



DR. A.R. LORD NEWS

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

Important News in this Issue:



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555 Lillooet St
Vancouver, BC V5K 4G4

PHONE: 604-713-4620
FAX: 604-713-4622
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- TBA

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

Dear Dr. A.R. Lord Families,

Welcome to November. This school year seems to be going by very quickly. These are some of the events that took place this month and some events to look forward to.

Our first Fire Drill and Earthquake Drill were very successful. It is very important for students to know what to do in case of an emergency. There is more information about VSB Emergency Procedures in the body of this newsletter. It is a good idea to create and practice an emergency plan for your home as well.

On occasions throughout the year I will be leading assemblies for students based on a variety of Social Responsibility topics as well as reviewing our school’s Code of Conduct. Please review the Code of Conduct contract you signed in September periodically to remind students of our school’s expectations. For this month’s assembly I read the story “What Makes Us Unique” by Dr. Jillan Roberts. The theme of the story is diversity and how we should celebrate, respect and accept people’s differences.

October 31 is always an exciting day. The costumes on Halloween were amazing. Thank you to all the students that presented at our Halloween assembly. A special thank you to the students of Div. 1 for leading the assembly and for their Halloween Safety Tips. I loved the Thriller Dance routine. I will try my best to learn it for next year.

Every year, schools host a formal Remembrance Day Assembly. This year it will be held on November 8th at 11:10 a.m. Although this is a somber event, it is important for students to honour our past and this is one event mandated by the Ministry of Education. The student leaders are proud to facilitate assemblies such as these and have demonstrated tremendous public speaking skills.

A huge thank you to our parent community for all the support they provide to the school. Thank you to the PAC for organizing hot lunches and the Family Photo Nights. Thank you Joseph Cruz of Cherry Blossom Photography for your time. November is shaping up to be another busy month for PAC. We are looking forward to the Scholastic Book Fair, more Hot Lunches and the Winter Swap. Please read “Message from the PAC” at the end of the newsletter for more details on all these events.

As the days continue to get shorter and as the rainy weather settles in, it is visibly darker when students are making their way to and from school. Please take time to review some of the basic traffic safety rules with your children to ensure they arrive safely each day.

Here are some important events to remember for this month – Parent Conferences, Early Dismissal, Remembrance Day Assembly, Kindergarten Registration and Grade 7 Mini School Registration to name a few. Please check our Upcoming Events for more information.

A final thank you to Mrs. Burke and Mrs. O’Neill for coaching Cross Country this year.

Have a great November!

Margie Trovao
Principal



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)

Grade 7 Mini School Information

The process for applying for Mini schools is soon approaching. Here is some important information on the Mini School application process.

Important Dates

REGISTER ONLINE for the test..... Oct. 27 to Nov. 9, 2017

Test date and time..... Nov. 21 at 1:00 p.m., 2017

(Students with a designated Special Need and IEP take test at 9 a.m. at VSB Ed. Centre)

Application to programs deadline Dec. 21, 2017 by 3 p.m.

All 18 secondary schools in Vancouver offer challenging and comprehensive programs. Many schools have developed their own school-based enrichment programs for a wide range of student interests and abilities. In addition to the neighbourhood school, District programs also offer a set of enrichment programs to meet the needs of students.

To apply for most District programs, students must complete the **District Cognitive Skills test on Nov. 21, 2017**.

Check the VSB website for the most up to date information, www.vsb.bc.ca/programs/mini-school-registration.

Remembrance Day Assembly

There will be a Remembrance Day assembly on Wednesday, November 8th at 11:10 a.m. Parents are welcome to attend. School will not be in session on Friday, November 10 (Curriculum Implementation Day) as well as Monday, November 13 (in lieu of Remembrance Day).

Communicating Student Learning

Many Vancouver Public Schools, along with schools throughout British Columbia, are moving from a model of 'reporting to parents' on a regular and pre-determined schedule to 'communicating student learning with parents' on an on-going basis throughout the school year. This year, the teachers in our school will be participating in a district-initiated pilot project along with other Vancouver schools and their teachers. These teacher teams will work with the school district to provide parents with timely and responsive communications of student learning throughout the school year. Parents with children in these classes will receive five communications from teachers within a school year:

- a written progress report at the end of January
- a written summative report at the end of June
- a minimum of three ongoing communications of student learning in various subject areas.

The written reports will include descriptive comments and a summary of student progress in relation to the learning standards from the BC Curriculum. Detailed information about these changes will be sent home to parents/guardians if your child's teacher is involved in this pilot project.

Emergency Procedures



Fire Drills and Earthquakes

This month we participated in an Earthquake Drill and a Fire Drill. Every year schools practice Emergency Procedure Drills (Fire, Earthquake, Lockdown, Hold and Secure) throughout the year. All schools are required to facilitate drills and some require us to vacate the building to simulate real emergency procedures. Knowing what to do and where to go is extremely important and calming information for students to be aware of.

Although staff speak to students to prepare them for these events, it would be beneficial for families of younger and/or sensitive students to discuss this at home as well.



Cross Country

Congratulations to all the members of the Cross Country Team. They practiced twice a week for 5 weeks, competed in 3 mini-meets at Clinton Park and came out to a rescheduled final meet at Trout Lake. At every practice and meet the students supported and cheered for each other and demonstrated qualities of respect and fair play. Thank you to all the family members who ran with the team at practices, helped with ribbons at Clinton Park and drove students to events. It was a pleasure to coach this team.

Mrs. O'Neill and Mrs. Burke

Lockdown, Hold and Secure



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 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. 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.

Daylight Saving Time Ends

On **Sunday, November 5, 2017, 2:00:00 AM** please remember all clocks are turned **backward** 1 hour to Sunday, November 5, 2017, **1:00:00 AM** local standard time instead.



Nut-Free Zone



Please do not bring any products containing nuts (peanuts or tree nuts) into area.

Thank you for helping to keep our children safe.

Allergic Free Zone

→ **HEALTH ALERT:** Please no nuts – tree 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.

A reminder of our NEW PROCEDURES

Signing In and Out



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!

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 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 our PAC



Thank you to all who came out for the October PAC meeting. We passed the budget for this school year, and it can be viewed along with the minutes to the meeting on our blog. The Family Photo Night was a hay filled hit with 18 families participating! Thank you to the talented Joseph Cruz of Cherry Blossom Photography- and an A.R. Lord parent - for making the experience enjoyable for everyone. If you missed out, we will hopefully run this event again next year.

November is shaping up to be a busy month, with a number of exciting events occurring. We hope you enjoy as many as you can, and please let us know if you are able to volunteer any time to help make these events a success.

PAC Meeting: Tuesday November 14th at 6:30 in the library. As always, FREE child minding is available.

Scholastic Book Fair: November 6 -9. Regular hours for students are 8:30 – 9:00 and 3:00 – 4:00 each day. New this year, the fair will be open Nov. 9th from 9:00 – 9:30 and 1:30 – 2:00 for quiet parent shopping – a great opportunity to pick up holiday gifts on the sly. We are currently looking for volunteers to help the sale run smoothly.

Winter Gear Swap: November 8 -9 from 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm under the covered area outside. Please bring in any winter gear you have outgrown – from toques to skies and everything in between. Collection of items will start November 3rd in cardboard boxes at the back door. Even if you have no winter gear to swap, feel free to browse the available items during the sale. We are looking for plenty of volunteer to help with this fun event.

Hot Lunch Program: The kids have so far enjoyed pizza and sushi, with more delicious options coming about every 2 weeks. The next scheduled lunch is November 16th and it will be wraps and smoothies from Spud.ca. If you are available at the lunch hour please come out and help feed the kids!

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 door for easy reading.

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

Kind regards,

PAC Executive

Important Upcoming Dates and Events:



Wed. Nov. 8	Picture Retakes; Remembrance Day Assembly, 11:10am; Early Dismissal @ 2:00 (Parent Conferences); Winter Gear Swap 2:00- 3:00;
Thur. Nov. 9	Early Dismissal @ 2:00 (Parent Conferences); Winter Gear Swap 2:00- 3:00;
Fri. Nov. 10	Curriculum Implementation Day (No school for students);
Mon. Nov. 13	School not in Session (In lieu of Remembrance Day);
Tues. Nov. 14	PAC Meeting;
Wed. Nov. 15	Kindergarten Vision Test 9:15 – 12:00;
Thur. Nov. 16	Kids Lit Quiz; PAC Hot Lunch;
Thur. Nov. 30	PAC Hot Lunch;
Fri. Dec. 1	Pro-D (No school for students);