

# Newsletter

December 11, 2017



## DECEMBER 2017

19<sup>th</sup> Christmas Sing-a-Long 5:30 - 7:00

22<sup>nd</sup> Hot Lunch

22<sup>nd</sup> Last Day of Classes before Winter Break

## JANUARY 2018

8<sup>th</sup> School Reopens

8<sup>th</sup> Registration for grades 1-4 starts at 8:00am

15<sup>th</sup> Kindergarten

Registration Starts at 8:00 am



# EAST KENSINGTON ELEMENTARY

EKOlogy

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Courier #018

[www.surreyschools.ca/schools/eastkensington](http://www.surreyschools.ca/schools/eastkensington)

Principal: Mr. Chris Baldry

Vice Principal: Ms. Keri Stanger



It's hard to believe that it is already December! We have been so busy learning and growing with our Outdoor Learning program the time seems to have just flown by since September. From searching for wolves and moles in the school yard to building moss teepees and finding dew rainbows in the fields, the students (and staff) have been learning so much. Thank you for sending your enthusiastic students to school each day. They bring so much wonder and joy to what we do. And that is due in large part to what parents spend time doing with their children at home. Thank you for sharing in your child's curiosity and for helping to build their capacity to care for others and the world around them.



Thank you to parents, staff and students who spent the afternoon on December 1 decorating our halls, classrooms and gym for the holidays. The school was a-buzz with the cheerful sounds of holiday music, children chattering happily as they made decorations, and parents collaborating and creating as they decorated the school. What fun to share in the joy of the season!

## **Christmas Fair at East Kensington**

The Christmas Fair hosted by the PAC on Sunday was a great success! It showcased our wonderful East Kensington community spirit. Visiting and local families were treated to a fun-filled afternoon with crafts to make, bake sale and wreath sale, scavenger hunt, yummy hot stew and coffee, face painting, story time, and photos with our special guest, Santa! A HUGE thank you to all those who helped to make the Christmas Fair so well organized and fun. Special thanks go to Jill and Aimee, the chief organizers, who spent countless hours planning events, advertising and decorating. What a huge effort.





## Christmas Concert/Sing-Along/Movie Evening

On Tuesday, December 19 from 5:30-7:00, we will have a Christmas Concert/Sing-along/Movie evening. Come dressed in pajamas with your family and set out a cozy blanket to sit on in the gym and enjoy the music and entertainment. The children have been rehearsing holiday songs with Ms. Blackman, our music teacher. The students will perform their songs at the start of the evening and then join their families as we all sing along to Christmas songs. Then the PAC will be showing “The Grinch Who Stole Christmas.” The PAC will offer complimentary popcorn and hot chocolate to enjoy as we watch the movie. Hope to see you all there.

We will also be accepting donations for the **Food Bank** at this evening. **Please bring along non-perishable donations** and we will make sure they get to the people in need over the holidays.



# Registration Information



## Registration for next year

New registrations for children in grades 1-4 for our EKOLogy program will begin on **January 8<sup>th</sup>** at 8:00 a.m. Kindergarten registration starts on **January 15<sup>th</sup>** at 8:00 a.m.

We welcome students from out of catchment. **Spread the word about our unique outdoor learning program at East Kensington.**

### EKOLogy Program Description:

Through daily outdoor learning experiences, children in the EKOLogy program develop a sense of wonder and gratitude in the beauty, diversity and complexity of the world to become environmentally and socially responsible people with a passion for lifelong learning. Children in our EKOLogy program spend a minimum of one-and-a-half hours each day learning outside the classroom.

**For the 2018-2019 school year, we** will be accepting students in kindergarten to Grade 4. We have space to grow the program to Grade 7 in subsequent years.

Our outdoor learning program:

- provides outdoor experiences that integrate B.C.'s curriculum with children's innate wonderings and curiosity.
- allows teachers to facilitate emergent, experiential, inquiry-based, play-based, and place-based learning.
- allows teachers to help children to identify, co-manage and navigate risk. Opportunities to experience risk are seen as an integral part of learning and healthy development.
- aligns with the First Peoples Principles of Learning.
- develops students' core competencies. Experiential learning in the outdoors fosters children's competencies as creative and critical thinkers, effective communicators, and people who are personally, socially and environmentally aware.
- [East Kensington Outdoor Learning](#)

Register for Grades 1-4 – Jan. 8, 2018

Register for kindergarten – Jan. 15, 2018

## EKOLogy

(East Kensington Outdoor Learning) Program



## Messages from East Kensington PAC



**Purdy's orders will be sent home on Tuesday  
December 12.**

### **For Our Emergency Preparedness:**

Each classroom is now equipped with a five-gallon bin and an emergency backpack to provide the staff and children with the resources to deal with any situation. These backpacks will be updated yearly.

In addition, to make our children feel at ease during an emergency, we are asking you to prepare a small comfort kit for your child. We suggest writing a letter, including a photo, and providing a small comfort item. Please place these items in a clear ziplock plastic bag, clearly marked with their first and last name and division number. These will be stored in the respective classroom bins. If you require further guidance with preparing your comfort kit, please don't hesitate to ask any member of the PAC executive. Please **send your comfort kit to the school by December 22<sup>nd</sup>.**

### Education Assistant Information Session

Wednesday, January 17, 2018, 7:00pm

Resource Education Centre #206 - 14123 - 92nd Ave.

Free Session. No registration required. Call 604-595-6077 for more details.



**PARENT ADVISORY  
COUNCIL**



## Education Assistants

are in demand. If you are interested in training to become an Education Assistant please visit

[www.surreycollege.ca](http://www.surreycollege.ca)

Courses start in January & September

