



Ladner Link

Ladner Elementary School
5016 44 Ave, Delta BC V4K 1C1
Telephone: 604-946-4158 Fax: 604-946-4150
school website : <http://schools.deltasd.bc.ca/le>
Principal: Mr. J. McCallum
Vice Principal: Ms. C. Edge-Partington

NEWSLETTER #01 September 6, 2017

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to the 2017 – 2018 school year! I hope all of you had an exceptional summer and return to school filled with excitement as we begin another school year! I know that this will be a truly great school year. I would like to extend a special welcome to all the new families coming to Ladner Elementary this year. You are joining a great learning community and all of us here look forward to getting to know you.

We have been busy preparing for the new school year and are excited as we look forward to meeting and working together. We invite you to work collaboratively with us to create the best learning environment possible for your child. Research shows that a strong partnership between the home and school allows children to reach their highest potential. Here are some suggestions that will be helpful in establishing school routines and will make this year the most successful one yet for your child. While I have shared these in the past, they are far too important not to touch on again as we start another school year!

Read Together – Children who read at home with their parents do better in school. Show your children that you see reading as important by keeping lots of reading material around the house and set aside some time each day for reading. Also, model reading yourself.

Establish a Daily Family Routine – Set a specific quiet time and place every day for homework or general reading. While you should be actively involved with your child's homework routine, let them do the actual work. Other helpful routines involve assigning responsibilities for household chores, being firm about times to get up and go to bed (most children require about 10 hours of sleep per night), and having dinner together whenever possible. Don't forget about the importance of a healthy breakfast and lunch to ensure that your child has the energy needed to make it through the day productively.

Daily Schedule			
leave for school	arrive at school	complete lesson	dismissal
homework	snack	lunch	after school
homework	snack	lunch	after school
playtime	playtime	playtime	playtime
bedtime	bedtime	bedtime	go back home

Talk Together – Find some time each day to ask your child about school. Ask specific questions that will require explanations. Not only will this provide you with an overview of what your child is learning each day, explaining their learning to you will heighten their understanding of their lessons.

Use The School – The importance of strong school-home bridges cannot be overstated. Get to know your child's teacher(s) and what they expect. Let them know you will reinforce the importance of schoolwork at home and keep them informed of important things happening in your family that may be affecting your child at school. Make sure your child knows of your interest in his/her school. This will send the message that what he/she is doing is important.

Have High, But Realistic Goals – Every student has the ability to learn; they just all have different starting points, interests, and background knowledge. Make sure that you set goals with your child that are achievable, but not too easy, for their age, maturity and ability. Don't forget to celebrate when these goals are achieved.

Respectfully,
Mr. Jeff McCallum
Principal

SCHOOL INFO & REMINDERS

School Hours

Beginning Wednesday, September 6th our bell schedule will be:

First Bell: 8:40 a.m.
School In Session: 8:45 am - 2:49 pm
Recess: 10:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.



Lunch: 12:10 p.m. - 1:06 p.m.
Office hours: 8:15 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.

The only exception to this during the first two weeks of school will be our kindergarten students as they work through the gradual entry process that is outlined in the information sent home from our Kindergarten teachers.

New Staff Members

We welcome several new members to Ladner's staff:

Mr. Smith – Intermediate English Teacher
Mrs. Tourigny – Education Assistant



We are still in the process of hiring a few more staff members and I will share their names with you when these positions have been filled.

Enrolment and New Classes



This year our enrollment will likely be approximately 465 students. Today, students returned to their last year's class and will likely remain there until the end of the week at least. The first days of a new school year are always an exciting time. Students and parents are anxious to find out which teacher(s) their child will work with and teachers are anxious to meet their students and begin teaching. Our goal is to have students in their permanent classes as soon as possible. Having said this, this year presents an added layer of complexity as school districts across the province work on implementing the restored class size and composition requirements. I know that the uncertainty and confusion of the first days can be tricky. We are working hard to quickly finalize our enrolment and division allocations and move students into permanent classes. **Parent input into class placement was received in the spring and additional requests cannot be accommodated at this time.** Thanks for your patience as we work through these initial days.

“Respect” At Ladner Elementary



This year we will continue to build our school's behaviour framework into the culture of our community. Once again students will be spending some of these early days learning about the positive behaviour expectations we have of students here at Ladner Elementary. Our framework is based on the Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) model and it a school-wide system that includes “positive, proactive strategies for defining, teaching, and supporting appropriate student behaviour to create positive school environments.” At Ladner Elementary, we show respect in the following ways:

Respect for Self
Respect for Others
Respect for Environment
Respect for Learning

We use the acronym SOAR (Show Our Absolute Respect) to help teach and remind the students of these important behaviours. Our hope is that this framework will focus on positive feedback, create a common language when it comes to behaviour expectations thereby creating a high level of consistency.

During the first week of school students will have the opportunity to take part in daily assemblies on being respectful and work through a lesson in each domain with various staff members. Our hope is that this early emphasis, when combined with regular review, will create the conditions necessary for all of our students to S.O.A.R. this year. Please let me know if you have any questions about Respect at Ladner Elementary.

Administration of Medication



Schools are required to maintain a safe procedure for dispensing medications. We would like to have information regarding medication administration within the first two weeks of school. If your child is required to take medication at school, please request a Request for Administration of Medication at School form from the office. These forms must be completed each year and are required to be signed by your physician.

School Wide Medical Alert



Several of our students have life-threatening allergies to peanuts, nuts (cashews, almonds, walnuts, pistachios, brazil nuts, pecans, macadamias), and sesame seeds. Exposure to even tiny amounts of nut particles – residue on a desk, a book, a door handle, computer keyboard, or a drinking fountain- may be enough to trigger a reaction. Please help us

create a safe environment for them by keeping foods containing nuts, peanuts, and sesame seeds at home. Several companies are now making nut-free snacks and we encourage you to look for these new products when shopping. Other names for peanuts and other nuts include: Arachide, Arachis Oil, Beer Nuts, Goober Nuts, Goober Peas, Ground Nuts, Kernels, Mandelonas, Nut Meats, Valencias, Anacardium Nuts, Calisson, Marzipan, Pinon, Queensland Nut (macadamia). Label reading is the key to sending safe, nut free foods to school. Please do your part to ensure our school environment is a safe one for all of our students. THANK YOU!

Pick Up, Drop off of Students and Changes to Our Parking Lot



You may have noticed how busy traffic can be out the front of our school. We have several buses and vans that drop off and pick up groups of children before and after school using our round about driveway. **Please do not use this driveway as it is designated for these vans and buses only.** We also have a drop off lane at the front of the school next to the gymnasium. The drop off lane is only for drop off (a quick exit of the vehicle) and pick up (students are ready to enter the car). **Please do not park and leave your car in this lane.** We are also very lucky to have Cromie Park at the back of our school. There is a large parking lot and a footpath that leads directly to the school. Please consider using Cromie Park as your drop off and pick up point.

Our upper intermediate students mind the crosswalk out front of the school. They will be trained by our Police Liaison Officer and do a wonderful job of controlling traffic in the crosswalk. If you use this crosswalk with your children it would be wonderful if you could give these hard working students a quick Thank You!



Staff and Student Safety



Visitor Sign-in – While we begin to get to know you, parents, guardians and all other visitors are asked to enter the school using the main entrance and to sign in at the office. **Please do not proceed directly to a classroom.** All visitors are asked to sign-in and wear a “visitor” identification badge while in the school. This is for the safety of our students, staff, and visitors and identifies our visitors as belonging to our school community. If you are picking up your child for an appointment please ask the office to page them down from their classroom. If you are dropping off lunches, please leave them on the “lunch table” in the front hallway and please ensure they are labelled with your child’s name and division.

I am sure you would agree that our students’ safety is of the utmost importance. It is important that students, parents and staff feel safe in our building, and that the school is not readily accessible to strangers. Aside from the daily security of our building, we are required to account for each and every child and adult who is in our school during a fire drill, emergency preparation drill, earthquake drill and lockdowns (for this reason, it is also important that you sign-out when leaving). Your cooperation with this matter is greatly appreciated.

Organics Recycling in Delta Schools!

In all schools in the Delta School District we are recycling organics – this means food waste and food-soiled paper products. In addition to the recycling bins already in place in all schools for mixed recyclables and refundable recyclables, there will now also be bins for organics.



Why do we need to recycle organics?

Because more than one-third of all non-recycled waste disposed in the Metro Vancouver region is actually compostable organics! That's right – 35% of the garbage in our landfills could be composted instead of taking up space in our limited waste disposal system.

By undertaking organics recycling in our schools we can help to divert 35% of waste away from landfills to instead be composted into rich soil that can be used for valuable purposes such as local farming. Overall, Metro Vancouver's Zero Waste Challenge is a mandated goal of diverting 80% of waste from landfills by 2020 via recycling, including organics recycling. In the Delta School District we have embraced this challenge because it not only upholds our District Vision that includes a commitment to environmental sustainability, but we also believe in proper stewardship of all of our resources.

As parents and students we need your help!

On January 1, 2015, Metro Vancouver imposed a 50% surcharge on contaminated loads going to the landfill – this includes organics waste. We need everyone's help to ensure all waste in our schools is put into the proper bin for disposal. No longer will it be acceptable to just throw everything into the waste bin. Anything that can be recycled needs to be sorted and put into the correct bins.

The Delta School District strongly encourages litterless lunches. By packing lunches in re-usable containers and not including items that have disposal packaging we can have a very positive impact on the environment. If an item is not re-usable then it should at least be recyclable. Let's make the lunchbox popular again! We want to see this happening in our all schools throughout our District.

Litterless lunches, along with the new organics recycling means we can reach our Zero Waste Challenge goal!!! We can only reach this goal with your help and we thank you in advance for your support.

Here are some suggestions for packing a “Litterless Lunch”:

1. Landfill-friendly lunch bags - Forget the paper and plastic bags! Use reusable lunch kits or cloth bags that are eco-friendly.
2. Skip the juice box - Embrace the new generation of reusable, non-leaching drink containers! The new stainless steel and aluminum bottles are lightweight, unbreakable and dishwasher friendly.
3. Use reusable food storage containers - As plastics are known to leach chemicals into food over time, consider using stainless steel or glass food storage containers for yogurt, veggies or sandwiches,
4. Remember that not only are prepackaged foods less nutritious and more costly than homemade, but they also contribute more to landfills.
5. Think of purchasing large bulk containers of food rather than prepackaged single servings.
6. Use a cloth napkin versus paper towel.
7. Use a fork and spoon from home versus plastic cutlery.



Communicating To Our Community



Communication with our parent group is a vital aspect of our Successful Learning Community. Our newsletter, school website (<http://le.deltasd.bc.ca/>) and email are our main avenues for sharing information with our families. Newsletters will be posted via this school website and families will receive an email link. Please make sure you have updated your email address on Parent Connect. If you are on Twitter consider following us (@LadnerElem) as this is another way information is shared out.

Parent Connect

Our traditional method of collecting pertinent family information involved families completing forms sent home in September. Over the course of the school year this information often becomes outdated. We want to ensure that we have the most current family information possible.



You can now access Parent Connect using your email address. If you have forgotten the Password press “Forgot My Password” and the system will send you an email with this information.

By logging into “Parent Connect”, families have the ability to update phone numbers, email addresses, medical information and emergency contact information. Fields that can be updated by the parent/guardian are phone numbers and email addresses, emergency contact names and phone numbers, emergency release and out of province contact names, phone numbers and email addresses.

Through Parent Connect: <https://cimsweb.deltasd.bc.ca/schoolconnect/parentssignon.aspx> parents can have access to their child’s attendance record, demographic information, emergency contact information, grades and a history of grades. Parent Connect allows one-way communication with teachers and the office. Parents can also print an Info Form (Elem) or an AM/PM Absence Profile for their student. Students currently in grade 7 will need to use Parent Connect to select courses in high school for next year.

Grade 7 Outdoor Education



Our grade seven students, both French and English, will be attending outdoor education school from Oct. 4th- Oct. 6th. This exciting experience at Evans Lake Outdoor School has been a tradition at Ladner for many years. We look forward to taking our students into the outdoors again this year! Information will be coming home soon as our dates are quickly approaching. If you have any questions about this program, please contact your child’s teacher or the office.

Grade 7 Band

The Delta School District is continuing our initiative to bring music instruction to all grade six and seven students. At Ladner Elementary our grade sevens will be taking band and our grade sixes will be taking general music instruction. More information will be coming home to our Grade 7 families soon regarding music rental options.



Extra Curricular Elementary Band 2017-18

Once again, starting, Thursday, Oct 19, two extra-curricular band programs will be offered to all Ladner children taught by experienced Band teachers, Curt Jantzen and Margaret Behenna.

Beginner Band will be offered at the following time/location
Hawthorne Elementary 3:15-4:15 p.m. Thursdays

This Beginner program is mainly for children in Grades 4 & 5 with no previous band experience but any child in Grades 4 and up interested in learning a band instrument can participate.

Advanced Band, will be offered at the following time/location
Hawthorne Elementary 4:30-5:30 p.m. Thursdays

*The Advanced program is for any student with one year or more of Band experience.
The Advanced Band typically has children in Grades 5 – 8 who are looking to further develop their skills and for an enrichment experience in instrumental music.*

Tuition for the year is \$295 payable to Hawthorne Elementary on or before the first class.

Mr. Jantzen and Mrs. Behenna will visit your child's school earlier in October. They will demonstrate all the instruments that are taught in the program and will hand out registration information. Children need to provide their own instrument and these are available for rent at the **Rental Night, Wednesday evening, Oct. 19 at Hawthorne.**

If you wish further information, please contact Mrs Behenna (604 946 7304 mbehenna@dccnet.com) or Mr Jantzen (604 946 2309 / cjband7@gmail.com)

Student Planners



Student Planners will be issued to students from grades 1-7. The book is an excellent tool to help students take responsibility for their learning and to develop good time management skills. The books are used for recording homework and communicating between home and school.

Each student in grades 1 to 7 will be bringing home a notice regarding the cost of their Student Planner. They will be distributed once the students have been placed into their classes.

Lunch Time Reminders

Students are reminded to make sure they have proper utensils for their lunch. If you do not send your child with their lunch and you intend to bring it before 12:00 pm, please let your child know that he/she can pick it up on the lunch table in the hallway.



Lunch Time Supervision

Lunchtime supervision of students is provided by our team of noon hour supervisors: Mrs. Barrett, Ms. Dumansky, Mrs. Edwards, Mrs. Walji, Mrs. Pryce, Mrs. Sheldrick and Mrs. Willborn.

A reminder: students planning to leave the grounds who normally eat lunch at school must bring a dated and signed note from home giving the student permission to leave the grounds. **The students, for their own safety, will be required to leave by the main entrance and sign out at the office before leaving the grounds and immediately return through the main entrance and sign back in upon their return.** Parents should meet their children by the main entrance for mid-day pick-ups, not their classroom door. Intermediate student monitors are used in the primary classrooms while our younger students are eating their lunch to ensure that a responsible person is available should problems arise. Adult supervisors are on duty throughout the school. If you become aware of problems, please contact your child's teacher or call the office.

Absentees

If your child is going to be absent from school, or arriving late, please send a note to the teacher via a sibling or friend informing the teacher of the absence, or phone the school (604-946-4158). Please leave a message on the machine outside of school hours, or if after 8:30 a.m. with Mrs. Hann or Mrs. Jensen. Each morning our 'Safe Arrivals' parent verifies all unaccounted student absences, so to avoid being phoned about your child's absence please make your call before 9:00 a.m.

When reporting an absence please give your child's name, teacher's name, the expected length of absence and the reason for absence. Your cooperation is much appreciated.

Pets on the Playground

We know that many families enjoy walking the family dog when they accompany their children to and from school. At Ladner Elementary, we request that all pets are kept well away from the students. If you walk your dog to the school, please arrange to meet your child either off the grounds at the front of the school or on the grass field well away from the entrances and exits.



Please clean up after your pet

PAC NEWS

PAC Meeting



The next PAC meeting will be Thursday, September 21, 2017 at 6:00 pm in the Staffroom. Babysitting will be provided. This is a terrific group of parents who work hard to support school activities. In addition, they are a nice group of people to get to know. Please join us, even if you have never been to a PAC meeting before!

MESSAGES FROM YOUR PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE

Head Lice



HEADLICE ARE NOT FUNNY! but as children return to school in September, head lice are sure to follow.

Just a reminder to parents...**please check your child's head weekly** for signs of head lice and encourage your children **NOT** to share combs, brushes or head gear. Lets work together to make your school a "Headlice Free Zone".

Don't know what you are looking for?

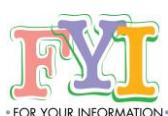
Head lice sample book available, as well as information sheets, at the school office. Feel free to call me at the Health Unit at 946 -1221 if you have additional questions or concerns.

Lunch in a Pinch!

It's another busy school year, which leaves little time for making bag lunches. Here are some tips to help you save time:



- Plan lunches with your children a week in advance and do the shopping together
- Let your children choose a variety of healthy items, but allow them a treat as well
- Make lunch the night before
- Include 3 of the 4 food groups from Canada's Food Guide* in every lunch
- Make extra at meals so you have left-overs for lunches
- Portion food into Tupperware containers so they are ready to go
- Have cut-up vegetables, yogurt cups, and juice packs handy because they are quick and easy to pack'
- Remember that pre-packed lunch items such as granola bars and cheese and crackers can be more expensive and less nutritious



CALENDAR REMINDERS

Thursday, September 21	PAC Meeting
Friday, September 22	Non-Instructional Day
Wednesday, Oct. 4 – Friday Oct. 6	Gr 7's to Evans Lake Outdoor Ed Camp
Wednesday, September 27	Individual Photo Day
Monday, October 9	Thanksgiving – No School
Wednesday/Thursday, October 18 & 19	Parent/Teacher Conferences, Early Dismissal
Friday, October 20	Pro D Day, No school in session

LADNER ELEMENTARY 2017/2018 SCHOOL CALENDAR



INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Days in Session	188
Hours of Instruction in School Week	Kindergarten - Grade 7: 24.42 hrs.
Number of Days of Instruction Minutes of Instruction in School Day	180 Kindergarten – Grade 7: 293 min.
Number of Non-Instructional Days	7 (District Wide)
Schools Open Terry Fox Run Non-Instructional Day (District Wide)	Tuesday, September 5 Friday, September 15 Friday, September 22
Thanksgiving Day Early Dismissal – 1:49 Parent/Teacher Interviews Early Dismissal – 1:49 Parent/Teacher Interviews Non-Instructional Day (District Wide) Non-Instructional Day (District Wide) Curriculum Day	Monday, October 9 Wednesday, October 18 Thursday, October 19 Friday, October 20 Monday, October 23
Remembrance Day Assembly Remembrance Day/Statutory Holiday Non-Instructional Day (District Wide)	Friday, November 10 Monday, November 13 Friday, November 24
Term 1 Reports Home Christmas Concert Schools Close for Winter Vacation Winter Vacation Period	Tuesday, December 19 Wednesday, December 20 Thursday, December 21 December 22 – January 7
Schools Reopen after Winter Vacation	Monday, January 8
Family Day Non-Instructional Day (District Wide)	Monday, February 12 Friday, February 23
Term 2 Reports Home Spring Vacation Period (includes. Good Friday/Easter Monday)	Wednesday, March 14 Monday, March 19 – Monday, April 2
Schools Reopen Early Dismissal - 1:49 Student Led Conferences Early Dismissal - 1:49 Student Led Conference Non-Instructional Day (District Wide)	Tuesday, April 3 Wednesday, April 18 Thursday, April 19 Friday, April 20
Regional Track Meet District Track Meet Non-Instructional Day (District Wide) Victoria Day	Tuesday, May 8 Thursday, May 17 Friday, May 18 (in Lieu of August Pro-D) Monday, May 21
Sports Day Student Recognition Assembly Grade 7 Awards Assembly Last Day for Students –Reports Cards Home Schools Close (Administration Day)	Friday, June 8 Tuesday, June 26 Wednesday, June 27 Thursday, June 28 Friday, June 29