



# NELSON NEWS

R.O.A.R. Respect Others, Act Responsibly

VOL. 1, ISSUE 1

SEPTEMBER—OCTOBER 2018

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

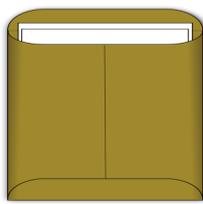
## Stories in this Issue



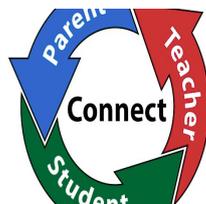
Principal's Message  
(page 1-2)



Reporting Absences  
(page 2)



Student Info Package  
(page 3)



Meet the Teacher  
(page 4)

## Important Dates—mark your calendars!



- September 20 Meet the Teacher, 6:30-7:30 pm
- September 21 **Non-instructional day (school closed)**
- September 27 Terry Fox Run
- October 8 **Thanksgiving day (school closed)**
- October 12 Walk-a-thon
- October 16 Individual School Photo Day
- October 16 **Goal Setting Conferences – 2:00 pm dismissal**
- October 17 **Goal Setting Conferences – 2:00 pm dismissal**
- October 16-18 Library Book Fair
- October 19 **Province Wide Professional Development day-**

## Principal's Message

Dear families,

Welcome to the 2018-2019 school year at Lord Nelson Elementary! We are fully underway and although we have only been in session for a few short days, both staff and students are settling into their daily routines without a hitch. Our start-up this year has been considerably more straightforward than last September and we have opened our doors with a full complement of staff.

Throughout the District there is a projected decline of approximately 575 students overall, and despite this, the board has been working hard in the area of recruitment and retention and has hired over 200 additional on call teachers since last September at this time, effectively increasing the total number of on call teachers to over 900. In addition, our District now has over 600 School and Student Support workers to help support our students with special needs.

We have had some staff leave over the summer, taking the opportunity to pursue their professions closer to home. Farewell and warm wishes go out to the following people who have moved on to other assignments and challenges over the summer:

Ms. Sullivan has been with Nelson for over 4 years. Ms. Sullivan has done a remarkable job supporting the growth and development of our grade 2 students and has been a wonderful addition to our staff. We would like to thank Ms. Sullivan for her contributions to Nelson and wish her all the best with her new position with the West Vancouver School District!

Jennifer Curtis has been a valued member of our Support Team for well over 9 years, working both in the primary Autism Program and the mainstream classrooms throughout the school. She has worked with a great many of our students over her time at Nelson. She has left the VSB to take a position with the Surrey School District to be closer to home and family. We wish her all the best in her new position!

Over the course of the summer, we have filled our positions that were left vacant by the spring transfer process and are pleased to welcome the following new staff members to the Nelson Team:

- Ms. Wendy Wong – Grade 1/ Job Share
- Ms. Lori Fraser – Grade 4 /Job Share
- Ms. Nicole Seah - Grade 4 Job Share/Resource
- Ms. Eva Ng, Grade 1
- Mr. Gavin Landreth – Grade 6/7
- Ms. Becky Cook - Grade 5/6 (Temp)
- Mr. Nicholas Beck (Temp) – SSSW

Our building construction continues to move toward completion. As I am writing this, the steel panels are being lifted into place to complete the third floor roof of the building. For the duration of the lift, these panels will be arriving through the Charles St. entrance to the site and as deliveries arrive, there are sure to be slight disruptions in traffic both at the intersection of Garden Drive and Charles St. as well as in front of the Charles St. entrance to the school. In addition, the windows continue to be placed and the spray-on insulation will soon follow on the exterior of the building. Crews are also busy completing the torch-on membrane for the third floor gardens and play areas. The building should be water tight in a few short weeks.

The work continues on the inside with the completion of ductwork, plumbing and electrical rough-ins. Once the windows are in and the roof complete, the carpenters will begin the installation of

the millwork in the classrooms. The structure continues to evolve daily and is beginning, more and more to resemble an actual building taking 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 conduct 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, and current information is 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

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## PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING IMPORTANT INFORMATION ITEMS

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### 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 or email the school to report this absence as early as possible. 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. **EMAIL** [nelattendance@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:nelattendance@vsb.bc.ca) **OR CALL** 604-713-5159, ext.58.

**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!

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### Website & Email



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.

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### Student Information Packages



Please complete and return this important information if you have not already done so. We appreciate receiving all of the requested items as soon as possible, including the school fees.

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### Lost and Found



**PLEASE LABEL YOUR CHILD'S ITEMS.** 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.

## 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.

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## Fruit & 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. 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.

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## School Drills

### What is a Lockdown?



A Lockdown code results in a full lockdown of all rooms within the school and is initiated when potentially life-threatening violent events are occurring inside the school. Staff and students secure themselves in rooms or hide or, if a secure option is not available, evacuate from a high risk/insecure area. All regular school activities cease and the students will not be allowed to leave their locked classrooms until it is safe to do so.

**What is a Hold and Secure?** Formerly known as a code yellow, Hold and Secure is the action of holding students and staff safely inside a school when there is a known danger or threat outside of the school. This could be an altercation in the neighbourhood, an intruder on school grounds, or even a bear or coyote on the playground. Under Hold and Secure, all perimeter/exterior doors of the school are locked and no persons are to enter or leave the school once it is underway. Normal functions are maintained in the school. Students may not even notice any difference, especially if it doesn't happen during a time when they would be outdoors.

**Lockdown and Hold and Secure Background.** Hold and Secure and Lockdown procedures are events involving a known danger or threat outside the school or potentially life-threatening violent events which are occurring inside the school. In general if there is someone who doesn't appear to have a legitimate purpose to be on the school grounds and you are concerned, talking to the office or a supervision aide is appropriate. Someone on duty will then approach the person as long as they don't appear threatening. This lets them know that their presence is noted. They will usually ask for directions and leave, or let the staff know who they are and whether they do have a reason to be on school grounds. Intruders who are persistent but not dangerous may need a verbal warning from the principal or vice principal. A dangerous intruder is someone whose behaviour suggests a threat. In that case they are not to be approached directly and word should be passed on to the school office.

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## Cell Phones and other Electronics at school



We recognize that for some families a phone is important for communication between students and parents or caregivers, both before and afterschool, however, we are finding that cell phones can be a source of classroom disruption and a safety concern on the playground. We ask that parents support our efforts by following these guidelines:

Do not allow your child to carry a cell phone to school unless it is necessary for before and after school student/parent communication.

Students are encouraged to NOT bring personal electronic devices to school, and may not use them in classrooms, hallways or on the playground during the school day **unless it is under the direct supervision of a staff member**. If electronic devices brought to school, they must be turned off and kept in zipped backpacks between 8:45 a.m. and 3:00

p.m. Cell phones and other electronic devices are often equipped with cameras. Students may not take pictures at school. In order to satisfy legal requirements around the protection of privacy, photography at school is allowed only for school purposes and with the permission of, and under the direct supervision of a staff member. Unless requested by a classroom teacher for a specific project, students are not allowed to bring cameras to school. The school takes no responsibility for loss or damage to any personal electronic devices.

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### Use of School Office Phone



There is no pay phone at Nelson. The office phone remains accessible to students for **emergency calls only**. The office phone is not to be used to make play dates or social arrangements. Students are expected to prearrange rides and activities prior to the start of the school day. We appreciate parents cooperation in this regard.

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### Students Leaving the School Grounds



All students must remain on the school grounds at recess. Grade 7 students are permitted to leave the school grounds for lunch **ONLY** on Fridays, with a note giving him/her permission each time. In the event of an emergency or appointment, written permission (email) is required for students to leave the school grounds. When a student must leave the school during school hours and has the appropriate permission and

notification from a parent, the student is required to sign out in the office before leaving and sign in upon return. We ask parents to come to the school office to sign their child out for any appointments.

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### Dogs on School Grounds



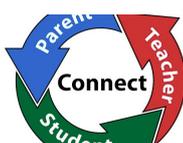
All dogs must be on leash at Nelson. Large breed dogs should remain outside, well away from school entrances. Small dogs should be carried at all times. Loud and/or aggressive dogs should not be brought onto the school grounds. Please ensure that you pick up after your dog. Nelson has a disposal site on the west side of the grass field.

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## IMPORTANT EVENTS — Please mark your calendar!

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### Meet the Teacher



On **Thursday, September 20<sup>th</sup>** we will be hosting our annual Meet the Teacher night from 6:00—7:30 pm. This is an opportunity for parents to come and meet their child's teacher, see the classroom and hear about the upcoming year. The event will begin in the Gym at 6:00 pm where our PAC will be providing light refreshments and our various Community partners will have displays and information available for families. This is a great opportunity to socialize, view the various information tables and displays and see a model of the new school.

The formal part of the evening will begin at 6:15 with an introduction of the Nelson Staff, then classroom teachers will open their rooms from 6:30 to 7:30 pm. Each teacher will provide two opportunities to see the classroom, one in the first half hour and again in the second half hour. Parents can choose either the 6:30 or 7:00 presentation in the classroom. This will allow parents with more than one child to meet multiple teachers. This is an evening intended for parents, not for students. If you require specific information regarding your child's needs or learning profile, please make an individual appointment for an alternative meeting time with the classroom teacher. Parent and teacher conferences are taking place on October 16 and 17th, where parents may schedule an individual meeting.

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### Annual Terry Fox Run



Our Annual Terry Fox run will be taking place on **Thursday, September 27<sup>th</sup>**.  
Morning run – primary classes (9:15-10:15am) – Div. 10-20  
Mid-morning – intermediate classes (11:00am-12:00pm) Div. 1-9

- Each year our school supports this worthy fundraiser and asks each student to bring a **TONIE FOR TERRY**. Last year we raised close to \$900. This year our goal is to raise \$1,000!

## Walkathon Fundraiser



Our annual School Walkathon Fundraiser will be held on **Friday, October 12**. 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. Stay tuned! Additional information TBA.

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## Individual Photo Day—Oct. 16



**School Photo day will be held on Tuesday, October 16.** 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.

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## Goal Setting Conferences - **Students will be DISMISSED at 2PM on BOTH days**



Goal Setting Conferences will take place on **Tuesday and Wednesday, Oct 16 and 17th**. These meetings are an opportunity for parents and teachers to share their goals and expectations for students over the coming year.

These are not report card conferences as we have had in previous years. Marks and grade references will not be discussed at this time. In anticipation of the conference, please be prepared to share with teachers your child's learning style, strengths and interests, and what you hope will be goals for the coming year. Conferences notices and forms will be sent home in October.

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

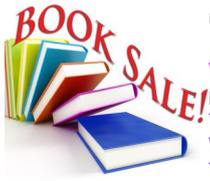
This website has everything you've always wanted to know about Lord Nelson's Library.

### Donations

Thank you to the Lutwyche, Corriveau, and Dalla Zanna Families for the great books!

### Book Bags

Library Book Bags are available from the Library for \$8. Students in the Primary Divisions are encouraged to use a waterproof bag to protect their Library books. Why not use one of our special ROAR bags?



## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for the Book Fair**

Book Fair Hours:

Tuesday, Oct. 16	8:40 – 4pm
Wednesday, Oct. 17	8:40 till close to the end of parent conferences
Thursday, Oct. 18	8:40 till 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). 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. Thank you, Mrs. Lirenman

## 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. 1-Nov. 9. For more information visit: <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/assessment-reporting/newfoundation-skills-assessment>

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## Cross Country



The Cross Country running season will begin soon. An announcement was made and interested students picked up a permission form from Ms. Tanaka. Practices will begin next week, Monday and Wednesday. A copy of the permission form is posted on our website under “Publications”.

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## LORD NELSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

2235 Kitchener Street  
Vancouver, BC V5L 2W9  
Phone: 604-713-4595  
E-mail: [nelson@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:nelson@vsb.bc.ca)  
<http://go.vsb.bc.ca/schools/nelson>

**Principal:** Daniel Knibbs

**Vice Principal:** Lisa Pathyil

### NELSON CODE OF CONDUCT

**At Lord Nelson School we  
strive to emphasize our  
Code of Conduct  
R.O.A.R.  
Respect Others,  
Act Responsibly**

**School Trustee:**

Lisa Dominato

**Director of Instruction:**

Magdalena Kassis