

Newsletter

April 24th, 2019



April 2019

Friday April 26th

Hot Lunch – Subway

Tuesday April 30th

Div. 2 & 3 To Keery Park

PAC AGM at 5:30

May 2019

Wednesday May 1st

Ready Set Learn

(for 3 & 4 year olds)

Friday May 3rd

Professional Development

Day - School not in session

Tuesday May 7th

Class & Panorama Photos

Tuesday May 14th

Div. 2 & 3 To Keery Park

Monday May 20th

Victoria Day – School not in session

Friday May 24th

Games Day

Monday May 27th

Professional Development

Day - School not in session

Tuesday May 28th

Div. 2 & 3 To Keery Park

Friday May 31st

Hot Lunch – White Spot

Div. 2 – A Rocha Fieldtrip



EKOLogy

EAST KENSINGTON ELEMENTARY

2795 – 184th Street, Surrey, BC V3Z 9V2
Phone: (604) 541-1257 Fax: (604) 531-4180
Courier #018

www.surreyschools.ca/schools/eastkensington

Principal: Mr. Chris Baldry
Vice Principal: Ms. Keri Stanger

We are entering true spring with all the flowers and leaves emerging and the lovely warmer weather. The children are really hitting their strides in their learning. There is something about this time of year when all the teaching and learning of the past eight months just starts to “click” for the kids and their understanding and abilities just seem to blossom!

Pancake Breakfast

In late February, Shari Tompe from The Hazelmere Pumpkin Patch came to the school and showed our students how to tap the maple trees over the school fence above the river. We collected a total of 9 litres of sap from three trees. The children sampled the raw sap (“It tastes like water with a little bit of sugar!”) before I took it home to boil down. After 6 hours of boiling, the syrup became a delicious rich, golden brown: we were left with a scant 2 cups of syrup! Tomorrow the PAC will be hosting a small pancake and sausage breakfast at 9:45 am. The children will get two small pancakes in order to do a “syrup taste off” with a bit of the syrup from our trees and a bit of walnut syrup provided by Shari Tompe. Parents are welcome to join us. Children may have their snack as well as the breakfast if they wish.

June 2019

Thursday June 6th

Early Dismissal at 1:25

Friday June 7th

Div. 3 – A Rocha Fieldtrip

Tuesday June 11th

Div. 2 & 3 To Keery Park

Tuesday June 18th

Div. 2 & 3 To Keery Park

Wednesday June 19th

Parent Appreciation Tea 1:45

Friday June 21st

Hot Lunch – Pizza & Booster
Juice

Tuesday June 25th

Kindergarten Graduation
12:45

Thursday June 27th

Slide Show & Family Picnic
10:45

Early Dismissal at 1:25

Friday June 28th

Administrative Day - School
Closed

Garden

We received a generous grant to purchase 6 self-watering raised garden beds, soil and tools. The staff are planning what to plant in the beds. Each division will have one bed each, Ms. Jen's preschool will have a bed, we will share one bed for inquiry gardening, and we offer one bed for PAC to use. We are excited to get planting!

Wetland

Go check out how well the plants we planted in March are doing in the wetland. So many sprouts and new leaves. It is very exciting to see our hard work begin to flourish!

Pergola

The Pergola is well on its way to completion. It looks fantastic! The rest of the concrete slab will be poured later this week and the roof will be complete in a week or two. We are keen to begin to use this multi-purpose outdoor



EKOLOGY

East
Kensington
Outdoor
Learning Program
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After School Play Time

A reminder to parents and guardians who stay after school and on weekends to play on the school grounds to ensure that students are well supervised. The Large Loose Parts and Wetland areas are out of bounds after school. There are too many potential hazards in these areas and items have been misused and left broken or lost. We like to save these as teaching zones during times when staff are directly supervising the children. We love that families use our school grounds to enjoy the beautiful space we have. We just want kids to remain safe and our facilities to remain in good working order

Crossing Guard

If you, or anyone you know, is interested in taking over as East Kensington's crossing guard please call Len at 604-597-4787. This is a volunteer position that receives \$13.50 an hour as an expense donation (meaning there are no deductions for income tax etc. taken off the \$13.50). Hours are 8:00 am to 9:00 am and 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm school days.

2019-2020 School Year

If you know your child will not be returning to our school next year, please let the office know as soon as possible as we are working on our new registrations for the 2019-2020 year. It is helpful for us to know how many spots we will have in our program.

PAC NEWS

Our **next Hot Lunch** is Subway on April 26th for those that ordered.

Our **Annual General Meeting** is on **Tuesday April 30th at 5:30**. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to come out. At this meeting, we will be voting in our new executive for next year!

SPRING FAIR

We are looking for vendors for our Spring Fair! This Fair is in support of our PAC and EKOLogy program.

This event will incorporate a vendor market along with family friendly arts, crafts, activities, games, food and more!

At this time we are looking for Handmade Products, produce, flowers, etc.

We are also looking for people who would like to set up interactive booths to advertise for their business. Some ideas for things you could set up are obstacle courses, twister, face painting, etc.

Please email eastkensingtonpac@gmail.com for more information.





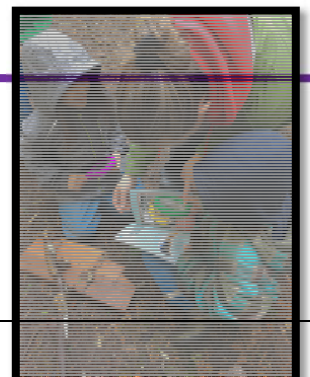
Ms. Stanger Pro-D



Last week I had the opportunity to travel to Port Hardy with three other Surrey School administrators to follow up our inquiry into how non-indigenous educators can bring the Aboriginal Perspectives and Knowledge in the curriculum and First Peoples Principles of Learning alive for all students. We visited Kwakwaka'wakw carver Calvin Hunt in his studio and he spoke about how he uses traditional stories and artistic techniques to carve totem poles and paint bentwood boxes with a modern style. We met two Kwakwaka'wakw weavers in the town of Fort Rupert who are interested in sharing their knowledge of weaving cedar bark with our students.

We visited the Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw School on the Tsulquate Reserve near Port Hardy. The kindergarten to grade 7 student population is made up of children from the Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw nation. The teachers are mostly non-indigenous, but, along with elders from the nation and indigenous teacher assistants, they are able to embed the traditional stories, knowledge and language within their teaching of the BC curriculum. It was so uplifting to see these children learning in a hopeful and honouring environment. I was lucky enough to join the kindergarten class as they headed to learn outdoors. We took a 5-minute walk to their forest classroom beside a waterfall and a small stream. The teacher did so many things the same way we do at our school: the same way of teaching the alphabet (but interspersed with both Kwakwala and English words), the same play-based, place-based learning outdoors, and following children's curiosity with books and magnifiers and the local plants and animals. I was so inspired to take part in such rich learning! It is my hope to carry on some of these traditions and knowledge of story and the environment from the first nations of the northwest coast in our school as well.

I will be heading out of town again(!) on May 2-6. I will be going to New York to the Learning and the Brain Conference. This is my second time attending one of these amazing conferences. The last time I went I learned about the benefits of teaching a growth mindset and it changed the way I think of learning. This time the focus will be Social Emotional Learning. I know I will come back and inspire the staff with my new-found knowledge!





You Are Invited!

Who: *Three and four year old children and their parents/caregivers*

When: *Wednesday May 1st, 2019 at 1:15 pm*

Where: *East Kensington Elementary*

2795 184th Street

Surrey, BC V3Z 9V2

Please call the school office at 604-541-1257 to register

You're invited to visit our school for this exciting early learning event.

Ready, Set, Learn is an early learning initiative sponsored by the Ministry of Education. It is designed to provide children and parents/caregivers with an opportunity to participate in a series of play-based learning activities within school or community settings. It also provides an opportunity for families to receive information from participating community agencies. Three- and four-year-olds and their families are invited to attend one of the Ready, Set, Learn events held by each school throughout the district.

[Ready, Set, Learn dates for 2018-2019](#)

For more information and registration details, please contact the school directly.

Parents/caregivers will receive helpful tips to support their children's learning and development, as well as information about early learning programs offered by the school district and the community resources available to families.

Resources

- The B.C. Ministry of Education's parent booklet: [Ready, Set, Learn: Helping your preschooler get ready for school](#) (in English).
- The [Ministry of Education Ready, Set, Learn website](#), which includes links to the parent booklet in 11 languages other than English.
- Not sure which school is closest to you? Visit our [Locate a School page](#) for district maps and our school locator tool.

***Please share this information with anyone
you know who has a three or four-year-old child.***