



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

It was great to see so many families at our Open House. Our Garden Club had produce from our garden and students were involved in making soup to share with all in attendance. The seasons are changing and mornings are brisk. At this point in the year, we are just over half-way through our first term, with literacy and numeracy assessments completed to help guide classroom instruction. In many classes, structured literacy programs are underway and thinking tasks in numeracy are happening. Learning is also going on outdoors on walking field trips and in our outdoor classroom. Please flip the pages to learn how you can support our learning initiatives at LPES.

All the best, Dan Clark

TOYS

Play is an important part of learning in K-3 and each class has a range of toys for morning choice time. Kindly keep personal toys and stuffies at home. Sending toys to school with your child creates the potential for loss or damage to these important items, which can create conflict between students that staff need to manage.

The only exception are teacher directed activities such as pajama and stuffy days, class parties, or show and tell activities where families will receive communication from teachers to bring toys on these special days.

Your cooperation with this is much appreciated!



Help Your Child Succeed in School: Build the Habit of Good Attendance Early

DID YOU KNOW?

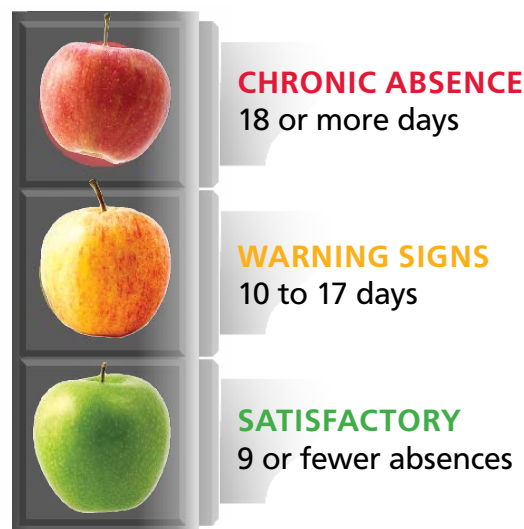
- Starting in preschool and kindergarten, too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school.
- Missing 10%, or about 2 days each month over the course of a school year, can make it harder to learn to read.
- Students can still fall behind if they miss just one or two days every few weeks.
- Being late to school may lead to poor attendance.
- Absences and tardiness can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up.

Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school—and themselves. Start building this habit in preschool so they learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important. Eventually good attendance will be a skill that will help them succeed in high school and college.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Set a regular bedtime and morning routine.
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- Keep your child healthy and make sure your child has the required shots.
- Introduce your children to their teachers and classmates before school starts.
- Develop backup plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbor, or another parent.
- Try to schedule non-urgent related medical appointments and extended trips when school isn't in session.
- If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, school counselors and other parents for advice on how to make your child feel comfortable and excited about learning.
- If you are concerned that your child may have a contagious illness, call your school or health care provider for advice.
- If your child must stay home due to illness, ask the teacher for resources and ideas to continue learning at home.

When Do Absences Become a Problem?



Note: These numbers assume a 180-day school year.

PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES

At Lindsay Park Elementary School, students can use school-provided electronic devices during appropriate times for learning. Recently we have had several incidents with personal technology being used during class that have disrupted learning.



Personal devices like cell phones, cameras, and "smart" devices should stay at home. If students need to bring personal devices, they must keep them in their backpacks while at school. The only exception is for medically necessary devices.



Any personal devices found outside of backpacks will be kept safely in the office for families to pick up. The school is not responsible for any loss or damage to personal electronic devices.

LOST AND FOUND

We have a large amount of items in our lost and found after the first two months of school. Families are encouraged to stop by the school to claim lost items. As we transition into winter clothes, please label all items so they can easily be returned. Last year we had hundreds of unclaimed items that we had to send to the thrift store.

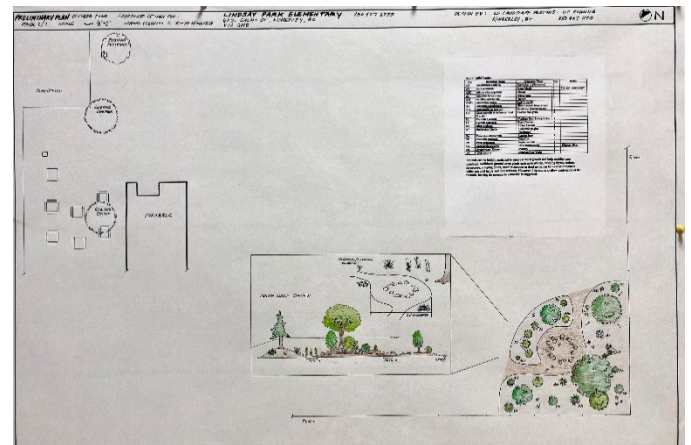
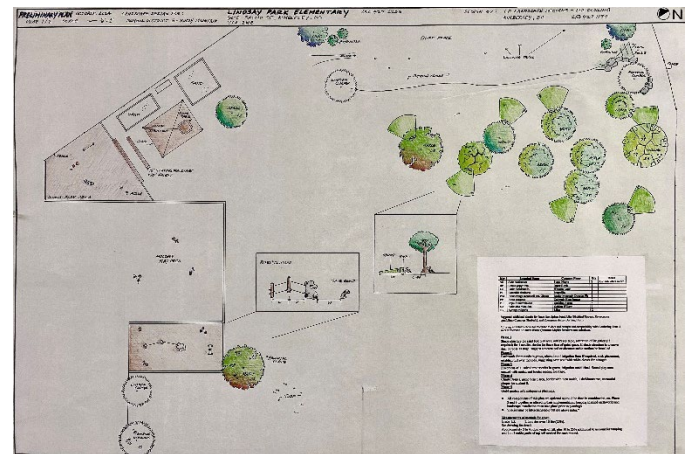


ENHANCING OUR OUTDOOR LEARNING SPACES AT LPES

The staff, students and community at Lindsay Park Elementary School hope to develop a strategic plan for our outdoor learning spaces that will enable us to pursue well-planned, incremental improvements to our school site to support student learning and wellness. A strategic plan will enable input from all stakeholders and support grant writing and budget allocations to support the project. We recognize that this project may take time to complete and hope to tackle portions each year.

The first step in this process is creating a draft plan with input from operations, staff, and PAC. Liz Dowling is a landscape designer and PAC parent who has volunteered to create an initial draft that is available for feedback. Stop by the school to look at the plans, or fill in this brief survey:

<https://forms.office.com/r/11c9M7kb91>



TAKE ME OUTSIDE DAY OCTOBER 23, 2024

At Lindsay Park our school goal this year is focused on regulation and our values of wellbeing and relationships. With these things in mind, our planning for Take Me Outside looked a little different this year.

Staff at LPES have collaborated with Jenn Meens and her Outdoor Education students from Selkirk Secondary for many years. Often this collaboration has been to engage LPES students in outdoor learning stations at Take Me Outside day in the fall, winter or spring. These activities are highly engaging, but can also be a little overwhelming for some students.

This fall, our collaboration focused on pairing students from Sekirk with individual classes from LPES to allow students from each school to get to know each other better. The other consideration in these pairings was to allow LPES staff to support their students with co-regulation strategies when dysregulated, while Selkirk students led the literacy and active learning activities.



Staff noticed that our students were highly engaged and flexible thinkers with the high school students. Staff feedback included that the high school students did a really good job of being attentive to the younger students, and making them feel special. Some students struggled with the learning environment outside, changes in rules, or having games run by other people, but our staff were able to co-regulate with these students to support them.



When students reflected on the afternoon with the Selkirk students, they mentioned the high school students were kind, and chose good games to go with the stories. LPES students liked when the Selkirk students were silly and noisy at times. Students also noticed that there were different regulation challenges when learning outdoors as compared to in the classroom. They identified tools to keep focused outside such as using a leaf as a fidget tool, or focusing on the sound and its echo (from the book "Little Beaver and the Echo"). Students identified highlights such as collecting leaves for a parachute activity, and playing games such as Mr. Monkey where they learned to count their steps and not cheat. Students liked being covered by leaves by the big kids, but also getting to cover the big kids with leaves.

This new structure of purposeful pairings of secondary and primary students allowed teachers to focus their co-regulation support on the students who required support in this new learning environment.



OUTDOOR LEARNING AT LPES

Outdoor learning is an important aspect of our programs at LPES. Time outside may be used by teachers to access various parts of the curriculum, or encourage the development of competencies that promote learning. Outdoor learning allows staff and students to enhance our values of wellbeing, relationships and creativity.



OUTDOOR LEARNING GUIDELINES

As part of our school start-up package, parents and caregivers completed an Outdoor Learning and Walking Field trip form. Short outdoor trips near the school are covered by this form and specific parent permission forms are not required each time a class goes out of the class for learning. Classes at LPES regularly visit Lois Creek for learning in a natural setting, 'Little Lois Creek' immediately north of the outdoor classroom, McDougall Park, and the residential streets adjacent to the school.

You can help make outdoor learning opportunities a success by doing the following:

- Notify your child's teacher and the office in advance of any appointments or alternate plans for pick-up, so that your child's teacher can make plans to accommodate your child.
- If you need to pick up your child on short notice, please be aware that it might take some time to contact the teacher and walk back to the school. Your patience in these situations is appreciated.

- Ensure that your child has clothing, footwear, a warm hat, and gloves so they are comfortable for extended periods outside. If you need help providing any of these items for your child, please contact the office and we can help.
- If you are interested in joining your child's class during an outdoor learning opportunity, please reach out to your child's teacher in advance. Sometimes an extra adult can support students on these trips and your help is much appreciated.

BE PREPARED FOR COLDER WEATHER

Colder weather is upon us, so please send your child dressed in clothing appropriate for cool, wet weather. It is also a good idea to label your outdoor items:

- snowsuit or water proof jacket and pants,
- boots,
- rain hat or toque, and
- water-resistant mitts,

In addition to these items, an extra dry pair of socks in your child's backpack can make wet days much more comfortable. Finally, if you are not able to provide outdoor clothing for your child, please let the office know and we will do our best to support your child.



STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE



Rocky Mountain School District regularly receives inquiries from parents and caregivers who are facing unexpected medical costs due to student injuries that happen on school grounds or during school-based extracurricular activities. It is often a surprise to them when they learn that the school district does not cover such expenses for student injuries; parents and caregivers are responsible for any costs not covered by the provincial Medical Services Plan (MSP) or their employer's healthcare plan should a student get injured.

Parents and caregivers who wish to purchase accident insurance for their child are advised to choose an insurance provider. Several companies offer accident insurance and parents must decide which plan suits the family's individual needs. Student accident insurance plans cost as little as \$17 per year, depending on desired coverage, and parents are encouraged to consider purchasing student accident insurance for injury-related costs that include:

- Dental Treatment
- Eyewear
- Rental of crutches or wheelchairs
- Splints and casts
- Physiotherapy
- Ambulance transportation
- Private tutoring and counselling

For convenience, Rocky Mountain School District has made available information on two student accident programs that provide families the opportunity to voluntarily purchase private accident insurance:

1. Insure My Kids: <https://insuremykids.com>
2. Study Insured Student Accident: <https://www.studyinsuredstudentaccident.com>

Coverage for both companies is available for purchase online, and both companies provide access to applications, claims forms and full plan information is available on their websites.

PAC NEWS

Our next PAC Meeting is Wednesday, November 13th at 6:00 pm in our library – all parents and caregivers are welcome! Please use the front entrance. You may also join us virtually here: [Click Here to Join Meeting](#)

INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING AT SCHOOL?



If you are interested in volunteering with your child's class there are two requirements:

CHILD ABUSE REPORTING PROTOCOL TRAINING

Each year, all staff and volunteers who work with children are required to complete Child Abuse Protection Protocol training. This year the training can be completed online at: <https://www.sd6.bc.ca/parents/child-abuse-reporting-protocol-and-volunteer-code-of-conduct-training>

CRIMINAL RECORD CHECK

A Criminal Record Check is also required on file, but these are valid for five years. If you need to check on the status of your CRC, kindly contact the office.

DATES TO REMEMBER FOR 2024-25

NOVEMBER

- 1:** Earth Rangers Presentation
- 3:** Time Change (back 1 hour)
- 5:** Photo Retakes
- 8:** Remembrance Day Assembly
- 11:** Remembrance Day (no classes)
- 21:** Hot Lunch

DECEMBER

- 6:** Recycled Shopping
- 16:** Term 1 report cards sent home
- 16:** Winter Variety Show Rehearsal in McKim Theatre
(10:30am start)
- 17:** Winter Variety Show Performance in McKim Theatre
(5:30pm start)
- 18:** Movie Morning
- 19:** Hot Lunch
- 20:** Last day of classes before Winter Break

JANUARY

- 6:** First day of classes after Winter Break
- 16:** Hot Lunch
- 29:** Literacy Day

FEBRUARY

- 14:** 100s Day
- 17:** Family Day (no classes)
- 18:** Non-instructional day (no classes)
- 20:** Hot Lunch
- 26:** Pink Shirt Day

MARCH

- 10:** Term 2 report cards sent home
- 13:** Hot Lunch
- 14:** Last day of classes before March Break
- 31:** First day of classes after March Break

APRIL

- 7-11:** Book Fair
- 9:** Open House
- 17:** Hot Lunch
- 18:** Good Friday (no classes)
- 21:** Easter Monday (no classes)
- 23:** Safety Day
- 28:** Non-instructional day (no classes)

MAY

- 1:** Take Me Outside Day
- 7:** Early dismissal day (1:48pm)
- 9:** Interim reports are sent home.
- 15:** Hot Lunch
- 19:** Victoria Day (no classes)

JUNE

- 5-6:** Track and Field
- 19:** Hot Lunch
- 20:** National Indigenous Peoples Day activities
- 23:** Talent Show
- 24:** Movie Morning
- 25:** Grade 3 Leaving Celebration
- 26:** Last day of classes and term 3 report cards sent home