



# DR. A.R. LORD NEWS

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

### Important News in this Issue:



New Reporting (p.2)



Great BC Shakeout (p.2)



Safe Arrival (p. 3)

### Principal’s Message

Dear Dr. A.R. Lord Families,

It’s hard to believe that we have been back in school for a month. September is always an exciting and busy time at schools. We look forward to all the events October will bring.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome some new staff members to our school.

- |  |                           |
|--|---------------------------|
| Maria Barbaro –Supervision Aide              | Beata Sosulska – SSA      |
| Ronnie Ross – Area Counsellor (Temporary)    | Alexis Yau – Psychologist |
| Megan Bamburak – Speech Language Pathologist |                           |

Thank you and good luck to Hana Yakashiro. She has been at Lord in a temporary SSA position for the past three weeks and will be moving on to a new position next week. We would also like to welcome back Megan Haggerty.

Thank you to the many families that joined us on September 19th to celebrate the beginning of our new school year at Meet the Teacher. I hope you had fun filling out your passports. Thank you to our PAC for the delicious apples and the refreshments.

On Thursday, September 28 students, staff and families participated in the twelfth Annual National Terry Fox School Day Run hosted by the PNE at Hastings Park. It was a beautiful a day for a run. Thank you to the PNE staff for organizing this event and providing each student with a snack. For the past two weeks students have been collecting a toonie for Terry. Thank you for your contributions.

This year, A.R. Lord, along with many schools in our district will be piloting a new way of communicating student learning. We are excited to announce that reporting and assessment this year will have a new look. Further details about the changes to report cards are included in the body of our newsletter. We will continue to share new information throughout the year.

I would like to reminder parents and students who ride bikes to school that they are expected to lock their bikes in the designated area. Students are not to ride or play near the bikes during school hours. After 8:30 am and before 3:30 pm students are asked to walk their bikes on school grounds at all times. Skateboard, scooters and wheeled shoes are not to be used during school hours as they pose a safety concern to students and adults. This is part of the Vancouver School Board Safety Policy and applies to adults as well.

This year the Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA) test is from October 2 – Nov. 9. The (FSA) is an annual provincial assessment that will be conducted in Grade 4 and 7 classrooms across British Columbia. Parents of grade 4 and 7 students will have received or will be receiving very shortly further details.

As we settle into fall and anticipate winter, we need to remember that students are still going out to play during recess and lunch almost every day. Please ensure your children are dressed appropriately for the seasonal weather. It is often cold and/or wet weather. Children are encouraged to dress in layers too, just in case. Also, don’t forget to label your child’s clothing. We are often finding jackets, sweaters and lunch bags left behind. It would be nice to know who to return them to. Better yet it would be nice if you checked in with the children to make sure they are collecting and bringing home their belongings each day!

As mentioned October promises to be a busy month. Please check our Upcoming Events section at the end of this newsletter. I would like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. Enjoy your time with family and friends.

Margie Trovao  
Principal

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Principal- Ms. M. Trovao

Office Assistant- Ms. S. Liu

Acting Superintendent of  
Schools- Mr. John Lewis

Liaison School Trustee -Ms.  
Dianne Turner

Director of Instruction  
Field Studies  
Ms. Magdalena Kassis

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



## Communicating Student Learning (Report Cards and Assessment)

With the recent implementation of the redesigned curriculum (K-9), educators across BC are now looking at assessment and reporting models and strategies which are currently evolving as well. As teachers continue to review, revise and reshape their instructional practices, they are identifying better and more effective ways to assess and evaluate student learning. The Vancouver School District (VSD) is purposefully moving from a model of “Reporting” to one which is better entitled “Communicating Student Learning”, as it involves intentional and meaningful communication between teachers, students and parents on an ongoing basis.

Previously	Proposed Model (Draft)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reporting on student achievement to parents as a formal event at prescribed intervals throughout the school year. Timing decided as a school or district.</li> <li>Letter grades for all students in Grades 4-9 with each written report</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Ongoing Communication of Student Learning at what the participants believe to be appropriate times throughout the school year</b></li> <li><b>Letter grades not included unless specifically requested by parents of students in Gr. 4-9, and then only on summative yearend report</b></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3 times per year for written reports</li> <li>twice a year for informal reports</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Relevant, timely feedback a minimum of 5 times per year using a variety of methods</b></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identical items/tasks used to evaluate student learning for whole class</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Incorporation of authentic individual learning artifacts, often chosen by the student</b></li> <li><b>“Assessment as Learning”</b></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Teacher reporting directly to parents</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Student voice included in the communication of learning</b></li> </ul>

In keeping with the new Communicating Student Learning guidelines, A.R. Lord, as well as other schools in the district, will be sending out written reports in January and June and continue with their scheduled Parent Conferences. Our conferences are set for November and March. Staff is working together to research other methods that would meet the needs of Lord students and family community.



On October 19, officially "ShakeOut BC Day," millions of people worldwide will practice how to Drop, Cover, and Hold On at 10:20 am during the *Great ShakeOut Earthquake Drill!* The standard drill uses simple steps to inform all students how to perform “Drop, Cover, and Hold On” – a quake-safe action designed to protect lives and prevent injuries from falling furniture and flying objects that can become projectiles during ground shaking. Lord students will also be participating, in “The Big One at 2pm” in May with all schools in the Vancouver School District.

### Emergency Procedures

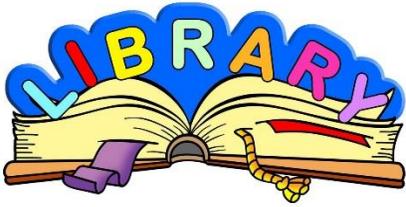
Every year schools practice Emergency Procedure Drills (Fire, Earthquake, Lockdown, Hold and Secure) throughout the year. All schools are required to facilitate drills and some require us to vacate the building to simulate real emergency procedures. Knowing what to do and where to go is extremely important 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.



### Before and After School Supervision

Please note that we have staff supervising starting at 8:40 before school and from 3:00 to 3:20 afterschool. Please do not bring your child to school earlier unless there has been a prior arrangement with your child’s teacher or they have a special school commitment. **We are asking that all students wait for the bell at the back of the school not at the front. We have had several safety concerns with students playing in the front. Thank you for your support with this.**



### Library News

The library is usually open every morning at 8:30 am. Please note that the supervision offered in the library from 8:30 – bell every day is voluntary. Sometimes, Ms. McCandless will be away, and if she has a EOC, they may not be able to open the library. Please note that there is always supervision in the undercover area from 8:40 am until the bell. If students arrive early with the intention of going to the library and find it closed, they are expected to go outside where they will be safely supervised by staff. **Please remind your children that they have a choice of the library or undercover area if they arrive at school before the bell.**

### 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.

#### Choir

Our AR Lord Choir has been meeting on Fridays at recess in the Music Room. If you are in grades 1-7 and would like to join our happy group of choristers, please come to the next choir practice. We are working on a song for Remembrance Day. Yours in Song, Ms. Watson and Ms. Young-Eng.



#### Individual School Photo Day

Smile! Individual photo day will take place on **Tuesday, October 17**. A form will be sent home with students prior to picture day. Please do not worry if your child is away, photo retakes will happen on **Wednesday, November 8**.



#### Spirit Day

Our first school Spirit Day is **Monday, October 16**. Students and staff are asked to wear their pajamas and bring a Teddy Bear/Stuffed Animal to school that day.



→ **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.



### Message from our PAC



Thank you to all who came out for the first PAC meeting. We had a great turn out, and the spirited discussion is a good indicator that this will be an amazing year.

Here are a few events we are working on for the upcoming months:

**PAC meeting: October 18th at 6:30** in the library. And as always, FREE child minding is available.

**PAC Family Photo Night:** Week of October 23rd. For only \$30, you get a professional 8 x 10 family photo just in time for the holidays. An option to purchase the digital files and additional prints is available. Sign up forms will be available soon. (\$30 sitting fee donated to the PAC)

**Scholastic Book Fair:** November 6-9. Another great opportunity for holiday gifts. We are currently looking for volunteers to help the sale run smoothly.

**Hot lunch program:** Don't forget our first hot lunch is this Friday October 6th. If you are available at the lunch hour please come out and help feed the kids!  
Additional lunches are in the works with dates and menus coming soon.

**Food event notice list:** Let us know if you would like to be notified in advance of any **PAC related** food activities. This can help ease the stress and worry for kids on special diets. Please note that this list will only cover PAC organized events. Any classroom specific event needs to be coordinated with your teacher.

**Winter Gear Swap:** November 8-9 (tentative). Start setting aside any and all winter gear you have outgrown - from toques to skis and everything in between. We are looking for plenty of volunteers to help with this fun event.

Keep updated on these, and all PAC activities, by visiting our website ([www.arlordpac.ca](http://www.arlordpac.ca)) and social media accounts. 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 [arlordpac@gmail.com](mailto:arlordpac@gmail.com) or by popping a note into the PAC box at the front desk. We are always looking for input.

Kind regards,  
PAC Exec



- Oct. 6 – PAC Hot Lunch
- Oct. 9 – Thanksgiving (No School)
- Oct. 11 – Cross Country @ Clinton Park
- Oct. 16 – Yoga  
Pajama and Teddy Bear Day
- Oct. 17 – Individual Photos 9:00 am
- Oct. 18 – Writer's Workshop Div. 2
- Oct. 19 – Great BC Shakeout 10:20 am  
Cross Country Meet @ Trout Lake (1:00 – 3:00)
- Oct. 20 – Pro-D (No school for students)
- Oct. 23 – Yoga
- Oct. 24 – Immunization Gr. 6
- Nov. 8 – Early Dismissal @ 2:00 Parent Conferences  
Picture Retakes
- Nov. 9 – Early Dismissal @ 2:00 Parent Conferences
- Nov. 10 – Curriculum Implementation Day (No school for students)
- Nov. 13 – School not in Session (In lieu of Remembrance Day)