



## Dr. A. R. Lord Elementary School

### “Create Peace: Be Kind, Be Safe, Respectful, Be Responsible”

#### Learn and Play with Pride

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Respect and Responsibility</u>	<u>Integrity</u>	<u>Diversity</u>	<u>Engagement</u>
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Vancouver, BC V5K 4G4

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Email: [drarlord@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:drarlord@vsb.bc.ca)  
Website: [lord.vsb.bc.ca](http://lord.vsb.bc.ca)

Principal - Ms. M. Trovao

Office Assistant - Ms. S. Liu

Superintendent of Schools -  
Mrs. Suzanne Hoffman

School Trustee - Jennifer Reddy

Director of Instruction  
Field Studies -  
Mrs. Deena Kotak Buckley

PAC Contact Info -  
[arlordpac@gmail.com](mailto:arlordpac@gmail.com)

#### School Hours:

8:55am – Warning Bell  
9:00am – School Starts  
10:50 – 11:05am - Recess  
12:00 – 12:47pm –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

Dear Lord Families,

February is an extremely busy month. Students will be participating in activities focused on Black History, Anti-Bullying and Lunar New Year.



Communicating Student Learning reports were sent home this past week. All schools for the 2020-21 school year will be following this reporting format. For further details about the different sections of this report and what they mean please refer to our school website under the Family or Teaching and Learning tabs.

In the report envelopes students received the updated and revised Code of Conduct pamphlet (only one per family). Please review and discuss the expectations stated on the Code of Conduct with your children.

A reminder to everyone that Conferences and early dismissal (2:00 pm) are occurring on Wednesday, Feb. 10 and Thursday, Feb. 11. We hope that you are able to join us to discuss your child/children's learning. Once again conferences will be virtual. Please make sure you are able to connect on to your child's TEAMS account. This event is always a good opportunity to connect with your child's teacher and the staff that support them.

I know it is hard to believe but we are already planning for September 2021. In order to plan for September, we need to know whether your child/children will be returning to Dr. A. R. Lord for the next school year. We will be sending home a blue “Are You Returning” form next week, one form per student. Please return this form to your child's classroom teacher by Friday, February 26. Please note that students who are returning are automatically registered for next year.

As mentioned in previous newsletters, this time of year, the weather can be unpredictable, and conditions can change throughout the day. Please make sure your child is coming to school with clothes appropriate for the weather. 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. **There are no inside Rainy Days options. Students will be playing outside during recess and lunch breaks, so we need to ensure they stay as warm and dry as possible.** Thank you for helping to keep our children warm, dry, happy, and healthy. **As always please label clothing!**

Margie Trovao  
Principal



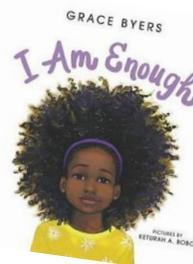
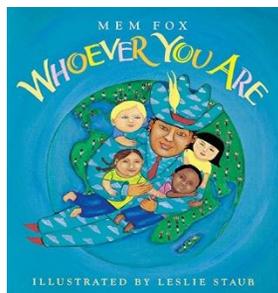
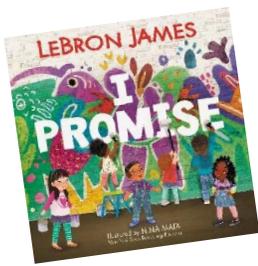
#### Black History Month

Each year, the Vancouver School District marks Black History Month through a number of events and school-based activities. At Lord, classes will be discussing and participating in different activities to acknowledge the struggles and celebrate the contributions of those that have helped to make our world a place where acceptance and equal rights are for everyone. Discussing topics such as discrimination, racism and prejudice can be difficult, but these are important conversations to have. As always topics are discussed with the age of students in mind. We encourage families to have these discussions at home as well. Picture books are wonderful tools that can help start conversations. Here are a few examples of picture books that can be read to help celebrate diversity and highlight the importance of being proud of who you are. Please review books to determine age appropriateness before sharing.

1. Whoever You Are by Mem Fox

2. Be You by Peter H. Reynolds
3. It's OK to be Different by Sharon Purtill
4. I Am Enough by Grace Byers
5. I Promise by LeBron James

Thank you for your support.



### Pink Shirt Day (Anti-Bullying Day)

On Wednesday, February 24, 2021 we encourage everyone to wear pink to symbolize that we do not tolerate bullying. This event originated in 2007 when two high school students from a small town in Nova Scotia, David Shepherd and Travis Price, noticed that another student was being bullied because he was wearing pink. Here is a snippet of an article detailing the original incident:



*“David Shepherd, Travis Price and their teenage friends organized a high-school protest to wear pink in sympathy with a Grade 9 boy who was being bullied [for wearing a pink shirt] ... [They] took a stand against bullying when they protested against the harassment of a new Grade 9 student by distributing pink T-shirts to all the boys in their school. ‘I learned that two people can come up with an idea, run with it, and it can do wonders,’ says Mr. Price, 17, who organized the pink protest. ‘Finally, someone stood up for a weaker kid.’ So Mr. Shepherd and some other headed off to a discount store and bought 50 pink tank tops. They sent out message to schoolmates that night, and the next morning they hauled the shirts to school in a plastic bag. As they stood in the foyer handing out the shirts, the bullied boy walked in. His face spoke volumes. ‘It looked like a huge weight was lifted off his shoulders,’ Mr. Price recalled. The bullies were never heard from again.”*

### Safe Arrival

#### 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 Childs Absence – Please Call the number above **prior to 9 am** on the first day of the absence.

#### Student Sign Out Procedure

Please ensure that the school is aware that your child is leaving school early. When you pick up your child during the school day, they will be required to come to the office and sign out. Please meet them at the front of the school near the main entrance. If not signed out properly your child 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!



### 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.**



### **NOTIFICATION OF SCHOOL CLOSURE**

By 6:00 am, the VSB will post information about snow closure on its website at [www.vsb.bc.ca](http://www.vsb.bc.ca) and will inform local media stations, including:

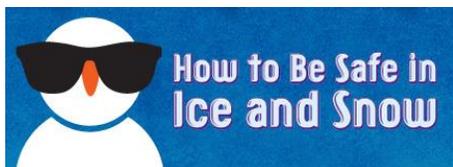
- CKNW (980 AM)
- CBC (690 AM, 105.7 FM)
- CJVB (1470 AM)

- CFHG (96.1 FM)
- CKWX (1130 AM)
- BCTV/Global (Cable channel 11)
- CITY TV (Cable channel 13)

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

Health Alert: We are a Nut Aware School - Please no nuts, (including Nutella spread), peanuts or peanut butter at school. We have several students with severe, potentially life-threatening allergies to these products. Thank you for your cooperation in maintaining a safe environment for all of our students.

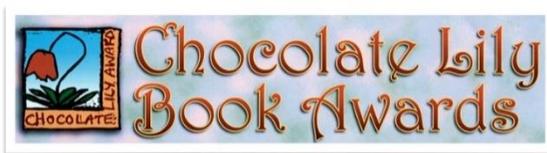


### Cell Phones

A reminder to students and parents that cell phones are not to be used during school hours unless it is being used for educational purposes, supervised by staff. If a student does bring a cell phone to school, they are being asked to keep it in their backpack during the day, (this includes recess and lunch) either turned off or on silent mode. Please be advised that school is not responsible for any lost or damaged devices. Thank you for your support.



### Chocolate Lily Book Awards

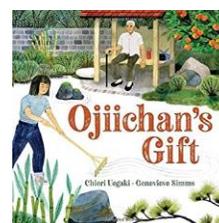
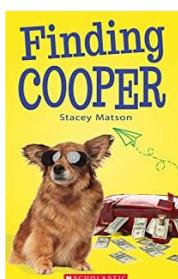
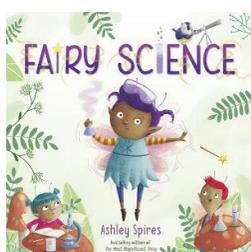


Some students at Lord, with the support of Ms. Parkin our librarian and their classroom teachers, are participating in the BC Chocolate Lily Young Readers' Choice awards program. This program encourages grade school students to read some of the best fiction written/illustrated by British Columbia's authors and illustrators.

Two goals of the program are to celebrate home grown BC talent and to promote literacy. Because reading and writing are intertwined, good readers are generally good writers. "Read, read, read". is the advice given by many authors. Students read the nominated titles and vote for their favourite book in three categories:

- Picture books** (Kindergarten to Grade 4)
- Chapter Books/Early Novels** (Grades 2 - 4)
- Novels** (Grades 4 - 7)

Our students are participating in the categories Picture Books and Novels. Students may vote in any category if they have read the minimum number of books required.





Please continue to visit our website and refer to the School Calendar sent in September for important dates. All information about dates where school is not in session is also located in the front of your child's agenda.

**Month of February**

Black History  
Anti-Bullying/Acceptance/Kindness

- Mon. Feb. 1                      Cross boundary process begins
- Wed. Feb. 10                  Early Dismissal 2:00pm  
Virtual Conferences
- Thurs. Feb. 11                Early Dismissal 2:00pm  
Virtual Conferences
- Fri. Feb. 12                    Pro-D (School not in Session)  
Lunar New Year
- Mon. Feb. 15                  Family Day (No School)
- Tues. Feb. 16                 PAC Meeting (On TEAMS 6:30pm)
- Wed. Feb. 24                 Wear Pink for Anti-Bullying/Acceptance Day
- Fri. Feb. 26                    Last day to return "Are You Returning Forms."
- March 15- 26                 Spring Break

