



Newsletter – Feb. 9, 2025

Dear James Kennedy Families,

Last week was quite a change in weather! For adults, that maybe meant a lot of shoveling and salting, but for students, last week was a great time for sledding and building snow forts! It was wonderful seeing the excitement on kids' faces as they put on their snow gear and headed out for recess!

Please note that tomorrow is a Professional Development day and that next Monday is Family Day. There are several important dates in February to put on your calendar. Please see a list of upcoming events below.

Kind regards,

Tim Bonnar
Principal

Upcoming Events:

- | | |
|--|--|
| • Monday, Feb. 10 th | Pro D Day – No School for Students |
| • Wednesday, Feb. 12 th | Lockdown Drill in the afternoon |
| • Monday, Feb. 17 th | Family Day Holiday – No School |
| • Wednesday, Feb. 19 th | White Hatter Presentation for parents @ 6:30pm |
| • Friday, Feb. 21 st | Home Language Day |
| • Monday, Feb. 24 th | Design & Assessment Day – No School for Students |
| • Feb. 25 th - 28 th | Diversity & Respect Week |
| • Wednesday, Feb. 26 th | Pink Shirt Day |
| • Thursday, Feb. 27 th | PAC Meeting @ 6:30pm |
| • Feb. 27 th - March 11 th | Student Inclusive Conferences |

For additional dates including class field trips, please see the [calendar on our school website](#).

INTERNATIONAL MOTHER LANGUAGE DAY

The United Nations recognizes February 21st as International Mother Language Day. This day recognizes the importance of preserving languages. There are approximately 8,324 languages in the world today, but many are at risk of disappearing.

Languages benefit us all by facilitating education and lifelong learning opportunities. Multilingualism contributes to inclusive and equitable societies.

At James Kennedy, we are lucky to have many languages represented in our community! On Feb. 21st, we will celebrate this fact by having older students read dual-language picture books in our Kindergarten / Grade 1 classes.



DIVERSITY AND RESPECT WEEK

From February 25th - 28th, we celebrate Diversity and Respect Week at James Kennedy and throughout the Langley School District.

Historically, people of different races, ethnicities, religions, abilities, gender identities, sexual orientations, etc. have faced discrimination and persecution in Canada and throughout the world. Unfortunately, many people still experience this today including young people in schools. That is why our school, and our school district, work hard to promote kindness, acceptance, and inclusion for all members of the school community.

During the week, we recognize the value of diversity in our society and the importance of treating others with respect. Students will be encouraged to support each other, especially those who might face unkindness or discrimination.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION (ENGLISH PROGRAM)

James Kennedy Elementary is excited to welcome new Kindergarten students to our school community for the English program. (Registration for French Immersion Kindergarten was completed in the Fall). Parents can access [registration instructions online](#). Registration continues until **Feb. 18th, 2025**.

STUDENT-INCLUSIVE CONFERENCES

This year, all elementary schools in Langley are doing Student-Inclusive Conferences in Terms 1 and 2 in place of a traditional report card. A Student-Inclusive Conference is a 20- to 25-minute meeting between parents, students, and teachers.

An essential element of this reporting format is to have a Parent/Guardian attend. Information about signing up for a conference will be sent out later in February.

- Conferences at JKE will take place between February 27th and March 11th.
- On Wednesday, March 5th, there is an **early dismissal** at 12:33 p.m.
 - Conferences that day will start after dismissal and go until 7:30 p.m.
- On Thursday, March 6th, there are **no classes** in session.
 - Conferences will be available throughout school hours.
 - Students **do not** attend school on this day unless it is for their scheduled conference time.

We look forward to seeing families during Student Inclusive Conferences!

PARKING LOT ETIQUETTE

- **There is very little parking available** in our parking lot. Please consider walking or biking to school instead of driving.
- **If there are no parking spots available**, please use the local side streets for parking. Doing so will help reduce traffic in the parking lot and increase pedestrian safety.
- Please pay close attention to the crosswalk attendants and to pedestrian traffic.

PAC INFORMATION



MAKE EID SPECIAL

Give the best this spring

Order your Treat by...

ORDER DEADLINE
March 22, 2025

ORDER PICK UP
April 10, 2025

1. Scan the QR code below:



2. Enter the Customer Number:

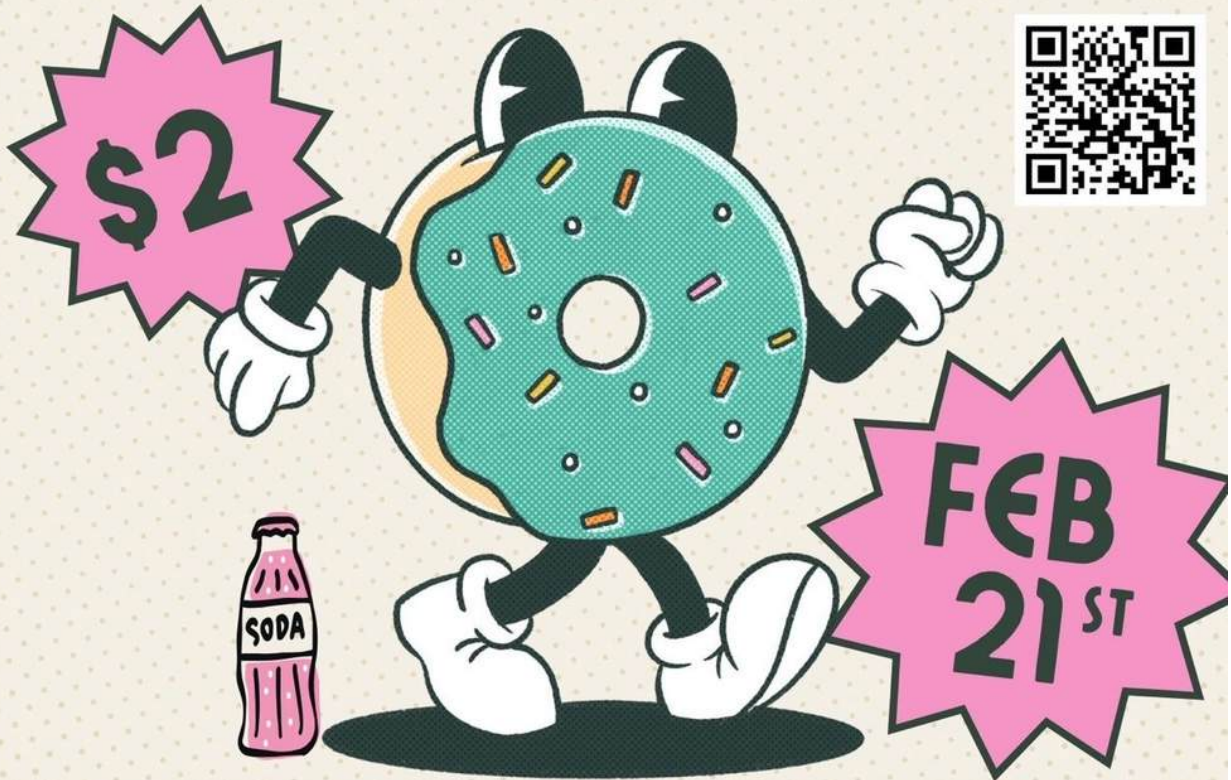
7 2 0 7 1

Make Easter memorable

Happening
NOW
@JKE

JKE PAC presents

Donut & Pop TREAT DAY



KRISPY KREME ORIGINAL GLAZED DONUTS
\$2.00 each & POP \$2.00 each. *CASH ONLY*
Tables in front of school & primary playground @ 2:33pm

THE WHITE HATTER

Internet Safety and Digital Literacy for Parents and Caregivers

Parents & Caregivers



Live Virtual Program

Internet Safety Digital Literacy +30 Minutes Q&A

Helping your kids be safe online!



Date

WEDNESDAY FEB 19, 2025

Time

DISCUSSION WITH JKE POLICE LIASON
AND PRINCIPAL MR. TIM BONNAR

6:00PM

VIRTUAL PRESENTATION AT 6:30-8:30

With



Brandon Laur
M.G.C., M.A.
The White Hatter

- Positives and negative the internet provides
- Challenges for youth today
- Technology as a distraction
- Media overconsumption
- Online predators
- Challenges for parents and caregivers
- How online information is collected and used
- Opportunities technology provides
- Data tracking & collection
- Privacy
- Personal online legal consequences
- Concerning signs to look for
- Sleep concerns
- Account management
- Exploitation
- Nudes and sexting

Learn More at
www.thewhitehatter.ca



SPRING INTO WELLNESS



Family Gathering

Hosted by the S.D. #35 Aboriginal Program
and Lower Fraser Valley Aboriginal Society

WHEN? Friday, Feb. 28th from 5-8pm

WHERE? H.D. Stafford Middle School
20441 Grade Crescent

WHAT?



Join us for an evening of healing and wellness as we come together as a community to celebrate our culture. You'll be treated to cultural activities and informative displays by local organizations, and be welcomed in with smudging and cedar brushing. Dinner provided.

We will be accepting donations of non-perishable food items (canned foods, pasta, sauce, rice, etc.) as well as new toiletries (toothpaste, toothbrushes, feminine products, deodorant etc).

SEE YOU THERE!

LANGLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT – INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES

Open Parachute Virtual Parent Night Presentations

The Ministry of Education and Child Care, in partnership with adolescent clinical psychologist Dr. Hayley Watson from [Open Parachute](#), will host three, free virtual sessions for parents, guardians and caregivers that will focus on practical skills you can teach your child and youth to prevent substance use and mental health needs. These sessions will build on a previous presentation, which focused on practical conversation tools for speaking about substance use prevention with your children/youth. The [previous session](#) is not a pre-requisite.

Key takeaways for participants during this session:

- Learn the factors that lead to substance use and mental health needs from a trauma-informed lens
- Focus on prevention rather than intervention/response
- Applies to parents, guardians and caregivers of youth of all age groups
- Learn ways that these skills can be applied to yourself and the rest of your family to support the mental health of parents, guardians and caregivers

Participants must register in advance. Session dates are:

- [February 20, 6:00-7:30 pm PST](#)
- [February 25, 6:00-7:30 pm PST](#)
- [February 26, 6:00-7:30 pm PST](#)

If you have any questions, please email the Mental Health and Substance Use team at educ.mentalhealth@gov.bc.ca.

COMMUNITY AGENCY – YMCA

Y-Mind is a FREE seven-week group program for teens, youth, or adults who are managing mild-to-moderate anxiety, stress, or worry. Two facilitators guide the group through evidence-based coping strategies based on Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT), mindfulness, and self-compassion. Group sizes are kept small, with 8 to 12 participants per group to facilitate peer support and connection.

Participants may self-refer, no diagnosis of anxiety is needed, and you do not need to be a YMCA member. All Y Mind Teen and Y Mind Youth participants receive a free YMCA membership for up to 14 weeks, including 10 free guest passes to bring a friend to the Y.

To join Y Mind, you must first [register for an information session](#) where you will meet the group facilitators and complete an intake for the program. Spaces are limited, so inquire ASAP to guarantee your spot at an information session.

FRASER HEALTH – INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES

Health, safety, and wellness continue to be a priority in our schools. To help support our students and families, we are sharing important information from our community partner Fraser Health about sexual health for school-aged children and youth. Please see below for helpful reminders to support your child.

Healthy Childhood and Youth Development includes Sexual Health

Learning about sexual health, including understanding your body and its changes, health conditions, personal hygiene, healthy relationships, consent and sexuality, are all part of growing up. Talking about sexual health can allow young people to identify their values and develop skills that promote healthy decision making and sexuality.

How do I Teach My Child about Sex and Sexuality?

Talking to your children about sexual health is important. Establishing an open and trusting relationship with your child will help them know they can come to you for honest answers to their questions about sex and sexuality.

For help on how to talk to your child and what to include about sexual health take a look at the following information: [Sexual education for children – Fraser Health Authority](#)

Learning about sexual health also means understanding sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI). Look at these two resources for more information: [Sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression; Parents' Guide to SOGI in Schools / SOGI 1 2 3](#)

Youth Clinics

Let your child know about our youth clinics. These clinics are located across the Fraser Health region and provide free, confidential information and education regarding sexuality and health to youth up to 21 to 24 years old (age varies by site). Learn more about the services available at youth clinics: [Youth clinics - Fraser Health Authority](#)



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Faculty of Education

Department of Curriculum & Pedagogy



For Curious and Inquiring Minds



Photo credits left and right: Paul Joseph|UBC Brand and Marketing

Virtual Family Math Fair

Saturday Feb 22, 2025, 10:00am - 11:30am PT

Virtual through Zoom with

UBC Faculty of Education Graduate Students and Teacher Candidates



Photo credits above: Janice Novakowski

**Sat Feb 22, 2025
10:00am-11:30am PT**



**Hands-on Minds-on
Math Activities for all Ages!**

All Welcome: Families, Teachers, Parents

Event FREE! | Registration Required

For more info and to register:

<https://tinyurl.com/UBCFamilyMathFair2025>