



January 13, 2023

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear ACSS students and families,

Happy January! Happy 2023!

As the new year begins, we look forward starting semester 2 and planning for the next school year. January and February is a time of change at ACSS. Thursday evening, we were excited to welcome all the new Youth Train in Trades (Automotive Service Technician, Carpentry, Hairstylist) students and families to ACSS. Thank you to teachers Mr. Gaumont, Mr. Jones, and Ms. Wight for introducing their programs. Thank you also to our Careers Department staff, Ms. Gimpel, Ms. Luteijn, and Mr. Orchard for helping coordinate the student intake process for our programs. This is the first step towards post-secondary schooling, and a career choice, for our new students, and we are very proud that they have started this learning journey.

Beginning February 1st, ACSS will have a new vice-principal! Ms. Michelle Allen will join us for semester two and beyond and we are very excited to welcome her to our learning community. Ms. Allen brings an abundance of teaching experience at Brookwood, and excellent administrative experience in Maple Ridge. Welcome to ACSS, Ms. Allen!

There are 9 remaining instructional days in Semester 1. Students are encouraged to complete their classes strongly. The last day of classes will be January 26th, with January 27th and 30th being transition days for students needing extra time/support finishing their first semester courses. January 31st is the semester turnaround day for all SD35 secondary schools – students are not in session on this day. Wednesday, February 1st, Semester 2 begins!



January 13, 2023

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE cont'd.

Throughout January and February, students in Grade 8 at BGMS, and Grade 9-11 ACSS students, will engage in course planning for the 2023-2024 school year. We will be holding student/parent/guardian information sessions before asking students to choose their courses for next year. Once the dates of these events have been confirmed, we will share the information with our community.

Today, Friday, January 13th is a special day at ACSS. Not only are we engaging in classroom and school activities honouring Black Excellence Day, but we are also holding our annual International Food Fair at lunch. Thank you to all our staff for their work with these special events.

For the most up-to-date information about school events and happenings please check out our Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter pages, as well as our school website www.acsstotems.ca

Thank you for reading this week's newsletter.

Mr. M. Palichuk

Principal

Aldergrove Community Secondary School





January 13, 2023

2023 Upcoming Dates

January

January 31 — Semester turn around day — ***school not in session***

February

February 1 — Semester 2 Begins

February 3 — Report cards issued

February 10 — Professional Development Day — ***school not in session***

February 20 — Family Day — ***school closed***



SCHOOL DISTRICT

Langley

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM



Come as a Visitor, Leave as a Friend

HOMESTAY FAMILIES NEEDED

Have a life changing experience and welcome an international student into your home!

Homestay families are provided **\$950/month** to offset costs!

CATCHMENT AREA SCHOOLS:

Aldergrove Community Secondary
Brookwood Secondary
Langley Secondary
Walnut Grove Secondary
Langley Fine Arts Secondary
Langley Fundamental Secondary
R.E. Mountain Secondary
D.W. Poppy Secondary

HOW TO APPLY:

Please visit our International Student Program website (Homestay section): www.studyinlangley.com and complete the online Homestay Application!

FURTHER INFORMATION:

Please contact:

Langley School District
International Students Program
Tel: 604-534-7891

We are located at the
Langley School Board Office
4875 - 222 Street, Langley, BC



January 13, 2023

Canada Housing Benefit

Please add the item below to an upcoming newsletter to ensure parents are aware of the NEW/ONE TIME benefit from the Government of Canada; please ensure that your Enhanced Support Team is aware, as well:

The application portal for the one-time top-up to the Canada Housing Benefit is now open!

The Government of Canada has introduced a new affordability measure to help lower-income renters who are most affected by the rise of inflation and struggling with the cost of rent. The one-time top-up to the Canada Housing Benefit provides eligible applicants with a one-time payment of \$500. It is estimated that roughly 1.8 million lower-income renters will be able to benefit from this targeted investment.

How to Apply

Applicants will be able to apply for the one-time top-up to the Canada Housing Benefit on December 12, 2022, up until March 31, 2023, and are encouraged to apply online through **CRA My Account**, which is the quickest, easiest and most secure way to apply for the benefit. If you don't have a CRA My Account, register now. You do not need to wait for your security code in the mail. You can still access limited services in My Account to apply for this benefit immediately. Applicants can also sign in to their **My Service Canada Account** to securely access CRA's My Account without having to sign in again or revalidate their identity.

A **web form** will also be available to submit applications without having to sign in to My Account or My Service Canada Account. Address and direct deposit changes will not be permitted using the web form – if applicants haven't updated their personal and banking information, they should apply through the CRA My Account.

Applicants unable to apply for the benefit online, can call us at 1-800-282-8079 to complete their application with an agent. If you apply through My Account or by phone, and are signed up for **direct deposit**, you can get your payment within five business days.



January 13, 2023

National Braille Literacy Month is celebrated in January every year. It is also a celebration of the founder, Louis Braille's birthday. Apart from honoring Braille's legacy, this month aims to educate people about the importance and advantages of Braille literacy. The Braille system came as an advantage to people who suffer from different vision problems. The system remains unchanged to date. Now that Braille has been incorporated into digital devices and computers, it has become more accessible and relevant to the present technology-driven world.

Braille Basics

Braille is a system that enables blind and visually impaired people to read and write through touch. It was devised by Louis Braille in 1821 and consists of raised dots arranged in "cells." A cell is made up of six dots that fit under the fingertips, arranged in two columns of three dots each. Each cell represents a letter, a word, a combination of letters, a numeral or a punctuation mark.

The Braille Cell



The first ten letters of the alphabet are formed using the top four dots (1, 2, 4, 5). Adding a dot 3 makes the next ten letters, and adding a dot 6 to that makes the last six letters (except "w" because it was not used very much in the French language at the time that Louis Braille devised this system). Punctuation is represented by its own unique set of dots, most often found in the lower part of the cell. In addition to the alphabet, the Braille Code includes many contractions, which are braille cells that can stand for a combination of letters or entire words. Literary braille numbers are formed by placing the braille number sign ⠠ (dots 3, 4, 5, and 6) before the braille letters "a" (⠁), through "j" (⠊). There is also a code used for math and science notations called Nemeth.

The Braille Alphabet

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ⠁ | ⠃ | ⠉ | ⠇ | ⠑ | ⠋ | ⠎ | ⠕ | ⠗ | ⠖ |
| a | b | c | d | e | f | g | h | i | j |
| ⠅ | ⠆ | ⠐ | ⠈ | ⠡ | ⠄ | ⠔ | ⠢ | ⠆ | ⠔ |
| k | l | m | n | o | p | q | r | s | t |
| ⠟ | ⠠ | ⠤ | ⠬ | ⠨ | ⠢ | | | | |
| u | v | w | x | y | z | | | | |

Common Punctuation Marks

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|----|-----|----|---|---|---|
| ⠂ | ⠆ | ⠒ | ⠔ | ⠗ | ⠠ | ⠢ | ⠠⠠ | ⠨ | ⠨ | ⠠ |
| , | ; | : | . | ! | () | ? “ | * | ” | ' | - |

The Braille Numbers

| | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| ⠠⠁ | ⠠⠃ | ⠠⠉ | ⠠⠇ | ⠠⠑ | ⠠⠋ | ⠠⠎ | ⠠⠕ | ⠠⠗ | ⠠⠖ |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 0 |



January 13, 2023

Reading Buddies



Reading Buddies is a program that pairs high school students in Grades 10 to 12 with kids in Grades 1 to 3 who need extra help with reading.

To learn more or to apply online to be a big or little buddy:
<https://langleyliteracynetwork.com/reading-buddies/>



Langley Literacy Network

Weaving Literacy Throughout The Community



January 13, 2023

Connect Parent Group

Support for parents and caregivers
of pre-teens and teens in the
Langley community*

Starts Wednesday January 11, 2023
from 5:30pm-7:00pm for 10 weeks via Zoom.

This is a no-cost, attachment-based program to
support parents and caregivers of pre-teens and
teens with behavioural and emotional problems.

To register please contact:

Chelsea Brewer

Cell: 604-720-7226

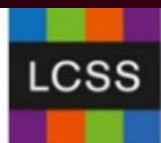
Email: cbrewer@encompass-supports.com

*Parents outside of the Langley community are welcome if spots are
available. Please contact to inquire.





January 13, 2023



Langley Community
Services Society

AND

THE CHILDREN'S
FOUNDATION

PRESENTS

TAMING THE WORRY DRAGONS

Thought Stopping

Relaxation

Courage

Exercise
and Diet



Mindful Breathing



What: FREE 8 Session Psycho-Educational Group for kids who struggle with anxiety. Parent Participation Required.

Who: Children ages 5-7

When: Every Tuesday 5-6:30 pm starting February 7th

Where: The Welcome Center 6470 201 St.

Contact Megan Zurak for more info. P: 604-533-7920 ext.1308 E: mzurak@lcss.ca



January 13, 2023



GRAD 2023

NEWSLETTER

Friday, January 13 2023

Grad news provided by Ms. Caines - for any questions, please email kcaines@sd35.bc.ca or call 604-856-2521

Important Dates

- **February 21-22** - Grad Photo Retakes. Missed your appointment? Don't love your original photos? Retakes will be at the school in February. This will be the last opportunity to get photos in the yearbook and on the composite.
- **June 12th 2023** - Grad Rehearsal, Grad Walk, Grad Convocation Ceremony (more info to be provided in due course, but this date has been confirmed and booked at Christian Life Assembly in Langley.)
- **June 16th 2023** - Strawberry Tea & Grad Banquet (Prom). More info to be provided in due course, but this date has been confirmed and booked at Clarion Hotel in Abbotsford (by Castle Fun Park).
- **Dry Grad** - ACUCC immediately after Grad Banquet. Last year's grads had an excellent time with the bull-riding, photo booth, eliminator obstacle course, all you can eat food, and raffles throughout the night and we are happy to have the grads back at a local spot for their Dry Grad event. Grads and their guests will be bussed to the facility. Any grads or guests not wishing to participate in Dry Grad will be bussed to the school for guardian pickup.



Proof Grad Quotes

Grad yearbook pages are posted on the windows of the fishbowl. Grads your job is the following:

1. Proof your quote to make sure it is correct and spelling error free.
2. Proof your yearbook photo. If you are sitting for retakes in February, please let me know!
3. Proof your baby photo (make sure it's the photo you want to use.)
4. If you have changes to your yearbook quote or have a last minute baby photo to submit, this is your last chance to get them done.

Dry Grad

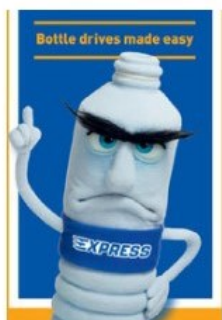
Dry Grad is a parent organized and parent sponsored event that takes place **immediately after Banquet/Prom**. Dry Grad is working to develop a fundraising plan to make sure that all grads get the lowest price for their event tickets. While the school is not involved in the organizing of Dry Grad, we work with the committee to send information out to our grads and families. Minutes are emailed home to all parents from Ms. Caines. Please consider joining the Dry Grad committee. Many hands make work light!



January 13, 2023



CLASS OF 2023 ACSS DRY GRAD BOTTLE RETURN FUNDRAISER!



Bring your unsorted containers
in transparent bags to any
Return-It Express location



Log in at the Express label
stand using the ACSS phone
number 604-856-2521



Using the label stand, print off the
labels, tag each of your bags, and
leave them with Return-It staff



They'll sort your contains
and credit the Class of 2023
ACSS Dry Grad account!





January 13, 2023

2022-2023

ALDERGROVE COMMUNITY SECONDARY SCHOOL

THE TWIG

VOL 65

2023

TOTEM VISION

DON'T MISS OUT!

Yearbooks on sale now!
\$65 until Christmas Break
\$70 after Christmas
We will sell out!
Order on SchooCashOnline



January 13, 2023

Meet our Community School Coordinator – **Stephanie Eby**

See link here: <https://www.sd35.bc.ca/news-events/district-board-news/view/connecting-with-the-community-ga-with-community-school-coordinators/>

Happy Fall from your Community School Coordinator

Did you know that you can reach out to me for needs like food, housing, program support, and other community needs?

My role is to connect students and families to community supports, provide out of school programming, and bring resources into the community.

You can reach out by phone or email or book an appointment through the link below.

Stephanie Eby

Aldergrove Community
Schools Coordinator

c. 604.862.5943

e. seby@sd35.bc.ca

To book an appointment,
click [HERE](#)

**FOR ONLY \$2
YOU CAN HELP FEED
HUNGRY KIDS AT OUR
LOCAL SCHOOLS**

FRESH CO

Each bag will contain one individual unit of products shown above. Fresh fruit to be supplied on day of delivery.
Products and brands may be different than shown as a result of supply challenges.