

Dorothy Peacock

Elementary School

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Mission Statement: Working together as a community, we encourage caring, responsibility and a love of learning that will last a lifetime.

Newsletter # 08

February 22, 2019

DATES TO REMEMBER

Monday, February 25 th	Report Card Prep Half Day – students dismissed at 11:05 am
Friday, March 8 th	Term 2 Report Cards Issued
Wednesday, March 13 th	Parent Teacher Interviews – Students dismissed at 1:30 pm
Thursday, March 14 th	Parent Teacher Interviews – Students dismissed at 1:30 pm
Friday, March 15 th	Hot Lunch – Booster Juice & Cobbs
Friday, March 15 th	Last Day prior to Spring Break
Monday, April 1 st	School Re-opens after Spring Break
Monday, April 8 th – 12 th	Evans Lake Grade 7 Camp
Friday, April 12 th	Hot Lunch – Boston Pizza
Friday, April 12 th	Collaboration Afternoon – Students dismissed at 1:15pm
Friday, April 19 th	Good Friday – School Closed
Monday, April 22 nd	Easter Monday, School Closed
Thursday, May 2 nd	Class Photo Day
Friday, May 3 rd	Pro D Day – Students do not attend
Thursday, May 9 th	Collaboration Afternoon – Students dismissed at 1:15 pm
Friday, May 17 th	Hot Lunch – Taco Del Mar
Monday, May 20 th	Victoria Day – School closed
Friday, June 7 th	Hot Lunch - Subway

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: "Every parent should remember that one day your child will follow your examples instead of your advice."

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

MOTHER NATURE is reminding us it is still winter. Snow, snow, everywhere we look it is snow.

According to all the weather statistics, this February is turning out to be the coldest on record. Thank you to all the parents who are ensuring kids come dressed for the weather. How wonderful it has been to see the kids outside at recess and lunch playing and enjoying the snow. We cannot thank the Maintenance Department of the Langley School District enough for all the work they have done to try to keep the snow and ice manageable. As we remind the staff and students, when you come to school, proper footwear is important in these slippery conditions. We do not want any of you to fall.



SNOW ANGELS APPEAR AGAIN – How do I begin to thank the many parents and kids who came, on their own time, to help shovel snow and ice to keep our grounds safe for all our kids and staff. You know who you are, you are amazing, and your efforts are so very much appreciated. This kindness is what makes DPE such a special community. Thank you for making a difference.

STAFF NEWS – This Friday, we say good bye and good luck to Mrs. Layfield. Any day now Mr. and Mrs. Layfield will be welcoming a new addition to their family. We wish them all the very best and we look forward to the first visit this precious little one makes to school. We look forward to Mrs. Layfield's return in 2020. We know we will miss her until then.

Welcome Mr. J. Mr. J has been working as a substitute Special Education Assistant for three days a week in place of Mrs. Bowles. He has now accepted this position from now until June 30th. We are delighted he has agreed to stay with us. He has built wonderful relationships with our students.

Mrs. Hocking has been a substitute Noon Hour Supervisor. This position has now moved from a term position to a continuing position. We are pleased to announce that Mrs. Hocking has accepted the continuing contract. She has worked hard to get to know the students. This is not an easy task when you are only with them one hour a day! Welcome aboard, Mrs. Hocking.

WHEN YOUR CHILD IS SICK – Just a reminder to you that we have a number of students in our school with compromised immune systems. This puts them at risk when students come to school with colds and flu. Children should not be sent to school with fevers, deep coughs, runny noses from a cold, or sick stomachs. This puts all children at risk but those with compromised immune systems at even greater risk. If your child comes in contact with any contagious diseases (ex. Measles) please check with your doctor before sending them to school.

A GENTLE REMINDER - We all value the wonderful job Mrs. Lipp does for us all. Each day she starts by accounting for each child marked absent by his/her teacher. It sure makes her job so much easier if you call the school and let her know if your child is going to be away. Some days she spends her first two hours trying to account for kids, preventing her from getting her other important work done. Please help make her job easier; call the office and let us know. Thank you for your co-operation.

WGSS REGIONAL NIGHT OF MUSIC

Last night, the gym at WGSS was filled with the amazing sound of music. Band students in Grade 6 & 7 from the Walnut Grove Elementary schools were invited to participate in a mass band performance at WGSS. This Grade 7 Honour Band also performed. As well, our Grade 7 Band Students got to hear the WGSS Senior Band, Honour Band, and Jazz Band. As well, they were treated to performances by the Concert, Chamber, and Vocal Jazz choirs. A special treat was one of the students from the Voice class doing a solo performance. We thank all our students and parents who made this evening possible.

DIVERSITY AND RESPECT WEEK- FEBRUARY 25 – MARCH 1

PINK SHIRT DAY, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2019

At the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education on January 24, 2017, Trustees unanimously passed a motion to state: "That the Langley School District establishes 'Diversity and Respect Week' to coincide with Pink Shirt Day in February to promote awareness, acceptance, reconciliation and inclusion for all members of the school community.

As we know, respect and acceptance need to be our focus each and every day, not just one day or one week. We as the adults in a child's life are their teachers. They watch and listen to what we do and say. How we use social media, the things we say, and post are read by them. We talk to them about cyber bullying and that it is not okay, yet they wonder why many adults in their world either cyber bully or are a target of a cyber bully. They read or hear about posts that adults have made and wonder why we tell them it is not okay, yet they see what adults actually post. They watch and listen as adults handle disagreements between each other. How do you answer that when they question you?

The Grade 7s have been working hard to prepare for this week. They have planned the following activities:

Each day next week, students are asked to wear a different coloured shirt.



Monday: Family Culture Shirt Day. Wear a shirt the colour of your family's culture. If you do not know what colour to wear, they encourage you to wear red and white for Canada

Tuesday: wear an orange shirt to honour our Indigenous people



Wednesday: Pink Shirt Day. The focus is on kindness, acceptance, inclusion, and reconciliation; all ways we can work together to end bullying. The first Pink Shirt Day was originally started as a protest against a bullying incident at a Nova Scotia high school. On this day participants are asked to wear pink to symbolize a stand against bullying. The original event was organized by David Shepherd and Travis Price. They bought and distributed 50 pink shirts after a student was bullied for wearing a pink shirt on the first day of school. We as a school community believe that ending bullying is not just a one-day pink shirt event. It is a journey that we hope everyone will join. We want to focus on ways to stop bullying from ever happening; that is through: **kindness**, acceptance, inclusion, and reconciliation.



We encourage everyone to wear a pink shirt on Wednesday, February 27, 2019 and to make a pledge to be kind to one another.

Thursday: Blue Shirt Day to remind us the importance of stopping cyber bullying



Friday: Rainbow Shirt Day – Wear all the colours of the rainbow or choose one or more of your favourite colours



Door Decorating - The Grade 7s are asking each classroom to decorate their classroom door to show our school's multiculturalism.

Paper Shirts -The Grade 7s will give each student a paper shirt to colour. Primary grades and their teachers will decide what to put on their shirt. Intermediate students are asked to write on the shirt what dignity and respect means to them.

FRIDAY, MARCH 1, 2019 the Grade 7s invite you to a special Diversity and Respect Assembly at 11:00 am They will be helped in this assembly by students in Divisions 3 & 4.

REPORT CARD PREPARATION

Monday, February 25, students will be dismissed at 11:05 am. While the students are enjoying an afternoon break, the teachers will be hard at work beginning the process of preparing student report cards. Often parents feel that doing report cards must not be too difficult for teachers as they are given half a day to do them in! Please be assured this half day is only the beginning. While students are assessed daily, the preparation of report cards takes many hours. Teachers spend many, many hours marking, assessing, and evaluating the students work to prepare a report for you that shows where your child is at this point in their learning. The second formal report card will be sent home to you on, **Friday, March 8**. As we look ahead to the second report card it is important to remember that it is a reflection of your child's learning at the time the report is prepared.

Information on Parent Conferences set for March 13th & 14th will be sent home soon.

GRADE 7 COURSE PLANNING - Just a reminder to all grade seven students and parents that staff members and students from Walnut Grove Secondary will be here on Thursday, February 28 to finalize course planning for September 2019. All forms are due on Tuesday, February 26th. Parents, please remember to sign the pink sheet.

PAC MEETING – WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2018 - A reminder to everyone of the important PAC meeting next Wednesday at 6:30 in the Library. Come and hear the plans your PAC is making for the new playground.

JUMP ROPE FOR HEART- After a very successful Jump Rope For Heart Kickoff Assembly it has been wonderful to watch some of our littlest people learning how to skip in preparation for Jump Rope for Heart set for March 4, 2019. Thank you to Mrs. Mitchell for all her work organizing and preparing kids for this very fun, but important day.



CELL PHONE USAGE- This is a really important time to ask yourself if you really know what your child is doing online. When was the last time you checked? Does your child have his/her phone in his/her bedroom at night? If so, Why? Please, please monitor and check your child's online communication, regularly. To do so is not violating your child's privacy; in fact, you may be saving your child from a situation they cannot handle emotionally or socially. Over the past few weeks, more than ever, issues have arisen involving inappropriate use of cell phones by both girls and boys. This is usually happening outside of school time, but unfortunately the "drama" that is brought to school interferes with focus and learning. Often rumours and gossip is spread by others, who think they know all the facts, but do not, leading to very hurt feelings and often irreversible damage to children's reputations. Often this has taken hours of valuable learning time to resolve. Attempt at resolution must be done in hope that students can return to their learning with a clear head. Many of the things kids are doing and saying is cruel and hurtful both socially and emotionally.

At school, every teacher has a different policy with regards to cell phones. There is one thing that is standard. Unless under teacher direction, all cell phones **are to be turned off throughout the school day**. Unless doing an activity, supervised by a teacher, there is NO need for cell phones to be on. **In an emergency**, if you need to get hold of your child you are more than welcome to contact the office. It is important we all work to keep kids safe in the real world and especially on line.

WHAT ADULTS SAY AND HOW THEY ACT

Children look to the adults around them as they try to make sense of how they should handle different situations. They model what we say and do. At our school we have three important words: respect, caring, and responsibility that guide our practice. In our classrooms, hallways, and playground our staff and students work hard to learn and understand the importance of these words. Modeling and reinforcing these words at home is also encouraged.

Respect:

- Demonstrating consideration of self, others and the environment
- Appreciating the feelings of others
- Accepting differences (ex. Ability, looks, culture)
- Honouring the roles of others
- Showing good manners

Caring

- Making each person feel valued
- Demonstrating kindness
- Supporting and encouraging others
- Being empathetic
- Showing compassionate action

Responsibility

- Taking ownership of what you think, say and do
- Realizing your actions have consequences
- Realizing your actions affect yourself and others
- Understanding right from wrong
- Making good choices
- Being willing to learn

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION – If you have a child that qualifies for Kindergarten in September 2019 and you have not yet registered him/her we encourage you to do so as soon as possible. If you know anyone in the community with a Kindergarten school aged child, please remind them that time to register for September 2019 is now to guarantee they have a spot.

BEING GOOD NEIGHBOURS - Some of our neighbours are becoming extremely frustrated with the number of cars that are being parked in front of their homes, blocking access to the cul de sac, parking in areas that are clearly marked No Parking. As well, they are concerned over the speed some cars are travelling on 203rd, 204th and 91 A and B. All of this is over their concern for your children and of course their own. Please, do NOT park in the clearly marked No Parking areas and please do not block access to our neighbour's driveways. Thank you for your help.

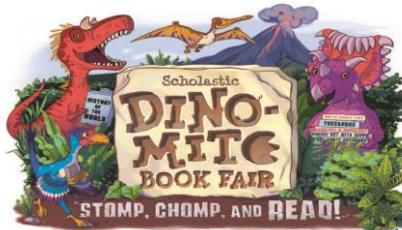
Mark your calendar—Spring Scholastic Book Fair March 12-14

Dorothy Peacock's Scholastic Book Fair will be held in the library:

Tuesday, March 12 2:30-4:00 pm

Wednesday, March 13 1:30-7 pm

Thursday, March 14 1:30-5 pm (during the hours of parent-teacher conferences)



The Fair will also be open at lunch time on Wednesday and Thursday. We will be open after school during the time scheduled for parent conferences on Wednesday and Thursday.

* Come and browse the colourful selection of high-interest books for all ages.

* Enter to win \$25 worth of books for your child and their class

* All Dorothy Peacock students benefit from purchases at the fair—book fair proceeds help us buy books and supplies for the library.

****Volunteers are very much needed for the fair at lunch and after school. Please email Mrs. Perkins at sperkins@sd35.bc.ca

PAC NEWS

Books for Bucks is Back!!! We are collecting new and lightly used books for our Books for Bucks fundraiser starting February 25. The sale will be April 12. There collection boxes in each classroom. More information to come about prizes to come soon!

Mmmm...donuts are also back! March 1 for \$2 each at lunch recess. Any left overs will be sold after school. We will also have gluten and nut free candy for sale.



Information About School Status During Inclement Weather



Snow closures and power outages are an annual occurrence in Langley School District. So where do you go to get information about the status of schools during periods of inclement weather? If you are able to access the internet via computer or smartphone, current information about Langley schools can be accessed at www.sd35.bc.ca. Alerts regarding school status will appear as a banner at the top of the District website and all school websites. Clicking on 'More Details' will provide more information. We will also post updates to Twitter @LangleySchools and Facebook www.Facebook.com/LangleySchoolDistrict.