



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear ACSS students and families,

For the most up-to-date information regarding school events and happenings please see the following school media sites:

Website: www.acsstotems.ca

Instagram – @acss.totems

Facebook - @aldergrovecommunitysecondary

Twitter - @acsstotems

Happy March everyone!

This week every student at ACSS received a box containing 5 COVID rapid antigen tests. As we move into spring and spring break, we encourage all students to continue their excellent practice of health and safety measures to stay virus free, safe, and healthy.

Speaking of spring break, it is approaching fast and, as has been mentioned before, an impending break in daily school routines often invokes emotional responses both positively and negatively. As a caring community we wish all the best to all our students and families all the time. While away from the school for spring break, please take care and know that the staff at ACSS are available if you need us. Please email or Teams message school admin if you need any assistance. Thank you.

Next week, on Wednesday and Thursday, ACSS will be opening its doors to all parents/guardians/caregivers for Parent-Teacher interviews. Wednesday appointments can be booked between 2:10 PM – 7:30 PM and Thursday appointments will occur between 2:10 PM and 4:30 PM. We very much look forward to connecting and communicating with students and families during these days.

Wishing everyone in our community a magnificent March weekend. Thank you for reading this week's newsletter. See you next week!

Mr. M. Palichuk

Principal

Aldergrove Community Secondary School





Key Upcoming Dates:

- March 9 & March 10 – Parent-Teacher Interviews
- Friday, March 11 – Last Day of Classes Prior to Spring Break
- Monday, March 28 – First Day of Classes After Spring Break
- Thursday, April 7 – Grad Cruise
- Monday, April 11 – PAC Meeting

SOURCES Food Bank will be serving the community on March 17 & 24

- Have you been taking advantage of the free bread or food that's been available at your school each week? If you have, you've seen all the great bread and pastries and other items Sources has been providing. Over spring break, we will have a food bank set up at the Aldergrove Neighbourhood House from 1:00-3:00pm March 17 & 24
- We are asking people to register if you would like to take advantage of this so we can ensure there is enough food.
- Register for March 17 [HERE](#)
- Register for March 24 [HERE](#)
- You will be asked to pick a timeslot so that we adhere to health orders and there aren't too many people at once.
- Questions? email seby@sd35.bc.ca

Stephanie Eby

Aldergrove Community Schools Coordinator

c. 604.862.5943

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



PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEW INFORMATION

Parent-Teacher Interviews are approaching rapidly and will be happening on **Wednesday, March 9 and Thursday, March 10**. Dismissal on both days will be at 1:55PM. Interviews on **Wednesday will run from 2:15-7:30** and **Thursday will be from 2:15-4:30**.

The schedule for classes will be:

8:45-9:50 Period 1

9:55-11:00 Period 2

11:00-11:35 Lunch

11:40-12:45 – Period 3

12:50-1:55 – Period 4

As in past years, acss.schoolappointments.com will be used to schedule meetings with teachers. Appointments will be 10 minutes long with a 5 minute break in between time slots. **Parents/Guardians will be able to book appointments until Tuesday March 8 at 3:00PM**. Instructions for how to book an appointment on the website can be found in this newsletter.

Please note that this year, parent-teacher interviews will be held in-person. All parents/guardians coming to the school for a meeting are required to wear a mask, sign in, and sanitize their hands upon entry to the building. Vaccine passports are NOT required to attend parent-teacher interviews. We will still accommodate parent requests for alternate appointment formats. If you would like to book a phone or virtual meeting instead, you are able to do so by selecting one of those options on the booking site.



School Appointments - Parent Instructions

1. Go to acss.schoolappointments.com
2. Register for an account by clicking the "REGISTER" menu tab and filling in the on-line form. Choose a user id and password for yourself and then click the "Register Now" button.
3. Add your children into the system by clicking the "Add a Student" button. Click "Insert New" button to add more children.
4. Click the "date" icon beside each child's name to schedule appointments.
5. Select the staff you wish to book appointments with. Use the "Ctrl" or "Command" key to select multiple staff to view at the same time.
6. Select how your meetings will be held. The default is in person. You only need to do this if you want a phone or Teams meeting.
7. Then click the "View Calendars" button.
8. Click on available time slots to book your appointments to make your bookings.



Appointments Will Be: ☒ Virtual Meeting
☐ By Phone





GRAD 2022

NEWSLETTER

Friday, March 4 2022

Grad news provided by Ms. Caines - for any questions, please email kcaines@sd35.bc.ca or call 604-856-2521 ext 244



Grad Cruise is ON!

Grad Cruise is **ON!!** We have scheduled Harbour Cruises for April 7th. The grad cruise fee of \$85 has been added to School Cash Online. All students planning on attending Grad Cruise must have this paid online by April 1, 2022. Guests of grads (ACSS grade 11 students are the only guests permitted) must also pay the fee of \$85, however this will not be due until the guest has been approved by the administration after Spring Break. Fees can be added to the guests' School Cash Online account OR on the graduate's account upon approval. Permission forms will need to be signed by parents/guardians and returned to Ms. Caines by March 11th (date extended). This is the last Friday prior to Spring Break so don't forget! Unfortunately due to circumstances beyond our control, we are unable to have guests from outside of ACSS attend grad cruise.

Dinner of beef lasagna, caesar salad, garlic bread, and a selection of desserts will be available to all guests as will unlimited soft drinks. If you have dietary restrictions (vegetarian, vegan, gluten free, dairy free), please let Ms. Caines know as soon as possible to allow for catering to accommodate your dietary requirements.



Grad Walk

Grad walk is tentatively scheduled for June 20th after grad ceremony rehearsal. Students are bussed to each site in their grad regalia and then walk the halls of Parkside, Shortreed, Betty Gilbert, and finally ACSS and receive applause from former teachers, younger siblings, and their peers. Students are bused to each site in their grad regalia. Previous grads attending Grad Walk have described it as being "the most memorable moment of my life" and there are always a lot of tears!



Grad Ceremonies

Grad ceremonies are scheduled for Monday, June 20th at Christian Life Assembly (where many grad ceremonies for the Langley School District occur) next to Langley Secondary School and the Langley Airport. Our hope is that we can resume regular in-person grad ceremonies, our last full school-wide ceremony at CLA took place in June 2019. It seems so long ago! Barring a large-scale in-person ceremony, our backup plan is to host the ceremonies in the school gym on the same date as we have for the previous two Covid graduation years. Whether we have the ceremonies at CLA or at the ACSS gym, the event will be a memorable occasion and will be filmed for anyone unable to attend in person.



Strawberry Tea & Grad Banquet/Prom

Strawberry Tea and Grad Banquet/Prom is tentatively scheduled for June 23rd at Clarion Hotel in Abbotsford. Strawberry Tea takes place in the afternoon of Banquet, prior to grads boarding the coaches to take them to the banquet facilities. Grads, their dates, and their families join us in the school gym for a short reception where everyone is served strawberry shortcake, iced tea, or coffee, and a group photo in the courtyard is taken. As we near the date of Strawberry Tea/Prom, we will have further information for you.

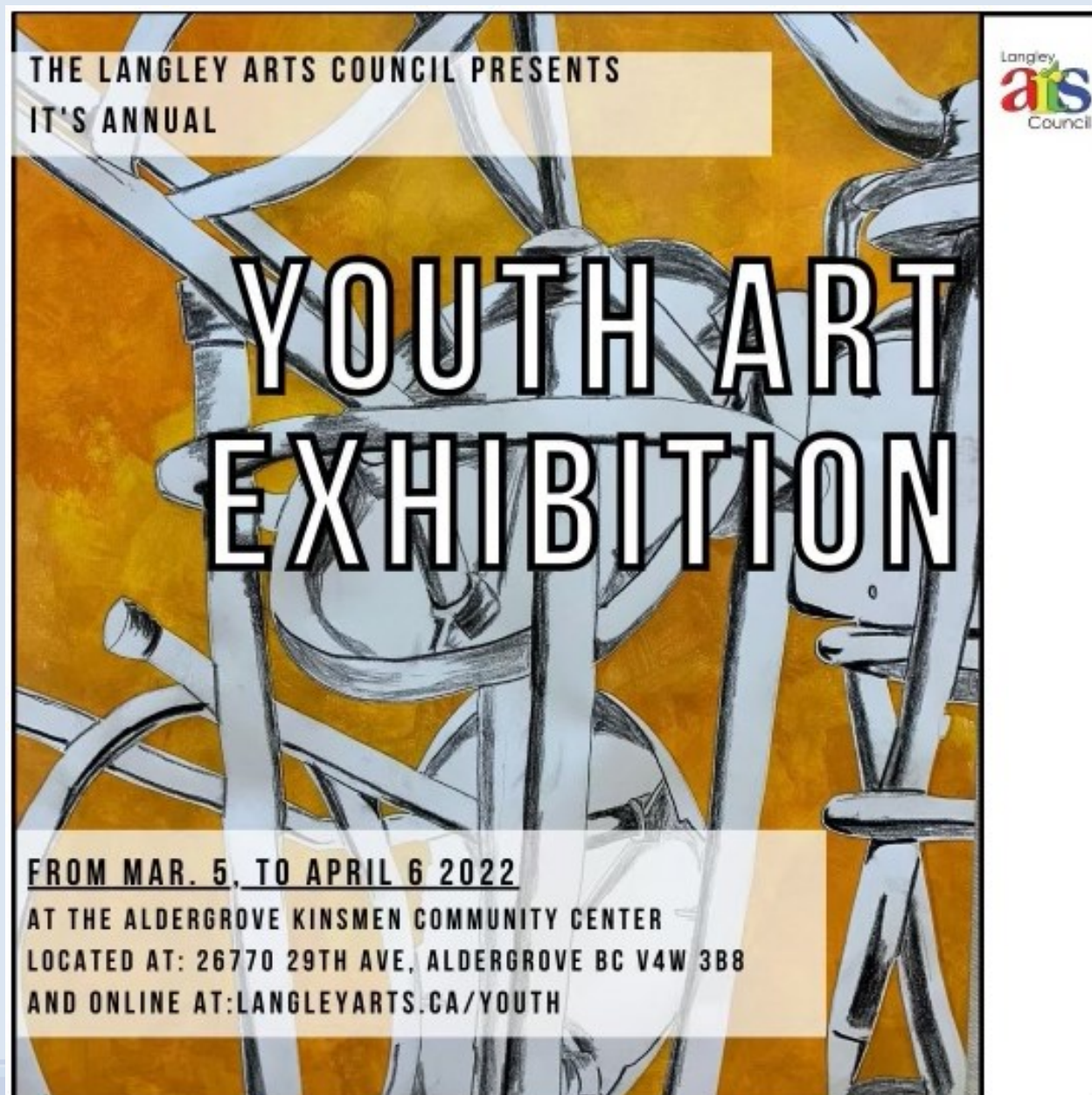
Dry Grad

Unfortunately due to Castle Fun Park being closed, our Dry Grad Committee has been unable to source a safe and cost-effective location for Dry Grad activities and thus has disbanded. If you or anyone you know has an idea of where our grads can safely celebrate their post-prom activities, please let Ms. Caines know.



Youth Art Exhibition

Some of our own ACSS students will have their artwork displayed at this exhibition at the Aldergrove Kinsmen Community Centre! In addition, we have three of our students who will have their work displayed at the West Fine Arts Show which will be happening this weekend at Glass House Winery.





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



ACSS Girls Rugby Program has been working hard in preparation of their first game against DW Poppy next week, Wednesday March 9 3:30 at DWP. If you can come out and watch!

Included photos are from this past Wednesdays Intrasquad match to help the ladies get a better understanding of the flow and rules of the game.

The team also welcomed three new faces with Dana Bui and Saron Abera as Team Managers and Mr. Gordon as a part of our coaching Staff.

Welcome to our Family!!





Trinity Western University Spartans – Spring Break Rugby Camps

This camp is for all intro level and experienced rugby players who want to improve their skill and technical abilities while learning within the “Complete Champion” environment of TWU. Spartan coaches and athletes, who love seeing young athletes grow and improve, will teach each session. Skills will be developed through game-based learning, with a focus on the foundations of attacking and defensive skills in a safe environment. Athletes will develop a solid knowledge base of both rugby 7's and 15's. Participants will be grouped appropriate to their skill level to ensure the safest and most enjoyable experience possible for everyone. Come, have fun and raise your game to the next level!

MAXIMUM PARTICIPANTS: 40 per session

DATES & TIMES: Camp #1 – Monday 14th March-Thursday 17th March

AM Session for boys and girls Grades 6-8 – 10am-Noon

PM Session for boys and girls Grades 9-12 – 1pm-3pm

Camp #2 – Monday 21st March-Thursday 24th March

AM Session for boys and girls Grades 6-8 – 10am-Noon

PM Session for boys and girls Grades 9-12 – 1pm-3pm

COST: plus tax

REGISTRATION: <https://gospartans.ca/sports/2022/2/1/2022-rugby-camps.aspx>





ALDERGROVE

YOUTH SOCCER CLUB



SPRING 2022 REGISTRATION

Boys & Girls Ages 4–15

March–June

REGISTRATION CLOSES

MARCH 18, 5:00 PM!

Our Goal is “Fitness & Fun”

www.aldergrovesoccer.com/play

AYSC – INSTILLING TEAMWORK, HEALTHY LIVING & LIFELONG FRIENDSHIPS

The Aldergrove Youth Soccer Club (AYSC) is a duly registered BC non-profit society operated by volunteers that develops, promotes and organizes community soccer for boys and girls.

- AYSC players come together across school and neighborhood boundaries (Aldergrove, Langley, and West Abbotsford)
- very reasonable registration fees – quality soccer programs and coaching
- strong emphasis on community soccer – every child is given an opportunity to play, regardless of skill level or physical development
- AYSC players have received soccer scholarships to universities such as TWU, UFV, and UNBC
- instills teamwork, healthy living and lifelong friendships

www.aldergrovesoccer.com/play



FIFA

For the Game. For the World.

Scholarship Opportunity Alert!!!!



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

SASSY Rotary  **AWARDS™**
Service Above Self Student Youth

**\$14,000
TO BE AWARDED!
7 CATEGORIES!**

Seven exceptional youth
will be recognized for the
following award categories:

- SPORTS LEADERSHIP
- YOUTH LEADERSHIP
- COMMUNITY SERVICE
- LEADERSHIP IN ARTS, CULTURE
- INTERNATIONAL SERVICE
- ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERSHIP
- LEADERSHIP BEYOND ADVERSITY

more information and
nomination forms
are available at:
sassyawardslangley.ca

Know an exceptional youth
aged 15-21 that is making a
positive impact in our
Langley communities or
even around the globe?
NOMINATE THEM TODAY!

All nominees participate in a
**Red Carpet
Awards Ceremony
May 5th, 2022**

Winners receive a
**Cash Award,
Charity Donation,
& SASSY Trophy!**

**Apply now! Nominations
close March 11th**



Daily Health Check and What to Do When Sick

As the province continues to update its online K-12 Health Checker, the Ministry of Education is sharing a new document with the school community to help guide families and keep everyone healthy and safe. Please review the **Daily Health Check and What to Do When Sick** guide as needed [here](#). You will notice an update on symptoms and protocols to help manage illness. Families are encouraged to continue using the Thrive **BC COVID-19 Assessment Tool** only to check symptoms and determine if you need a COVID-19 test.

Reporting School Absences

The school appreciates the work of families in following our processes when it comes to reporting student absences. As per Ministry guidelines, students and their families are being asked to indicate if the reason for the absence is due to illness. As per Ministry guidance, students do not need to disclose if their absence is specific to COVID-19; however, those who test positive for COVID-19 should be diligent in ensuring their school is aware their absence is illness-related. Providing us with accurate information regarding the reason your child is away, is extremely critical in helping keep our school community safe. This data will help our school, the District, and Fraser Health work together to assess and make decisions about closures which could impact operations and student learning. The attendance information families provide remains confidential, will not be shared, and is only used for reporting and planning purposes. If you have any questions about reporting absences, please feel free to contact the school.





COVID Procedures for Managing Illness

To help students, staff, and families in the weeks ahead, the District is sharing a document outlining information and public health guidance regarding COVID Procedures for Managing Illness. Please see attached.

SD35 (LANGLEY)

COVID-19 Procedures for Managing Illness

January 11, 2022

As shared with the community in the District's Continuity of Learning Plan, Fraser Health's process for contact tracing, case management, and exposure notifications is changing. The former processes that have been in place previously will not continue. This resource will help guide students, staff, and families on public health procedures related to COVID-19. It is important to note, these guidelines/procedures may change.

1. I am a student or staff who is sick and was at school on a given day. What should I do?

Stay at home until your symptoms are gone. Seek medical attention if needed. Use the [BC COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool](#) to determine guidance and recommendations for testing.

If you have any concerns, feel very sick, or your symptoms are not improving, contact your family doctor/nurse practitioner or call 8-1-1.

Students/staff should report their absence at school/work to their administrator. As per Ministry guidance, students and staff do not need to disclose if their absence is specific to COVID-19; however, those who test positive for COVID-19 should be diligent in ensuring their school is aware their absence is illness-related.

2. I am a student or staff who tested positive for COVID-19 either through a rapid test or PCR test. What should I do?

Individuals who test positive for COVID-19 should follow advice from the BC Centre for Disease Control, found [here](#). Please note, guidance and recommendations vary depending on an individual's vaccination status.

As per the BCCDC, if you test positive for COVID-19, you need to do the following:

- ▶ [Complete an online form to report your test result](#)
- ▶ [Self-isolate and manage your symptoms](#)
- ▶ [Let your close contacts know](#)

Students/staff should report their absence at school/work to their administrator. As per Ministry guidance, students and staff do not need to disclose if their absence is specific to COVID-19; however, those who test positive for COVID-19 should be diligent in ensuring their school is aware their absence is illness-related.

3. Why is there no contact tracing or exposure notifications in K-12 schools?

The Omicron variant spreads rapidly and, as such, contact tracing is a less effective measure in the timely management of COVID-19. Public Health is no longer able to contact everyone who tests positive.

As Public Health is not contacting every person who tests positive, school exposures will not be issued by Public Health for individual cases. In the event of a declared outbreak, Public Health will issue a public notification.

Public Health will continue to work with schools if, for example, there is a significant increase in absenteeism that is atypical for the time of year and actions are to be taken, such as notification to the parents and guardians of the affected grade or school community.

The logo for Langley Schools, featuring a green stylized leaf or 'L' shape next to the text 'Langley Schools' in a blue sans-serif font.



New School COVID Measures

As we continue to ensure that we are all safe and healthy while at school, we ask that you:

- Wear your mask at all times when in the building (except when you are eating lunch).
- Sanitize your hands whenever you enter or re-enter the building.
- Try to maintain physical distancing in classrooms.
- Do not hang out in the hallways during transitions between classes.
- Wash your hands frequently.

What has been re-instated or changed?

Entrances to the building will be assigned per grade (the same structure as the 2020-21 school year).

- Gr. 9 and 10's must enter through the library foyer doors only.
- Gr. 11 and 12's must enter through the main foyer doors only.
- No other doors are to be used to re-enter the building (unless for an emergency). This includes the main gym foyer doors.
- BGMS students will only be accessing the Art room entrance

*Students may continue to eat lunch in a classroom, in the hallways (as long as they are sitting and physically distanced) as well as outside.

There will be a limit of two people at a time in washrooms.

Please do your very best to abide by the COVID-19 protocols that are structured for schools to keep you and every one healthy and safe.



Information About 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 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.

