has been a very challenging year for school staffing across the province and we are no exception. This startup has been unprecedented in the number of teaching positions becoming available in the lower mainland and has initiated a vast movement of teachers out of the District to pursue positions closer to home. At school opening, the Vancouver School Board had some 100 positions that still remained unfilled throughout the District. That number has come down but there are still a large number of jobs yet to be filled in classrooms.

At this point we have managed to hire staff for most of our vacancies with only 2 remaining positions needing to be filled. In the meantime those positions will continue to be taught by teachers teaching on call.

Since school opening we have been working hard to complete our hiring process and are pleased to welcome the following new staff members to the Nelson Team:

- Mia Hoang – Division 17, Grade 1
- Alexa Dredge - Division 16, Grade 1 – Temporary (Ms. Sullivan Leave)
- Lisa Shideler – Division 13, Grade 2
- Bowie Fong - Division 5, Grade 5/6
- Melanie Tanaka (Temp) – Division 3, Grade 6/7
- Jennie Jung (Temp) – Division 21, District Primary Autism Program
- Eunice Li - Supervision Aide (Additional Allocation)
- Hithamy Watagodakumbura - SSA –Primary Autism Program
- Yulia Podina – SSA Primary Autism Program
- Cathy Foster (Temp) - SSA –Primary Autism Program
- Jojo Binning (Temp) – SSA –Primary Autism Program

Our building construction is moving along at a terrific pace. As I am writing this, the hollow core panels are being lifted into place to create the second story floor of the building. It has created a great deal of excitement for the children as they watch the massive crane move the panels high into the air and put them in place. As mentioned in an earlier email to families, there will be slight disruptions in traffic at the intersection of Garden Dr and Kitchener St for the duration of the lift as the panels are being delivered to the site entrance in that area. In addition, the sidewalk on the north side of Kitchener St has been closed to pedestrian traffic for the duration of the lift as well. The structure on site continues to evolve and is beginning to resemble an actual building as it takes shape right before our very eyes.

Each year, a package of important information is sent home with students. It includes all the essential information the school requires both from you and for you. Please sign and return all required information to the office as soon as possible.

Included in the Student Information Package is the Nelson Handbook. This is a very comprehensive collection of information about the school and the day to day operation including expectations for both students and adults while at school. Please review the handbook and Code

of Conduct information with your child. We teach and reinforce the concepts in the code of throughout the school year through announcements, assemblies, presentations, ROAR gear and in class activities. Creating a positive and safe school climate is an ongoing focus for our school that we hope you will join us in encouraging our students foster these attitudes throughout the year.

Newsletters are emailed home each month, but current information is also posted on our school website for your convenience. Nelson School is a very dynamic place and we try our best to keep you up to date on events and activities where possible. We look forward to working with you on our school goals and focus on Inquiry based learning and Aboriginal Cultural enhancement this year!

We all look forward to another fantastic year filled with events, activities and lots of great learning!

Dan Knibbs, Principal

Meet the Teacher



Thank you to all that were able to join us on Thursday, September 29th as we hosted our annual Meet the Teacher night from 6:00—7:30 pm. This event always provides an opportunity for parents to come and meet their child's teacher, see the classroom and hear about the upcoming year. The event got underway at 6:00 pm in the Gym with our PAC providing light refreshments. Many parents took the opportunity to socialize and view the information tables and displays from our Community partners. Our sincere thank you to our PAC for the coffee and snacks that were provided.

Classroom teachers opened their rooms from 6:30 to 7:30 pm and provided 2 opportunities to see the classroom, one in the first half hour and again in the second half hour allowing parents with 2 children to meet both teachers. Parent and teacher conferences will be held on October 25 and 26th, where parents are scheduled for an individual meeting.

IMPORTANT— Reporting Student Absences



SAFE ARRIVAL

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 or email the school to report this absence as early as possible.

Beginning Oct. 2 Parents/guardians are asked to leave a message regarding their child's absence by calling 604-713-5159 ext. 58 or emailing nelattendance@vsb.bc.ca.

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.

Student Sign Out Procedure

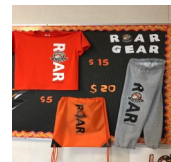
When you pick up your child during the school day, please ensure that you sign them out at the school office. If you do not sign out your child, they will be unaccounted for, and the school will identify your child as a 'missing' student and will commence a search of school grounds. If the school staff 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!

Website



Please visit our [website](#) on a regular basis for the school calendar, important news and forms. As we send out the monthly newsletter and other important information via email please be sure to provide and/or update your email with the office staff. It is important to be in our email group as this is our preferred method of correspondence.

ROAR Clothing



Nelson ROAR clothing is available for purchase from the school office. It is wonderful to see our students wearing their ROAR clothing and it is a great way to help spread school spirit and our Code of Conduct throughout the year. There are always numerous opportunities for students to show their school spirit by wearing their ROAR apparel at various assemblies and events. T-shirts are \$15, Sweatpants are \$20, orange Cinch bag is \$5.

Lost and found



Lost and found items can be reclaimed from outside the elevator on the first floor. The goal is to have all items reclaimed or removed at the end of each month. Please come by as the lost and found already has many items.

School fruit and veggie program



Nelson will once again be participating in the B.C. Agricultural Program that encourages healthier eating habits by providing fresh fruits and vegetables to the school bi-weekly for sampling. [See Brochure here](#). It is our hope that this will encourage students to taste new fruits and vegetables and develop greater variety in their diet. A new fruit or vegetable is delivered to the school every 2 weeks. If you **do not** wish your child to participate please print out the reverse consent form linked here and send to the

School Opening Drills



Every year we begin with an Earthquake, Fire and Code Yellow/Red Drills in the first few months. All schools are required to facilitate drills and some require us to vacate the building; simulate a situation and have staff respond as if it was a real emergency. This is important information for students to have for their own safety. Although teachers speak to students in preparation of these events at their appropriate grade level, parents of younger and/or more sensitive students may wish to discuss this with them in advance.

The Handbook parents received at the beginning of the school year has a write up about each of these drills that may be helpful in speaking with your child.

Safe playground play



We would like to send a gentle reminder to all parents that utilize the Nelson playground to be mindful of your child's skill level. Our playground is appropriate for students from 5 to 12 years old and meets all the CSA standards for school playgrounds. When using the playground outside of school time, it is imperative **that you monitor your child's play and know the level or challenge appropriate for your child's ability.** As 5 years old is the lower end of the age spectrum, you may wish to limit the activities you allow your child to engage in. At recess and lunch, there are supervision aides and support staff on the grounds who monitor general play, but if you do not wish your child to engage in specific activities please ensure you have spoken to your child directly. Although risk is a part of developmental play and accidents can occur, it is our hope that all students have a fun but safe play experience.

Foundation Skills Assessment—Grades 4 & 7 only

The Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA) is an annual province-wide assessment of British Columbia students' academic skills, and provides a snapshot of how BC students are progressing in the foundational skills of reading, writing and numeracy (mathematics). The assessment was updated this year to respond to changes in the curriculum and to reflect current classroom practices. Students will be participating in this assessment beginning Oct. 2. For more information visit: <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/assessment-reporting/newfoundation-skills-assessment>

GymSense Gymnastics



The Gym Sense Gymnastics program will be back at Nelson, Oct.2-24. Gym Sense works with teachers to provide safe, certified gymnastics to school aged children as part of their physical education curriculum. This program provides students who may not otherwise have the opportunity to experience the sport of gymnastics. For more information about Gym Sense visit the website at GymSense.

School Closures and Early Dismissal



Thanksgiving Day: Mon. October 9, 2017 School closed for all
Professional Day: Fri. October 20, 2017 School closed for students
Early Dismissal @ 2:00PM: Wed./Thur. October 25 & 26 for Goal Setting Conferences

Walkathon



Our annual School **Walkathon Fundraiser will be held on Friday, October 27.** This is a special event where the whole school gets together, has a lot of fun, and helps raise money for our school. Funds raised will go towards facilitating programs in our school such as Technology, Literacy, Physical Education and Science. In addition, funds will be used to assist in special class projects and school-wide events. Once again, students who collect \$60 or more will receive a souvenir Walkathon T-Shirt to celebrate their contribution. Information and pledge forms will be sent home soon.

Students may walk, run, or skip to see how many times they can go around the course (TBA) during the hour. Parents and guardians are welcome to attend and help cheer on our students or come on the walk. Please stay tuned for more details.

Sports at Nelson



Kilometre Club: Grades 1 & 2 students (Ms. Watkins)

Cross country: Grades 3 to 7 students (Ms. Tanaka, Ms. Mould, Mrs.Fung)

Soccer: Gr.6 & 7 students (Mr. Ali (Niz), Ms. Prefontaine (Matsumi)) Practices have begun. Interested students have signed up with the respective coaches.

Please note that changes or cancellations will be [posted on our website](#). Many sports are "weather permitting".

Many thanks to our coaches for providing these valuable opportunities for our students:

Library News <http://nelsonlibrary.weebly.com/>



This website has everything you've always wanted to know about Lord Nelson's Library.

Donations

Thank you to The Marshall Family, Oscar M., Mrs. Russell, and Mrs. Jung for the great books. **A special thank you to the De Forest Gruman Family for picking us up a brand new signed edition of "All's Faire in Middle**

School". Have you been cleaning out your bookshelves? We love donations of kids books...if the Library can't use them, they can find a home in one of our classroom collection.

Birthday Book

Happy Birthday Alexandria and Hans in Division 19. Alexandria donated "A Big Guy Took My Ball" and Hans donated "Knuffle Bunny" to the Birthday Book section of the Library. **Also, Happy Birthday to Sullivan in Division 13, his family donated a fresh copy of "Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus"**. If you have a child celebrating a birthday and you'd like to have a special book in the Library with your child's name on it....see Mrs. L in the Library....(or check the information under birthday books on the Library website)

Book Bags: Keep your Library Books safe, secure, and dry.....with our coveted Library Book Bag. Available in the Library for \$8.

A NEW LIBRARY SYSTEM- Follett Destiny

Our new online Library system is up and running! There are many great new features. You can see the Library holdings by going to library.vsb.bc.ca and clicking on Lord Nelson. As I learn more information about navigating the system, I will pass it along. (You can also access the system via the Library Website.)

Student Council – coming soon

Library Book Fair—VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!



Book Fair Hours:
Tuesday, Oct. 24 8:40 – 4pm
Wednesday, Oct.25 8:40- close to the end of parent conferences
Thursday, Oct.26 8:40 – close to the end of parent conferences
(Closed every recess and lunch)

The Scholastic Book Fair is coming to our school and we're looking forward to seeing you there. If you haven't been to our book fair before...let me tell you about it! The library transforms into a bookstore with books, posters, and odds 'n ends that the students and parents can purchase. There are hundreds of books and they range from preschool to high school level (and even a few adult titles). We receive 60% of our sales in new books for the library. The fair is open during the school day for parents to browse and make purchases. We make 60% of all sales.

During the fair students are encouraged to enter our prize draw where they can win books, posters, and even the grand prize of \$ 25 worth of books for themselves and \$25 for their classroom. (Most teachers have the students fill in the entry forms in class – 1 per student).

During the event, we also invite you to help build our classroom libraries by purchasing books and donating them to your child's teacher through the Classroom Wish List program. Many teachers will preview the sale and write down the names of books that they feel will benefit their classrooms.

Looking forward to seeing you at the Book Fair. We accept cash, cheques (payable to Lord Nelson,) Visa, MasterCard, American Express, and (fingers crossed) debit.

If you are able to help during the book fair (cashiers) please contact me.

Mrs. Lirenman

Individual Photo Day



Student Photo day will be held on Tuesday, October 17. A Picture Day flyer will be sent home with your child about one to three weeks before Picture Day.

Lifetouch Photography suggest these tips to help your child get ready for a great-looking school portrait that you'll treasure forever.

1. Help your child pick out **clothes** and colours that look good on them. After all, your child is the star of the photo—not their shirt, so avoid slogans, logos, and big patterns. Small jewelry and accessories are fine but nothing too big or distracting.
2. **Glasses** are okay! Lifetouch photographers know all the tricks to reduce glare.
3. Keep kids relaxed and ready to **be themselves**. Smiles can look fake if they're practiced ahead of time.
4. **Don't worry about "perfect"!** That hair that always sticks up or a missing tooth shows your child just as they are right now—and you'll enjoy looking back on that for years to come.

PAC News



Great to be back after a fantastic summer. The PAC has a few new faces on the Exec Committee this year. We welcome Angela Wong-Moon who will be co-chairing with Kate Newstead, and Lisa Osaba who will be Vice Chair. We also welcome Courtney Hall to the position of Secretary and welcome back Laura McGowen in her 2nd year as Treasurer. Beyond the committee, we welcome all new and returning parents and children to the school and encourage you to attend our meetings and get involved in whatever way you can! Our first PAC meeting on September 11th was well attended. Please visit our website to view the minutes from that meeting.

A new fundraiser has been set up, MABEL'S LABELS. Great quality labels for everything you can imagine! You can visit our direct page at http://www.mabelslabels.com/c/?type=fundraiser&b=6526&cur_website=base or simply go to Mabel's Labels website and search for Lord Nelson in the "Support a Fundraiser" section. We make 20% on all sales! Thanks for your support!

Our successful Donald's Gift Card fundraiser will be coming soon - keep an eye out and support us if you can. You pay face value for the Gift Cards and we get 10%.

Friday September 29th, 3pm We will be holding an **AMAZING Costume Sale** in the gym. There are hundreds of costumes that used to be part of a theatre program in years past at Lord Nelson School. Pick up fun costumes for Halloween at great prices and support the school at the same time. More details to come but there are some truly amazing costumes, props, notions, fabrics and even a sewing machine! Spread the word to theatre and dance groups who may be interested and come to browse individual costumes.

- **Monday October 16th, 6:30-8pm, Next PAC meeting. All welcome.**

Costume Sale—Friday and Saturday, Sept. 29 & 30th



Our PAC is hosting a Costume Sale! Hidden in our school is a secret room filled with over a hundred magical costumes, accessories, and props from Lord Nelson theatrical productions of years gone by, such as 'Phantom of the Opera' and 'Joseph and The Technicolor Raincoat.' We'll no longer be able to house these awesome handmade pieces in our new school, so we're making them available to our Lord Nelson families, friends, and neighbours.

Included in the sale are props and accessories such as wigs, gloves, socks, hats, umbrellas, scarves, ties, belts, sunglasses, and more. Some sewing notions and fabric bolts will also be available.

Come down to our school gym on :

Friday, September 29 from 2-4pm OR

Saturday, September 30 from 10am-12pm

Pique your curiosity, and pick up an early Hallowe'en Costume for yourself and your child, or kit out your dance/theatre group with some amazing costumes!

Some available items: Masquerade feather masks - Masquerade costumes - Capes - Lion costumes - Elephant costumes - Cat costumes - Elvis costumes - Poodle skirts - Light sticks - Flashlights - Veils - Police uniforms - Fairy wings - Scarecrow - Tin Man - Munchkin Costumes - Foil wigs - Boas - Animal hats – panda, lions, bears, giraffes, tigers, elephants, ladybugs, frogs - Full face masks - Canes - Fancy umbrellas - Cowboy Hats - Top Hats - Clown Hats - Colourful Capes - Gloves - Tights - Sparkly Ponchos - Sparkly Pompoms - Glasses - Bow ties - Body suits - Jewelry - Colourful scarves - Berets - Necklaces - Bracelets and MORE!!!

<p>Lord Nelson Elementary School 2235 Kitchener Street Vancouver, BC V5L 2W9 Phone: 604-713-4595 E-mail: nelson@vsb.bc.ca http://go.vsb.bc.ca/schools/nelson</p> <p>Principal: Daniel Knibbs Vice Principal: Rosemary Thomas</p>	<p>NELSON CODE OF CONDUCT</p> <p>At Lord Nelson School we strive to emphasize our Code of Conduct R.O.A.R. Respect Others, Act Responsibly</p>	<p>Garibaldi Annex Vice Principal: Donna Emeno</p> <p>School Trustee: Stacy Robertson</p> <p>Director of Instruction: Magdalena Kassis</p>
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