

Newsletter

September 4th, 2018



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

September

Monday, September 4th

First Day of School!

10:00 – 11:00

Tuesday, September 5th

First Full Day of School Grades 1-4

8:28 – 2:25

Monday, September 17th

Individual Photo Day

Friday, September 21st

Terry Fox Run

Saturday, September 22nd

East Kensington Fall Harvest Market

Monday, September 24th

Professional Development Day

School is not in session

October

Monday, October 8th

Thanksgiving

Schools are closed

Friday, October 19th

Professional Development Day

School is not in session

Welcome to the 2018/19 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 second year of learning with an outdoor focus. The staff are keen to continue to build our program that ensures the students get the most out of their learning. 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 5th school will be in session full days for students in grades 1-4. These students need to bring a recess snack, lunch and water bottle to school. There is a copy of our bell schedule in this newsletter.

Kindergarten parents have already been given 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 Friday, September 7** as teachers meet with Kindergarten parents. Grade 1 students will attend full days and will have specific instruction targeted at their learning needs.

Kindergarten and grade 1 students will be placed in temporary classes as teachers observe their interactions. This will assist in creating balanced classes. The room your child is assigned to in this first week may change as their full-time class for the year, however, children will have the opportunity to learn with both K/ 1 classes as we will offer joint learning times and flexible learning spaces all year long. At the start of the second week, the kindergarten and grade 1 children should be in their permanent classrooms.

Children in grades 2-4 will start their year right away with our new teacher Ms. Alison Leslie in the upstairs annex room. This will be a very exciting year for the oldest children in the school as they embark on a new year with a fabulous outdoor learning teacher!

EKOLOGY

East
Kensington
Outdoor
Learning Program

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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 your appointment at the office in person or by phone at 604-541-1257.



Staffing Updates:

We would like to welcome the following new and returning staff members to our school for this year:

Mr. Chris Baldry – Principal (shared with Hall's Prairie Elementary)
Ms. Keri Stanger – Vice Principal and K/1 teacher
Ms. Sandra Neithercut – Head Secretary
Ms. Alison Leslie -- Grade 2-4 Teacher
Ms. Cheryl Leclerc – K/1 Teacher
Ms. Jaime Canton -- K/1 Job Share with Ms. Stanger
TBA – Teacher Librarian
Mr. Peter Hall – Learner Support Teacher
Ms. Laura Bednarz -- Integration Support
Ms. Lucy Yu – Music Teacher
Ms. Debi Kellner -- Educational Assistant
Ms. Melissa Hovey – Child Care Worker
Ms. Alysia Jeske – Speech Pathologist
Ms. Jeannette Mable – Crossing Guard
Ms. Melanie Miki -- Counsellor

We look forward to their enthusiasm and expertise at East Kensington!



BELL SCHEDULE - 2018 - 2019

Playground Supervision Begins:	8:18 am
Entry Bell:	8:28 am
Morning Classes Begin:	8:33 am
Recess:	10:15 am
Recess Ends:	10:30 am
Lunch Begins:	11:40 pm
Students Go Outside:	11:55 pm
Afternoon Classes Begin:	12:25 pm
Dismissal:	2:25 pm
Playground Supervision Ends:	2:40 pm

Absences – Voicemail Option



If your child is going to be absent or late from 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.

Outdoor School Project Updates

We have finally had some progress on our pergola/outdoor classroom and wetland projects this summer. The pergola/outdoor classroom has the footings for the posts prepared and we are just waiting for the concrete permit from the city to come through. Half of the funding for the wetland was approved and a cute little pond and a fenced area was completed in early August! Hooray! Come out and see it when you can. You will see that it needs lots of native plantings and trees to make it more natural, but those are fun projects we can look forward to working on this year. We will await more funding for the second pond and remaining wetland project in the future.



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.

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:

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](#)



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 Jennette Mable our wonderful crossing guard. The parking lot close to the school is for staff parking.

Student Planners and School Supplies:

Student planners are a wonderful way to ensure consistent, positive communication between home and school. They are also an excellent organizational tool. Planners will be available for purchase to Grade 2-4 students at a cost of \$2.00 each.

Grade 2- 4 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 \$40.00.

We are a **cashless school** which means **all payments for fieldtrips, student planners and/or Kindergarten supplies are made on-line by registering at <https://surreyschools.schoolcashionline.com/> .**

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.schoolcashionline.com/> .

Parent Involvement:



Meaningful learning requires personal commitment and partnerships. The most important contributor outside the school is parents or guardians; their participation and interest are crucial to students' motivation and success. Parents and guardians set a very important example. Work with your child. Support your child. Talk often with your child's teacher. Your involvement will strengthen your child's achievement in school.

Parents can their children's learning help by:

- commenting on your child's early and on-going attempts to write and spell and to encourage them to greater literacy as they grow older
- reading to and with your child
- playing games with your child
- taking time to discuss school experiences with your child
- providing a variety of reading, writing, counting and artistic materials at home
- modeling good reading, writing habits and everyday numeracy
- modeling the value of attendance, punctuality, and perseverance
- celebrating success by praising your child's efforts and hard work rather than accomplishments
- asking your child's teacher(s) for ways you can help
- giving more responsibility as your child matures
- above all, give your child the most important form of support - your time

Warm Dry Kids are Happy Kids!!

Clothing Supply List for EKOLogy

Our goal is that your child is warm and dry so that they enjoy their learning time outdoors



- Waterproof rain pants – must have a closure at the bottom (velcro or elastic)
 - Recommended brands include Mountain Equipment Co-op or Oakiwear or
 - Rain pants will remain at school
- Waterproof raincoat – big enough to layer underneath with cinching at the wrist
 - Recommended brands include Mountain Equipment Co-op or similar
- Warm waterproof winter jacket – remember that we are outside for longer periods
 - An example is a Columbia Omnitech jacket
- Insulated rain boots – recommend rubber not neoprene
 - Recommend a quality brand from an outdoor company
 - Rain boots will remain at school
- Thermal socks
 - To be kept at school to wear in rain boots
 - Recommend wool or smart wool
- Base layer long sleeved shirt – preferably not cotton for those very cold days
- Fleece top with zipper or a thin down packable coat
- Fleece or wool toque
- Winter gloves/mittens of good quality
 - Child should be able to pick things up when wearing them
- Multiple pairs of inexpensive gloves
- A neck tube or scarf for the extra chilly days
- Running shoes for indoors to be kept at school – preferably no laces



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.

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.
 - 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, if we do not have it on file already**
- **Volunteer Driver Registration Form – this form needs to be filled in every year with updated information. Please bring your car insurance documents and driver's license to the office to be verified.**

Please sign and return all forms to your child's teacher no later than **Friday September 7th**. It is critical that all forms be returned ASAP so that your child's information is current to ensure student safety. Thank you for your assistance.

We look forward to working with you this year.

All the best,

Chris Baldry
Principal

Keri Stanger
Vice Principal