

From the Desk of Mrs. Gracie
Sept 11, 2024



It has been another very busy start up at James Kennedy Elementary. I would like to thank all of our teachers, custodians and especially Mrs. Sollows for all of their work in getting our school ready to welcome our students back for the school year. I would also like to thank and welcome our new Vice-Principal, Mme Alex Spence. Mme Spence knows our community well and brings with her a wealth of information to support students in both our English and French Immersion programs.

At this point, with there being many teacher shortages around the district and province, I am happy to announce that we have teachers hired for all of our classes and we are in the process of hiring another teacher in our Resource Dept. We continue to be short with some support staff positions but I am in communication with the district daily to get these positions filled as soon as possible.

I would also like to say thank you to our PAC for hosting our Welcome Back to School Coffee Gathering. We appreciate the work that our PAC has already put into scheduling and planning many wonderful JKE community events. Please watch for information on our upcoming Movie Nights, Pancake Day and of course, Spooktacular. These events cannot take place without many volunteers, so please consider getting involved.

Attendance/Absences

If your child is going to be absent, arriving late, away or leaving early due to an appointment, please notify the school of your child's absence by email or call the school. To report an absence by email, send information including student first name and last name, grade, division, length of absence, and reason to JKEAttendance@sd35.bc.ca. To report an absence by phone, call 604-888-5257 and follow the prompts for the attendance line to leave a message with information including student first name and last name, grade, division, length of absence, and reason. You can view these instructions on our school webpage <https://jke.sd35.bc.ca/>. If you have any questions about attendance/absence procedures, contact the school office.

Changes to Volunteering for School Activities:

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

School District 35 has recently changed the procedures for Volunteering in the school for in school and out of school activities. At the beginning of each school year volunteers are now required to complete a Criminal Record Check even though you may have done a Criminal Record Check the previous school year.

All volunteers are required to complete a Training video and complete the Volunteer Application form all of which are on the School District Website. The link is:

<https://www.sd35.bc.ca/our-district/volunteer-at-the-langley-school-district/>

You may also go to the District Website (select top tab, "Our District"; then select, "Langley School District Volunteers"). The password is SD35Volunteer.

Please ensure that the required Criminal Record Check and Training video are completed prior to volunteering in your child's classroom, coaching, attending field trips etc.

Thank you for volunteering in our school and supporting our students.

A Note from the Neighborhood:

During drop off and pick up times, please do not block driveways, fire hydrants or park on private property. We understand that pick up and drop off can be challenging, but keep in mind that we have over 650 students being dropped off or picked up at the same time. Your patience is greatly appreciated.

Upcoming events :

- Friday, Sept 13 – Individual Photo Day
PAC Freezie Sale (\$2 Jumbo Freezie's) after school
- Monday, Sept 16 – Full Day Kindergarten begins
- Thursday, Sept 19 – Terry Fox Assemblies and Run Primary 9:15; Intermediate 11:00
- Friday, Sept 20 – Fire Drill
- Tuesday, Sept 24 – PAC General Meeting – 6:00pm
- Thursday, Sept 26 – Meet the Teacher – Open House 5:30 – 6:30pm
- Friday, Sept 27 – Hot Lunch
- Monday, Sept 30 – National Day for Truth & Reconciliation – No School

*** Please watch for email from your child's classroom teacher for upcoming field trips. Note: Volunteer Driver forms need to be completed each year.**

Information from Langley School District:

Late French Immersion Limited Spaces Available at Alex Hope Elementary

Did you know that learning to speak multiple languages can help students meet the challenges of a changing world? Is your child interested in learning and communicating in French, one of Canada's official languages? The Late French Immersion program at Alex Hope Elementary could be the right educational opportunity for your child. There are limited spaces available for grade 6 entry in September 2024. Students in this program transition to French Immersion at Walnut Grove Secondary. To register, please contact Alex Hope Elementary directly by calling 604-888-7109. For general information about Late French Immersion, families can email: languages@sd35.bc.ca

Keep Immunizations Up to Date - Elementary

The District's community partner Fraser Health is sharing important information with families regarding Vaccination Status Reporting and Regulation (VSRR). Families are encouraged to review the following newsletter to help keep our community health and safe:

For other languages read [here](#).

Back to School Health Guide – Fraser Health

As summer winds down, it's time to gear up for a healthy back-to-school season. Set the stage for a smooth transition back to school. Here are some practical tips to get you started.

Prioritize Sleep

Ensuring your child gets enough sleep is an important part of a healthy back-to-school routine. Quality sleep helps with concentration, mood and overall well-being. Aim for nine to 11 hours of quality sleep per night.

Eat Well

Support your child's learning and development with scheduled meals and snacks. Breakfast kick starts their morning, while snacks and lunches nourish them throughout the day. Pack a water bottle to help them stay hydrated.

Boost Immunity

As with any public environment, school exposes children to various germs. Ensuring they are up-to-date on their vaccinations helps protect them and others. Specific immunizations are recommended for children prior to entering kindergarten as well as in grades six and nine. Help your child avoid the spread of illness by encouraging them to wash their hands regularly, teaching them to cover their coughs and sneezes and keeping them home when sick.

Keep Active

Adding physical activity to your child's routine sets them up for success. Activities like walking or biking to school, playing sports, dancing, swimming or helping around the house are great ways for your child to stay active. Set limits on screen time and promote outdoor play as much as possible for overall well-being.

Make Time for Talking and Connection

Going back to school can be a cause of anxiety or stress for children. Make it a point to encourage open communication and support your child to talk about their feelings and help them feel heard and understood. Integrate downtime into their routine where they can relax or focus on a special interest or hobby.

Find more school health tips and resources on Fraser Health's website:

[School Health - Fraser Health Authority](#)

ELEM: Child Care Resources Available Through Langley Community Services

Langley Community Services offers support and assistance to families looking for childcare in Langley. The Childcare Resource & Referral (CCRR) Program offers free consultation, support, assistance with affordable child care benefit applications and referral services to parents seeking child care in Langley. Parents may contact the Langley CCRR office for a list of childcare providers in their neighbourhood or for more information at (604) 533-4425.

Langley Children's Choir is looking for singers!

Openings are now available for singers in grades 3 to 7

What are we looking for?

- ✓ School choir members (if your school has one)
- ✓ Good attitude and enthusiasm!
- ✓ Advanced vocal skills, and the ability to focus
- ✓ A firm commitment to the group
- ✓ Desire to develop as a singer and choir member

What do you get out of this?

- ✓ Make new friends who like to sing, too
- ✓ Learn about how to sing better and learn lots of music
- ✓ Perform at other schools (a day off!)
- ✓ Have fun on a choir tour or camp in the spring
- ✓ Sing at festivals and hear other great choirs



Rehearsals? Langley Secondary School, 21405 – 56 Ave on Tuesdays,
Sept – April from 4:30 – 6 pm

Fees? \$275 per year (reduced rate for families) plus refundable \$100 deposit

Directors? Kim Hardy and Patti Thorpe (both Langley music teachers) plus accompanist Heather Hicks

How Do I Join?

Contact us for an audition time before Sept 9, 2024. Auditions will be Tuesday Sept. 10

Please include singer's name, phone number, school and grade.

Patti Thorpe
langleychildrenschoir2022@gmail.com



Preschool

Ages 2.5-5 Years old

Monday/Wednesday/Friday Classes

Tuesday/Thursday Classes

****NEW* Monday to Friday Classes***

9:00AM-1:00PM

*A positive place where kids can learn, play, and socialize in
a fun, easy going way!*

**Licensed Centre *Qualified Staff*

PART OF CCFRI-Government funding Program!

*Located at James Kennedy Elementary
School*

9060 212th street

buildingblocksabc@gmail.com

604-613-7910

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Free Fall Program for Families!

Learn about healthy eating, physical activity, and building long-lasting habits as a family in Generation Health Community. This 10-week program for families with children ages 8 to 12 is FUN and interactive!

Delivered through YMCA BC starting October 2024 on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday evenings.

Families who join this program will receive a complimentary YMCA membership.

**Register
today!**



gv.ymca.ca/generation-health-community
generationhealth@bc.ymca.ca



University
of Victoria

