

Newsletter
March 15th, 2018



EKOlogy

EAST KENSINGTON ELEMENTARY

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Courier #018

www.surreyschools.ca/schools/eastkensington

Principal: Mr. Chris Baldry

Vice Principal: Ms. Keri Stanger



MARCH 2018

Friday the 16th
Porto Fino Express Hot
Lunch

Friday the 16th
Last Day of Classes
before Spring Break

APRIL 2018

Tuesday the 3rd
School Reopens

Sunday the 8th
Garden Building Work Day
10:00 to 2:00

Thursday the 12th
Class and Panorama
Photos

Thursday the 12th
PAC Meeting 2:30-3:30

MAY 2018

Friday the 4th
Pro-D Day - Schools not in
session for students

It is hard to believe that we have come to the end of term two for this school year! And the signs of spring are so welcome!

Student Assessment

Your child's Student Progress Report is being sent home today. This is a summary of the ongoing learning progress we have been documenting on Fresh Grade. Take a moment to review your child's progress, discuss it with them and provide recognition for their efforts to learn. Note especially where you see your child's effort to improve in areas that had been challenging before or when you see them persevere through difficult learning. Learn only occurs through the challenges people face. Our support of that tough learning process helps children to feel proud of their hard work. If you have any questions about your child's learning, Ms. Leclerc and I are available to talk with you and your child.

Forest Field Trips



We have had two field trips this month. Our second Redwood Park trip was delightful! The weather was warm for the first time in ages and we all enjoyed being surrounded by the trees. The children listened with rapture as Ms. Leclerc read Hansel and Gretel with a spooky witch voice. The ensuing recreations of the story in the forest were a treat to watch.



EKOlogy
East Kensington Outdoor
Learning Program

Our trip to Keery Park on Tuesday was also a success. The children learned how to walk and cross safely on a street. They collected litter in the park. We are happy to note there was actually very little to collect. We could overhear children questioning what kind of people would leave garbage in a nice forest. Our hope is that they learn to preserve the beauty of the natural spaces in our neighbourhood because of their act to clean it up. The children bubbled at the opportunity to climb low-lying limbs in the forest and to assess their level of risk by testing out the strength of each branch. There was then a quieter level of enthusiasm as the students created tiny fairy parks using finds from the forest floor. We are thankful that we have access to Keery Park so close to our school. We plan to make a habit of walking to the park twice a month.

Thank you to all the parents and guardians who drove or walked with us on our trips. Your support of our out trips is invaluable and part of how we create community.

Garden Update

At a gathering of keen parent garden enthusiasts on February 22, we came up with some ideas for how to make new raised garden beds and a list of what to plant. Since then, the district sustainability department has stated that schools may not start new garden sites until they have completed new guidelines for school gardens. These will be completed next year. Until then, we will update the gardens we have. We will be fixing up the garden area ready for planting on Sunday, April 8 at 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. All are welcome! We will be planting the gardens soon after that. We will also have a bulb planting afternoon on May 11. More details to come.



Spring Break

Our final day of school before Spring Break is this Friday, March 16th. We look forward to seeing all of our students back at school on Tuesday, April 3rd for the third term of school.



mabel's labels[®] FUNDRAISING

East Kensington Elementary is fundraising with Mabel's Labels!

Labels for the Stuff Kids Lose! Mabel's Labels are personalized, peel & stick, super-durable labels that safely go in the laundry, dishwasher and microwave. They're loved by parents & kids alike. And they're perfect for all your kids' stuff - from shoes & clothes to water bottles, lunch boxes, backpacks and more! With the cost of good quality kid's clothing, water bottles, extra shoes etc. why not label them so if they are lost they can be returned!

Mabel's Labels is the best-known brand of durable labels for families, and their growing line of products features baby labels, child safety products, sports labels, household organizational labels and seasonal items. They're extremely durable, and they're 100% guaranteed. [The East Kensington PAC receives 20% from every order to put towards our fundraising goals.](#)

Please visit campaigns.mabelslabels.com and **search for our school name to place your order** and support our fundraiser.

Parenting Evenings

At our PAC meeting in March, it was suggested that parents might be interested in having evening sessions on how to support their children at home.

A few themes brought up were Social Emotional Learning, Developing a Growth Mindset, and Managing Children's Behaviour. I am happy to host one or two evenings for parents if there is enough interest as these are topics I am passionate to share with people. In the meantime, here is a really helpful parent website with advice, videos, books suggestions on a range of parenting topics from academics, social and emotional development, health and wellness, financial literacy, and college and career tips for older children. <https://www.parenttoolkit.com/>

Enjoy the holidays!
Keri Stanger
Vice Principal EKOLogy

Fill out the survey below to let me know your interest level and return it by this Friday, April 6 or email eastkensington@surreyschools.ca.



DEVELOPING A GROWTH MINDSET

INSTEAD OF...	SAY THIS...
I'm not good at this	What am I missing?
I give up	I'll use a different strategy
It's good enough	Is this really my best work?
I can't make this any better	I can always improve
This is too hard	This may take some time
I made a mistake	Mistakes help me to learn
I just can't do this	I am going to train my brain
I'll never be that smart	I will learn how to do this
Plan A didn't work	There's always Plan B
My friend can do it	I will learn from them

I would be interested in attending the following evening parenting workshop(s) at the school:

___ Social Emotional Learning

___ Developing a Growth Mindset

___ Managing Children's Behaviour