

Principal's Message ~ February 24th – 28th

This Week at Lord Tweedsmuir

Thursday February 27th, 2025

Good morning Panthers,

Happy Thursday! I hope all Panthers have enjoyed a week of interesting learning and the friendship and support of our school community. It is an important time for our students and staff as our school is in “top gear” with new curricular learning and extra-curricular fun! 😊



This week, we have continued to recognize and celebrate Black History Month with a scavenger hunt (and prizes 🎁) for our students!



We concluded last week with some special events. Firstly, great thanks to Ms. Smith and our Student Council Leadership students for all of your work in hosting this year's 'Tweedy's Got Talent' Show! Students demonstrated a wide variety of talent, with singers, musicians, and dancers forming the performing arts side of the competition. In the visual arts competition, entries included paintings and drawings as well as a metalwork sculpture and an animated short.

In the Visual Arts component of Tweedy's Got Talent, Jack P. received an Honourable Mention for his animation short inspired by the game Dandy's World, and Harkirat S. painting "Snowy Day" was chosen as the Fan Favourite by the audience. Third place went to Meika N., for her metal flowers made from scrap metal. Lily M.'s watercolour "The Dancing Hongsa" came second. First place was awarded to Sarah R.'s charcoal drawing of Lana Del Rey.

In the Performing Arts part of the show, Honourable Mention went to Miami B., who played the song "Poison" from the TV show "Hazbin Hotel" on the piano; and the Fan Favourite was Lucas D., playing Heart's "Crazy on You" on the guitar. Jayden N. won third place with his breakdancing. Second place went to Ava G., who played John Legend's "All of Me" on the piano. Neelam B., who sang Olivia Rodrigo's "Happier" and accompanied herself on the piano, was awarded first place.

Congratulations to all participants for your exceptional skills and talents!







We also held our Grade 7 Parent Presentation last week. The gymnasium was full of parents/guardians for a first introduction to our LTSS caring community of excellence. We were able to provide an overview of our school, our grade 8 program and the amazing opportunities that lie ahead for their children. We began the evening with a special performance from our LTSS Jazz Band. Great thanks to Mr. De La Pena and our music students for your time and talent! 😊 We look forward to working and learning with next year's newest Panthers.



This week has been another full and interesting time of learning at LTSS. On Monday afternoon, we met with our staff to highlight District goals, Indigenous student success rates, and many of the programs, structures and initiatives that are currently taking place. Thank you to our entire team for your hard work and dedication to our students and school.

On Tuesday, we had the privilege to meet with many of our Indigenous students and congratulate and honour their service and leadership and recognize their success in the first semester. We are so fortunate to be able to work with our Lord Tweedsmuir Secondary students and to help foster their learning and success across the curriculum. We were able to hear from some of our grade 12 students and learn about their exciting plans for the future. Congratulations Panthers!

On Wednesday, many of our students participated in the annual, national Mathematics contests. Great thanks to our Math Department for sponsoring this opportunity for our students. We know that our mathematics students will continue to shine on this national stage!

Wednesday was Pink Shirt – Anti-Bullying Day. <https://www.surreyschools.ca/ci/p/184131> Students and staff wore pink to recognize this important cause and messages of support and inclusion were posted around the school. 😊 Building a safe, caring and welcoming community for students and staff is our first priority and we are proud of the positive and inclusive school culture we have created through our work together. Thank you Panthers.

Pink Shirt Day

February 26

Did You Know?



The global movement of Pink Shirt Day traces back to 2007 in Berwick Nova Scotia, a small Canadian town with a population of 2,500.



After a new student at their school was bullied for wearing a pink shirt, two Grade 12 students — David Shepherd and Travis Price — bought 50 pink shirts and encouraged their classmates to wear pink. The next day they went to distribute the shirts and to their surprise the majority of students arrived wearing pink.



With that act of kindness, Pink Shirt Day was born. It has since become a global movement.



In 2012, the United Nations declared May 4 as Anti-Bullying Day. Now, the last Wednesday each February is Canada's national Pink Shirt/anti-bullying day.

PSST

Safe Schools & Racial Equity Department



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Corey Bulpitt is an internationally recognized artist from the Haida Na7ikun-Raven Clan.

The design was created in his signature graffiti style, with two gesturing hands featuring a traditional Haida human face. This indicates the welcoming and respect of others and serves as a friendly greeting which is used throughout Coast Salish communities, with similar gestures used throughout communities in the Northwest Coast.

The Pink Shirt Day campaign recognizes the importance of unity, inclusivity, and diversity of all people.

Anti-Bullying Day



Wednesday,
February 26

Join us in raising awareness about bullying and promoting kindness, respect, and inclusion. On this day, we stand together to create a safer and more supportive school environment for everyone.



Bullying is not okay - let's work together to stop it.



I wear pink because

I want
to remind
everyone
that we
are all special

Today is the catch-up session for Grade 9 immunizations. Grade 9's who missed last week's session will be called to the library throughout the day for your immunization. Thank you to all staff for your help in allowing this to occur.

We will also be meeting with our Extended Day Advisory Committee on Thursday. This will be an opportunity to review the pros and cons of our current Bell Schedule and consider options for next year. Thank you in advance to all staff for your insight and input as we develop next year's Extended Day schedule.

On Thursday afternoon, all staff are invited to join us for our Staff Social. Thank you to our "SEL" committee for organizing this event and the chance to meet our colleagues. 😊

Tomorrow, Ramadan begins. 'Ramadan Mubarak' to our LTSS community!



Ramadan
February 28 - March 29, 2025

Ramadan is the ninth month in the Islamic calendar.

As the Islamic calendar is based around the lunar cycle, the Holy month of Ramadan rotates by approximately ten days each year.

This year, Ramadan is expected to begin on Friday, February 28th depending on the sighting of the moon.

'Ramadan Mubarak' means 'Blessed Ramadan'.
'Ramadan Kareem' means 'Generous Ramadan'.
Both terms are from Arabic origins.

Ramadan is a time for prayer, fasting, self-reflection, self-discipline, and sacrifice. It is also time for charity and empathy for those less fortunate encouraging acts of generosity and compassion.

Eating and drinking (including water) is prohibited from dawn to sunset. The fast begins with a prayer and a meal called Sehri and is broken with prayer and meal called Iftar.

Eid al-Fitr
March 30 or 31, 2025

Eid means a "festival or feast" in Arabic.

There are two major Eids in the Islamic calendar per year: Eid al-Fitr (smaller - 3 days) earlier in the year and Eid al-Adha (greater - 4 days) later in the year.

Eid al-Fitr means "the feast of breaking the fast". It marks the end of the blessed month of Ramadan.

This year, it is expected to be celebrated on the evening of March 30 or 31st. However the exact date is subject to the sighting of moon of Shawwal (the 10th month of Islamic Calendar).

People greet each other with "Eid Mubarak," meaning "Blessed Eid" and with formal embraces.

Sweet dishes are prepared at home and gifts are given to children and to those in need. Muslims are encouraged to forgive and seek forgiveness.

It is a time for charity, known as Zakat al-Fitr. Eid is meant to be a time of joy and blessing for the entire Muslim community.

This week our South Asian students and Allies club has been holding a "Bhabi" tournament. The final round will be played tomorrow. Good luck to all participants and thank you to the club for organizing this fun event!

Have an excellent Friday and a happy weekend. We'll see you back at school on Monday.

Ken



Traffic and Student Parking

All Panthers are reminded that traffic around the school and parking on school property will be very busy with our increased enrollment and Extended Day schedule. All student drivers are reminded that it is very important to drive with care and attention while on or near school property. Safety is our first priority. Please drive safely and responsibly, be aware of pedestrians, and follow all traffic regulations.

If possible, all families are asked to consider alternative transportation options. Please walk or bike to school if possible. It would also be helpful if students are dropped off a couple of blocks away from the school and vehicles do not enter our school's parking lot.

Please note that this year, students are only permitted to park in the Student Lot on the right side of our parking lot near our Portable classrooms. Students are not permitted to park in the Staff Lot.

All students wishing to park on school property must apply for a Parking pass. Application forms may be picked up at the office. Students must park in their designated stall.

Parking passes must be displayed on your car's windshield at all times while on school property. Parking privileges will be revoked for any students not following our parking regulations or for unsafe driving.

Thank you for your help and cooperation in responding to our increased traffic challenges and protecting the safety of our community members.