



# JAMES KENNEDY JAGUARS

**Newsletter – January 12, 2025**

Dear James Kennedy Families,

I hope that you had a wonderful Christmas break with family and friends!

I am excited to be joining the James Kennedy community as the new Principal. It was wonderful to have the chance to visit classes this week and introduce myself to students and staff. I look forward to meeting James Kennedy families as well.

I want to take a moment to acknowledge the wonderful work Ms. Cathy Gracie did as Principal and express my gratitude for her dedication to our school community. I look forward to building upon the strong foundation that she established.

My goal as Principal of École élémentaire James Kennedy Elementary School is to foster a supportive and inclusive environment where every student can thrive. I look forward to working closely with the dedicated staff and engaged parents to achieve this goal.

I have previously been Principal of École Élémentaire Belmont Elementary School and Parkside Centennial Elementary School. I have spent my entire administrative and teaching career in Langley and have raised my own family here. Leading a school community is incredibly fulfilling, and I am excited to bring my experience and dedication to James Kennedy.

Kind regards,

Tim Bonnar  
Principal

**Upcoming Events:**

- |                                   |                            |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| • Thursday, Jan. 16 <sup>th</sup> | Autism Acceptance Assembly |
| • Friday, Jan. 24 <sup>th</sup>   | Spirit Day – Backwards Day |
| • Monday, Jan. 27 <sup>th</sup>   | Family Literacy Day        |
| • Thursday, Jan. 30 <sup>th</sup> | PAC Meeting @ 6:30pm       |
| • Friday, Jan. 31 <sup>st</sup>   | Movie Night                |

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

## KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION (ENGLISH PROGRAM)

James Kennedy Elementary is excited to welcome new Kindergarten students to our school community for the English program. (Please note that registration for French Immersion Kindergarten was completed in the Fall).

All children who will be five years old by December 31, 2025 (children born in 2020) are eligible to register for English Program Kindergarten classes that will begin in September 2025. Our teachers and staff are eager to meet your child and your family and start on this learning journey together.

Parents can access [registration instructions online](#). Registration must be done continues until **Feb. 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025**.

## AUTISM AWARENESS AND ACCEPTANCE ASSEMBLY

On Thursday, we are happy to welcome ACT (Autism Community Training), a local BC charity that provides free information and resources about autism. They specialize in providing affordable and evidence-based training to families, professionals and Autistic individuals!



ACT is providing an assembly presentation about Autism awareness and acceptance. Through fun, interactive games and stories, students will learn that:

- **Everyone is unique.** Just like we all have our own likes, dislikes, and talents, people with autism have their own ways of thinking, feeling, and communicating.
- **Autism can make some things harder.** Some children with autism may find it challenging to talk, make friends, or handle busy environments. But they also have incredible strengths, like paying attention to details or being experts in areas they love.
- **We can all be kind friends.** The children learned the importance of patience, being inclusive, and respecting differences.

The goal of the assembly is to help students develop empathy and to promote kindness towards others, regardless of their differences.

Later this week, we will send out some suggestions for how to follow up with conversations at home. We will also send a SchoolCash Online link where families can donate to support ACT. Contributions will support valuable programs and resources that support individuals with autism and their families, as well as educational assemblies and workshops that promote understanding and acceptance of autism.

## 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.

## PLEASE DRESS FOR THE WEATHER

The weather right now keeps alternating between rainy and cold. We go outside for recess in almost all weather, so students should come to school prepared for either cold or rainy weather.

Students should come to school prepared for the wet weather with coats and boots! While at school, students should stay out of the puddles if they do not have boots. We recommend that parents send an extra set of clothes to school for all students in case their clothes get wet or muddy.



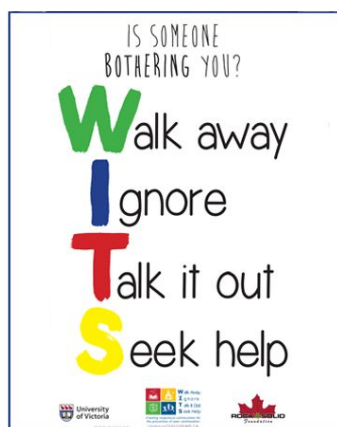
## REMINDERS ABOUT SCHOOL STATUS IN INCLEMENT WEATHER

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? Current information about Langley schools can be accessed on all school websites or [www.sd35.bc.ca](http://www.sd35.bc.ca). Updates are also posted to X @LangleySchools and Facebook at [www.facebook.com/langleyschooldistrict](https://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.

## STUDENT SAFETY AROUND SCHOOLS – INCLEMENT WEATHER

With shorter days and inclement weather, James Kennedy is reminding all of our students to take extra precaution when walking to and from school. Please be aware of your surroundings, walk on the sidewalk, avoid wearing headphones while walking, and walk with someone whenever possible. We also ask drivers in our school community to be vigilant on our roads. Student safety is our priority. Thank you for your cooperation and support in keeping everyone safe.

## USE YOUR WITS



At James Kennedy, we use a graphic with students to help them when they are struggling with conflict or with someone bothering them. We teach them this language in class and on the announcements.

Dealing with conflict is a skill that is useful at school, at home, and in the world at large. We encourage you to talk about this with your children and use this graphic at home.

If your child shares that there has been a conflict with another student at school, we encourage you to talk to the teacher who can also connect with admin if necessary.

## CANADIAN PARENTS FOR FRENCH

Canadian Parents for French sends out regular email communiqués about French Immersion in British Columbia & Yukon and throughout the country. If you have a child in French Immersion, please consider joining this organization that works to promote and support French Immersion in Canada. Visit <https://bc-yk.cpf.ca/en/> for more information.

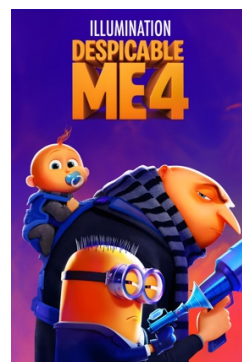
## PAC INFORMATION

The PAC website (<https://jke-pac.square.site/>) is a great place to find information about PAC activities, hot lunches, and volunteer opportunities.

### Upcoming Events



### Movie Night – January 31<sup>st</sup>



## **FRASER HEALTH – JANUARY HEALTH NEWS 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 mental health. Please see below for helpful reminders to support your child.

### **Support Your Child's Mental Health**

Mental health is a key component of healthy child and youth development, and it has an impact on their relationships and their performance in school.

### **How Can Parents Support Positive Mental Health?**

Parents can help support positive mental health by forming strong and caring relationships with their children.

- Connect – talk and listen to their feelings and experiences.
- Be active together – take a walk and build physical activity into family time.
- Take notice – encourage and praise the positive behaviours and choices your children make.
- Keep learning – encourage your child to learn from both positive and negative experiences.
- Give – your time, your words, and your presence.

Sometimes, parents feel like they don't know what to say or how to interact with their youth. Learn more about [tips for how to talk to your child or teen about mental health](#).

Get more information about positive mental health for children and youth: [Positive mental health for children - Fraser Health Authority](#).

Find out what services, programs and resources are available for your child and/or youth: [Child and youth mental health - Fraser Health Authority](#).

# February 2025

## Langley MENU – Thursdays



	Thursday 02/06	Thursday 02/13	Thursday 02/20	Thursday 02/27
<b>Regular</b>	Beef Meatball Submarine Garden Ranch Salad	Chicken Nuggets Rice Corn Plum Sauce Fruit of the Day	Pancakes Turkey Sausage Apple Blueberry Compote Syrup Fruit of the Day	Chicken Burger Tator Tots Fruit
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Choice</b>	Beefaroni Garden Ranch Salad	Breakfast Burrito Hash Brown Triangles Ketchup Fruit of the Day	Macaroni and Cheese Peas and Carrots Fruit of the Day	BBQ Beef Meatballs Mashed Potatoes Corn Fruit
<b>Vegetarian</b>	Veggie Meatball Submarine Garden Ranch Salad	Vegetarian Nuggets Rice Corn Plum Sauce Fruit of the Day	Pancakes Yogurt Apple Blueberry Compote Syrup Fruit of the Day	Veggie Burger Tator Tots Fruit
<b>Halal</b>	Halal Beef Meatball Submarine Garden Ranch Salad	Halal Chicken Nuggets Rice Corn Plum Sauce Fruit of the Day	Pancakes Yogurt Apple Blueberry Compote Syrup Fruit of the Day	Halal Chicken Burger Tator Tots Fruit



# **TRIPLE THREAT GIRLS BASKETBALL TRAINING**

**Ages 7 - 12**

**Get Organized Practice Time to  
Develop Your Skills and Learn  
the Game With Other Girls!**

**Tuesdays 3 - 4 PM, Jan 14 - Mar 11  
in Walnut Grove  
\$100 for 9 sessions  
(Join Any Time)**



**Contact Coach Ryan for  
more details and to register  
[ryan@ryanfaas.ca](mailto:ryan@ryanfaas.ca)**

# 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 school!)
- ✓ 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? \$175 Jan - May (reduced rate for multiple children in the same family)

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

How Do I Join?

Contact us via email for an audition time before Jan 5, 2024. Auditions will be Tuesday Jan 7.

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

Patti Thorpe

[langleychildrenschoir2022@gmail.com](mailto:langleychildrenschoir2022@gmail.com)



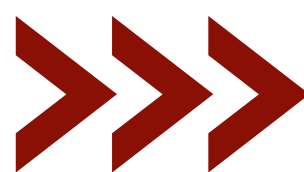
## Free Winter Program for Families!

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 February 2025 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](https://gv.ymca.ca/generation-health-community)  
[generationhealth@bc.ymca.ca](mailto:generationhealth@bc.ymca.ca)