



Redhawk

RELEASE

DECEMBER 14, 2024

ISSUE #7

MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRINCIPAL

The final week before Winter break is full of exciting events and holiday cheer! A reminder that our last day of school is **December 20th** and students will return on **January 6th**.

A huge thank you to our PAC and families for providing our staff with some delicious Christmas baking and treats for our staff meeting yesterday. This is always a wonderful gift and makes the staff feel appreciated!

Thank you for continuing to engage in our school newsletters so you are up to date with important events. Please note that if you need to access any of the old newsletters that they are posted on our website.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!



Jonathan Harris
Proud Principal
DW Poppy Secondary School

DW POPPY CHRISTMAS FAMILY HAMPERS

It's time for DWP's longstanding tradition to support families in our community with Christmas Family Hampers. The leadership students have been coming around taken this project on for the school and we been coming around are looking for your donations in the form of cash, cheques, gift cards and you can give on the school cash online system.

UPCOMING EVENTS

DECEMBER 16TH
END OF TRIMESTER 2

DECEMBER 16-20TH
WINTER SPIRIT WEEK

DECEMBER 20TH
SANTA BREAKFAST – 8AM

CHRISTMAS ASSEMBLY – 2PM

JANUARY 6TH
SCHOOL RE-OPENS

JANUARY 13-16TH
GRAD ASSESSMENTS

JANUARY 15TH
BLACK EXCELLENCE DAY

JANUARY 20TH
GRADE 9 IMMUNIZATIONS

JANUARY 23RD
LAST DAY OF SEMESTER 1
CLASSES

JANUARY 24TH & 27TH
TRANSITION DAYS
NO STUDENTS IN SESSION

JANUARY 28TH
SEMESTER TURN AROUND DAY
NO STUDENTS IN SESSION

JANUARY 28TH
PAC MEETING – 7PM





There are prizes for the Block A classes with the highest donations:

- 1st Pizza Lunch
- 2nd Donuts
- 3rd Hot Chocolate

Your generous gifts will be collected until December 16th for families. Thank you!

HOLIDAY SPIRIT WEEK

Winter Break is almost here which means it's almost Poppy's Holiday Spirit Week!

- **Monday, December 16th** - Candy Cane Day - Dress up in **Green and Red**
- **Tuesday, December 17th** - **Holiday Accessories Day** - Wear all your favorite holiday accessories.
- **Wednesday, December 18th** - **Ugly Sweater Day**
- **Thursday, December 19th** - **Day On The Slopes** – Come to school wearing winter gear like you're ready to hit the slopes.
- **Friday, December 20th** - **PJ Day** - Wear your Pj's and come to school early for our pancake breakfast. Please bring a \$2 donation to support the Breakfast Bistro and breakfast will start at 8:00am for students and families. There will be pancakes, sausages and more!

DRY GRAD FUNDRAISER – TREE CHIPPING & BOTTLE DRIVE

Don't miss the opportunity to drop off your Christmas tree (tree chipping) and recyclables on **January 4th** from **10am-2pm** at DW Poppy. The Dry Grad committee will be accepting cash or e-transfer donations. Please see the attached flyer for more information.

ATHLETICS

It was a busy week for basketball as we had our home openers for many of our Redhawks. Our grade 8 girls came out strong winning their first three games of the season. They've competed hard and have been exciting to watch. Keep it up girls! Our grade 8 boys have also played well this past week. They came out just a bit short on their season opener losing to Yorkson Creek in a close match, but they came out strong in their home opener against Fundy with an impressive performance and were rewarded with their first win of the season. Our Jr Boys played in two games this past week as well. They have shown tremendous growth year to year and have played hard against some of the league's best. Although they are still searching for their first win, the season is still young, and they are showing great potential. Our Jr Girls have also started their season against two of the strongest teams in their division – Brookwood and RE Mountain. The girls have shown strong teamwork and skill level and will be back on the court next week looking for their first W. Our Senior basketball teams have



been practicing hard for the past month and are ready to get their season underway. Come watch their home opener on Dec. 17th vs Abby Christian.

DECEMBER 16th - Gr. 8 Boys vs Walnut Grove @ DWP 3:15pm

DECEMBER 17th

Jr Girls vs LSS @ LSS 4:30pm

Sr Girls vs Abby Christian @DWP 6:15pm

Sr Boys vs Abby Christian @DWP 8pm

DECEMBER 18th - HOMECOMING GAMES

Girls 6:15pm

Boys 8pm

DECEMBER 19th

Gr. 8 Girls vs Credo @ DWP 3:15pm

Jr. Girls vs Credo @ DWP 4:30pm

END OF SEMESTER TRANSITION DAYS

One of the most important measures of student success is the measure of student transitions, when students successfully move on to the next step in their educational journey. This might include a student who goes from one course to the next course (e.g., English 8 to English 9), from one grade to the next grade, from one level of school to the next level of school (e.g., middle to secondary), or to post-secondary opportunities. At the end of each semester, secondary schools have Transition Days, in which staff create opportunities for students to demonstrate key transitions goals and growth, and assist them in their transitions. Successful transitions are vital for students to build on the successes they have had, and prepare them for the new challenges in their new classroom, new school, etc. The Transition Days also allow for students to complete and present their major careers requirements. Some of the activities that occur during Transition Days in different secondary schools include:

- Mini-Capstone presentations by Grade 9 students
- Capstone presentations by Grade 11 and 12 students
- Careers and Capstone Fairs
- Grade 7/8 visits to the secondary school (e.g., Taste of LSS)
- Other connections and activities between schools to assist in student transitions
- Provincial Literacy and Numeracy Assessments for Grade 10 and 12 students.

At the end of Semester 1, secondary schools also will have a Semester Turnaround Day, to be able to complete the many tasks that are necessary in ending one semester and starting another, including reviewing semester-end student report cards and re-working student timetables.





The dates this year for the end of Semester 1 are:

- Friday, January 24th – Transition Day
- Monday, January 27th – Transition Day
- Tuesday, January 28th - Semester Turnaround Day
- Wednesday, January 29th - Semester 2 Begins

PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE: TRADES & CAREER EVENING

Help your child uncover their potential at Pathways to the Future: Exploring Langley School District's Trades & Career Opportunities!

Date: February 4, 2025

Location: Langley Events Centre (7888 200 Street, Langley)

Time: 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM

This engaging evening will feature:

- Quick, informative Career Crash Course presentations by industry experts.
- Interactive booths to connect with trades professionals and career educators.
- Insights into trades training, Youth Apprenticeships, and post-secondary pathways.
- Door prizes and light refreshments to enjoy!

Equip your child with the tools to succeed while building valuable connections.

See the attached flyer and information letter for more information.

ELECTRICAL CAREER WORKSHOP (GR. 10-11)

Interested in becoming an Electrician?

If you're a grade 10 or 11 student interested in the **electrical field**, there will be an electrical workshop held at **DW Poppy on Tuesday, December 17th**. This workshop will run from 8-11am, with the intention of providing insight on the industry. Additionally, you will get the opportunity to participate in a hands-on activity with current BCIT students. The application deadline is **December 3rd** and there are very limited seats available.

CAR SHOW PARENT VOLUNTEERS

D.W. Poppy Secondary is getting ready to start planning to host its 36th annual Car Show on **Sunday, May 4 2025!** Our tradition of putting on one of the first car shows of the season brings many benefits for the school. We hope to see many cars on display and welcome thousands of spectators. This is a family friendly event. The event is our school's largest fundraiser and benefits our entire school including the shops department, technology, athletic teams, dry grad, and many others. This event is not possible to run without the support of parent/caregiver volunteers. If you would like to be a volunteer at the annual Car Show, please reach out to Sandy Gill (sandeep.gill@sd35.bc.ca) so we can start planning!

ase see Ms. Bhullar for an application form.





POST SECONDARY SCHOLARSHIPS

SASSY Langley for 2024 is up and running for its ninth year. In that time, \$100,000 has been awarded to Langley students headed for post-secondary education. Last year, 61 applications were received, of which 95% were from Grade 12 Langley School District students.

Further details and the application form are attached. This year's deadline is **Friday, March 15, 2024** at 11:59 PM.

Please contact George Bryce at gbryce66@shaw.ca with any questions.

POWER OUTAGES & SCHOOL CLOSURES

The Langley School District uses a notification system called SchoolMessenger to communicate information to families. If you **did not receive a text or email** message during our recent power outages, then please ensure you sign up for our schoolmessenger system. For more information about the system and how to opt-in to receive text messages, visit the District webpage [here](#).

With storm season upon us, the District is reminding families about procedures during emergencies such as power outages. The District will post important information on school and District websites as well as on social media channels. The District may also send special instructions in emails and text messages (for those that opt-in) via SchoolMessenger. In the event of power outages, schools have an emergency phone line operational. Please avoid calling the school unless it is an emergency as this ties up the phone line.

As per the District's procedures, schools in the District may be closed to students by the Superintendent for weather related emergencies such as power outages or other causes related to health and safety. The decision to close a school due to a power outage is based on many considerations including expected power restoration time, operational emergency lighting, access to water and washrooms, among other factors. As always, it is a parent's decision whether to send their child to school (or keep their child at school) based on safety and individual circumstances. If you feel it is unsafe for you or your child to travel to or attend an open school for any reason, please keep your child home and report an absence to the school. For more information on school status information, read [here](#).

The District thanks students, families and staff for their cooperation during recent power outages impacting schools.

DW POPPY SPIRIT CLOTHING STORE

Our DW Poppy online Spirit Store is now Open! New items will be added throughout the school year and are available for order at any time. You can check out all of our Redhawks Spirit Wear that is available to purchase online by clicking [here](#). **All questions regarding**





orders should be directed to the vendor through the chat feature. Orders will be delivered directly to the DW Poppy school office.

Please note that our school spirit store is separate from the athletics clothing store.

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 on all school websites or www.sd35.bc.ca. Updates are also posted to X (formerly Twitter) @LangleySchools and Facebook at www.facebook.com/langleyschooldistrict. If you don't have internet connectivity but your phone is working, call a relative or friend in an area that has not been affected by the storm and ask them to check the district website for you. Local radio stations are also informed of school status in Langley. Tune in to CKWX 1130AM, CKNW 980AM, Country Radio 107.1FM, Pulse 107.7 or CBC 690AM or 88.1FM for updates. Please note that Langley District schools are all considered 'open' until a decision to close is required. Decisions on school closures are usually made by 6:30am. As always, it is a parent's decision whether to send their child to school based on safety and individual circumstances. If you feel it is unsafe for you or your child to travel to or attend an open school for any reason, please keep your child home and report an absence to the school.

DROP-OFF & PICK-UP

The front entrance of the school parking lot is very busy during drop-off and pick-up times as we have many students who are bussed to school. Please do not drop off or pick-up your children directly out front of the school between **8:00-9am or 1:00-3:30pm** as it causes challenges when busses arrive to unload or pick-up. We appreciate your cooperation in minimizing the traffic at the front of our school.

ILLNESS/ABSENCE

It is always best to keep sick children home from school. If a student is away for an extended amount of time, please contact their teachers to arrange for work that they can complete at home or on TEAMS.

The school uses an automated absence reporting system called SafeArrival, offered through SchoolMessenger. With SafeArrival, you are asked to report your child's absence in advance using any of these three convenient methods:

1. SchoolMessenger App
2. SafeArrival
3. Toll-Free Phone Number - 1-833-294-4837

For information on how to use these methods for reporting your child's absence click [here](#)





PREVIOUS INFORMATION & REMINDERS

COMMUNICATING WITH YOUR SCHOOL

Schools and families continue to work together to ensure success for students. If you have an issue or concern but don't know who to speak with, the District encourages you to read these helpful Communicating with your School guidelines for parents/guardians found on our District website [here](#). As an additional reference, review this one-page resource [here](#).

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES & RESPONSE

Health and safety are a priority in the Langley School District. Schools follow emergency procedures to ensure students, staff, and any visitors in our schools or sites are safe when unexpected incidents or events happen. At the start of every school year, administrators,

teachers, and staff review these emergency procedures. Schools practice a set number of drills annually in preparation for unexpected situations. The District encourages families to become familiar with these staff emergency procedures and the drills that are completed in schools. You can read them in the Staff Emergency Procedures Poster [here](#) or find them posted in areas throughout District buildings. If you have questions or concerns about emergency procedures, please contact your child's teacher or principal.

STUDENT SAFETY IN SCHOOLS

The Langley School District is committed to fostering safe and caring schools that promote mutual respect, cooperation, and social responsibility, and support optimal learning. Trauma Informed Practices and Procedures promote the creation and maintenance of safe, inclusive, equitable, welcoming, and nurturing school environments. The District expects all students to follow the Student Code of Conduct [AP 350](#).

The District is sharing a reminder that no one can have **“any weapon for any purpose”** on school property. This means that weapons are not allowed to be used as part of an educational project, drama production, or themed costume. Examples of weapons include but are not limited to knives, brass knuckles, swords, decommissioned firearms, replicas, air soft guns, bb guns, and toy guns. The possession or use of fireworks, firecrackers, explosives, or similar devices or objects is also prohibited on school property. Failure to follow these expectations may result in confiscation, intervention, and consequences.

FAIR NOTICE RESOURCE FOR FAMILIES/STUDENTS

The Langley School District is committed to a safe and supportive environment for all. Our schools take all threatening comments and behaviours seriously. Our schools follow procedures when responding to threat-making behaviour to help keep students, staff, and the community safe. The following resource [here](#) outlines what information students and families need to know in relation to how the District responds to threat-making behaviour in our





schools. Everyone has a role in helping keep our students safe. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your school administrator.

ACCESS TO SCHOOL PHOTOS

The school photos are now available for access through the Artona Website. You can either scan the QR code available on the card students brought home last week or follow the link [here](#)

If you click photo day box, a new window will pop up with order information and timelines. If you click on the view and order button at the bottom, you can enter the QR code number and view/order photos.

If you misplaced your order card from Monday and need a new way to access the photos, it can be found [here](#)

If you need any additional support in accessing your photos, you can find multiple ways of getting in touch with Artona [here](#).

NEW TECHNOLOGY GUIDELINES: PERSONAL DIGITAL DEVICES

Electronic devices can be distracting to student learning. There is a significant body of research showing that increased technology use is linked to problems with mental health, focus and the development of relationships and academic skills.

The Langley School District recognizes the importance of establishing clear guidelines to ensure that personal digital devices are used in a way that supports educational goals and maintains a safe and respectful learning environment.

During hours of instruction, personal electronic devices must be turned off and stored away in backpacks or lockers, unless otherwise instructed by school staff for educational purposes. This includes during study blocks, tutorial and any school sponsored activity such as an assembly or talk by a guest speaker.

To read the new guidelines as set out by the Langley School District click [here](#).

SCHOOL FEES

Every year, there are fees payable to the school for different items, including student fees, grad fees, donation items, any athletics related items, workbooks, etc. The Langley School District uses an online system to collect these fees as it is user friendly and saves students from having to carry cash. Please go online at <https://schoolcashionline.com/> to register your child(ren). You will get an email notification any time a new "item" is available for purchase and the first item you will see are the student fees for the coming year. Please email Mrs. Brake at sbrake@sd35.bc.ca if you have any questions regarding school cash online or school fees.



BELL SCHEDULE

Please note the **Bell Schedule** below:

BELL	SCHEDULE	M	T	W	Th	F
Welcome	8:50	Day 1/2	Day 2/1	Day 1/2	Day 2/1	Day 1/2
Period 1	8:55 – 10:05	A	B	ABCD	C	D
MTSS	10:10 – 10:45	Tutorial	Tutorial	Tutorial	Tutorial	Tutorial
Period 2	10:50 – 12:00	B	A	BADC	D	C
Lunch	12:00 – 12:35					
Period 3	12:40 – 1:50	C	D	CDAB	A	B
Period 4	1:55 – 3:05	D	C	DCBA	B	A

TUTORIAL TIME

Tutorial is instructional time built into the DW Poppy daily schedule that supports students' learning. During tutorial time, students may choose to meet with teachers for support within their timetable or work in areas of passion to extend their learning. Tutorial time (Multi-Tiered Student Supports, or MTSS) is scheduled each day for 35 minutes.

Welcoming Bell	8:50
Period 1	8:55 -10:05
Tutorial	10:10 – 10:45
Period 2	10:50 – 12:00
Lunch	12:00 – 12:35
Period 3	12:40 – 1:50
Period 4	1:55 – 3:05

CALENDAR & MY SCHOOL DAY APP

Students use the “My School Day” App to help stay organized with the daily block order and find updates to the school calendar. Check it out under “Student Life” on our website or click [here](#) for information on how to download it. Homeroom teachers will help students navigate this App as it is a tool that all students are encouraged to use.

Click [here](#) for the District Calendar.





STAYING CONNECTED - COMMUNICATION TOOLS

Good communication between home and school is critical to ensuring student success. We have a few structures in place to help share information. For students and parents to stay informed, please be sure to use the following online methods.

REDHAWK RELEASE

Good communication between home and school is a critical factor in student success. We encourage parents to read the monthly newsletter "Redhawk Release" and pay close attention to school emails for important information. We welcome your involvement, and your suggestions.

SCHOOLMESSENGER

The Langley School District uses a notification system called SchoolMessenger to communicate information to families. As we welcome our new families to our schools, some parents/guardians may receive a text message notifying them about SchoolMessenger. For more information about the system and how to opt-in to receive text messages, visit the District webpage [here](#).



My School Day App - [Click here](#)



Website: <https://dwps.sd35.bc.ca>

FOLLOW US ON:



Instagram: @dwpoppysecondary



Facebook: @DW Poppy Secondary Parent & Guardian Page

DW POPPY SECONDARY - STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

At DW Poppy Secondary, we maintain high expectations for our students and want students to excel. We want our students to be able to empathize with others and have the moral courage to make the right decisions. We are confident our parents will partner with us in using Restorative Action, where all adults in our school community establish and reinforce clear expectations. Please refer to the District Code of Conduct on our school website or [click here](#).



