

Newsletter

September 3th, 2019



September

Tuesday, September 3rd
First Day of School!
10:00 – 11:00

Tuesday, September 5th
First Full Day of School Grades 1-5
8:35 – 2:27

Thursday September 12th
Family Open House
6:00 – 7:30pm

Tuesday, September 17th
Individual Photo Day

Friday, September 21st
Terry Fox Run

Friday October 27th
Orange Shirt Day

Monday, September 30th
Professional Development Day
School is not in session

October

Friday October 11th
Photo Retakes

Monday, October 14th
Thanksgiving

Schools are closed

Friday, October 25th
Professional Development Day
School is not in session



EAST KENSINGTON OUTDOOR LEARNING

2795 – 184th Street, Surrey, BC V3Z 9V2
Phone: (604) 541-1257 Fax: (604) 531-4180
www.surreyschools.ca/schools/eastkensington

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

Welcome to the 2019/2020 School Year

On behalf of the staff of East Kensington, we **welcome** you to East Kensington's EKOLogy Program. We are very excited to enter our third year of learning with an outdoor focus. We have new staff members joining us this year as we increase from 3 divisions to 4. We look forward to seeing our families from last year as well as getting to know all of our new families. We welcome you all as part of our fantastic outdoor learning community!

Starting tomorrow, Wednesday, September 4th school will be in session full days for students in grades 1-5. These students need to **bring a recess snack, lunch and water bottle to school**. The bell schedule has changed a little this year to accommodate the mandated number of instructional hours. Find a copy of the new hours below.

Ms. Leclerc has provided kindergarten parents the Gradual Entry Schedule for the first two weeks of school. Please **sign up for Child-Focused conferences** in the office. Note there is **no school for Kindergarten students on Monday, September 9** as Ms. Leclerc meets with Kindergarten parents.

This year the Grade 3-4-5 students will be learning with Ms. Stahlstrom and Ms. Messcu in the former music room. Ms. Leslie and Ms. Stanger with Ms. Messcu will be teaching the two grade 1-2 classes. The teachers have made every attempt to create balanced classes that keep learners social emotional and academic needs in mind. For some children, a new classroom with new children is concerning. Please help your child accept that change is a part of growth and instill in them a belief that they have the ability to handle new situations.

We look forward to working with you this year.

All the best,

Keri Stanger
Vice Principal



EKOlogy

**East
Kensington
Outdoor
Learning Program
O
G
y**



Outdoor Area Updates

Stop by and see how the wetland has evolved over the course of a year! Last September it was an area with dirt and gravel and low water in the one pond. This year we have three little ponds, and the areas surrounding the ponds are a riot of tall clover and thriving willow saplings. There is evidence of snakes living in the wetland which must mean there is a whole little ecosystem hidden in there! I can't wait to take the children into the wetland and see what they notice in nature!

In early July staff came to complete some outdoor projects. You will notice **new tables and benches** in the Pergola and two new **mud kitchens** along the fence. We are sure the children will enjoy learning in the Pergola and will explore the properties of nature and dramatic play in the mud kitchens!

The new raised **garden** beds have managed to support most of the plants we set in June. There are still a few little tomatoes, some herbs, asparagus and lettuce thriving. A possible reason the other plants that did not quite survive the summer is that we planted too late in the season. But we plant and learn! I was pleased to see that the soil moisture was well maintained due to the nature of the special raised beds with reservoirs. Thank you to all the families who came out to weed, clean up and water the gardens over the summer. Hopefully you took advantage of some little veggie treats.

Mr. Baldry and I are currently in talks with the district about planting a little **forest** as an extension of the wetland ecosystem. We are exploring the feasibility of this project concerning funding, planting and maintenance. I think this will be a focus for improvement of our outdoor learning spaces this year and I look forward to coordinating efforts between district staff, school staff, parents and students in making this a reality!

BELL SCHEDULE: 2019-2020

Playground Supervision Begins	8:20 am
Entry Bell	8:30 am
Morning Classes Begin	8:35 am
Recess	10:00 am
Recess Ends	10:15 am
Lunch Begins	11:42 pm
Students Go Outside	11:57 pm
Afternoon Classes Begin	12:27 pm
Dismissal	2:27pm

Student Verification and Permission Forms:

Please find attached the following:

- **Student Information Verification Form** (2 pages) – this form is the information we have on file concerning your child(ren). It is used to contact someone in case of sudden illness or emergencies.
 - Please make any necessary changes and sign the bottom portion on the 2nd page and return it to the school as soon as possible
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 - Even if there are no changes, please sign the bottom and return it to the school so that we know this form has been received and is correct.
- **Media/Website Consent Form**, (Only sent home if we do not have one on file already)
- **Internet Safety Consent Form**

Please sign and return all forms to your child's teacher no later than **Friday September 6th**. It is critical that all forms be returned ASAP so that your child's information is current to ensure student safety. **Please return your child's signed form even if there are no changes. Thank you for your assistance**

Absences – Voicemail Option

If your child is going to be absent or late for school please remember to contact the school office at 604-541-1257 before 8:30 am. You may find it helpful to call the evening before or early morning to leave a message on our school voicemail. Please remember to include student name, division and reason for absence. Thank you.



For Kindergarten Parents

Your child will be coming home with a "Getting Acquainted Information Sheet". Please fill it in and bring it to your Child-Focused Conversations.

Please book a time by signing up on the sheet by the office.





ONLINE NEWSLETTERS and INFORMATION

In an effort to reduce waste and costs incurred by distributing paper communications, our school uses electronic forms to communicate with families. **WE WILL NOT BE SENDING HOME PAPER COPIES OF NEWSLETTERS after this one.**

Please subscribe to receive our school newsletters and school event information via email by using the subscription icon at the bottom of the Home Page of our school website at:

www.surreyschools.ca/schools/eastkensington

You will receive a verification email that you must accept in order to receive our newsletters. (Check your junk mail if it doesn't arrive). Your subscription will ensure you are receiving school communications in a timely manner.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

East Kensington 2017/18 School Calendar
POSTED: JUN 01 2017
[VIEW ALL](#)

EMAIL LIST

Sign up to receive communications from East Kensington:

Enter your email address ...

I agree to the terms and conditions

LATEST NEWSLETTER

Terry Fox parent letter 2017
[VIEW ALL](#)

CALENDAR

OCT Early Dismissal 1:25 pm
5 ALL DAY

[VIEW ALL](#)

School Supplies:

Grade 1-5 students will receive the Edu-Pac school supplies they ordered sometime this week. For new students, or those who did not order Edu-Pacs, supply lists are available from the office or on our school website.

Kindergarten supplies have already been purchased for the class at a cost to each student of \$45.00. We are a cashless school which means **all payments for fieldtrips, student**

What Is School Cash Online?

School Cash Online is an easy to use and safe way to pay for your children's school fees. Now, with a few clicks, you can pay for your child's planner, kindergarten school supplies, class trips and so much more from your own home. All you have to do is register for an account, attach your children's information and in no time, you will be able to make payments online. More information is available at

<https://surreyschools.schoolcashonline.com/> .

Paying for school items just got easier!
Sign up to get started today.

What is School Cash Online?
School Cash Online is a secure, easy-to-use online payment system that allows you to pay for your child's school fees from your own home.

Register Sign In

Best in Class Security Gives You The Best Protection

CSAE 3416 Certified PCI Compliant SSAE 16 Certified

Why Use School Cash Online?
Convenient: Make secure payments 24/7 from the comfort of your home.
Safe: No cash changing with outside school contacts.
Safe: Your child can't be carrying cash or checks to and from school.
Save: Take charge of your child's expenses and save payment history in one place.

About KEY Group
Over 20 years of experience
KEY has received over 5,000 awards and recognitions from schools and parents across the world.

How Does This Work?
It's simple: just follow the 4 steps above to create your account, attach your child's information and make payments online.

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1-800-888-8888
www.schoolcashonline.com



PARKING SAFETY

Please enter the parking lot through the 28th Avenue entrance. Exit out the 184th Street access. Please **turn off your cars** while you wait to avoid exhaust fumes. It is school district policy that **prohibits smoking** of any substances on or near school grounds.



When you take your child to school, remember to **press the crosswalk button**, **watch that cars have actually stopped**, then walk your children across the crosswalk. Avoid walking through the staff parking lot. Walk your child along the pathway to the undercover area to keep them safe from cars.

If you have concerns about the safety of our crosswalk, please contact the City of Surrey to request that they paint school zone signs directly on the road. I have already asked for that from the city and have called the RCMP about traffic safety, but the more we let the city know that this is an issue, the better.

Traffic Reminders:

Please park in the lot across the street from the school and then walk your child across the crosswalk with the guidance of Janice our wonderful crossing guard.

The parking lot close to the school is for staff parking.

