

DR. A. R. LORD ELEMENTARY

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Principal – Liz Kloepper ~ at Franklin Elementary
Associate Superintendent – Maureen Ciarniello
Liaison Trustee: Jane Bouey 604.345.4246 jane.bouey@vsb.bc.ca

Vice-Principal - Mrs. Sarah Gray ~ on site at Lord
PAC Chair: Kathy Mehan

Friday, March 18, 2011

Dear Families;

Have you been in the building recently and noticed the beautiful art work throughout the halls? Six of the classes were invited to create art with artists from Arts Umbrella earlier this month. The pictures that each student made are large paintings of animals ~ turtles, hippos, fish, giraffes, mice, rhinos, whales...please come in and see for yourself...they are amazing!

Our school has been very fortunate to have had Mr. Dykstra working with division 4 part time over the last few months. Mr. D. has been calm, thoughtful and engaging. He has planned and taught a variety of hands on lessons and made a wonderful impact on the school year here at Lord. Students in division 4 shared some of their learning at a recent school assembly - ways to estimate and measure both traditionally and with unusual measuring instruments. Thank you, Mr. D. for all you have done at Lord! Everyone has appreciated the extra effort Mr. D. has put into making his time with the students meaningful. We hope to see Mr. D. back at our school again...until then, we wish Mr. D. all the very best with his work with other students in Vancouver.

Mr. Campbell will be teaching division 4 on Thursdays and Fridays after the spring break. Welcome to division 4, Mr. Campbell!

This week, report cards went home and you will have had an opportunity to come in for conferences. This is a good time to reflect on and celebrate your child's strengths and accomplishments as well as discuss goals and areas of focus for the remaining few months of this school year. Intermediate report card achievements will be recognized at an upcoming school assembly. Students who achieve Honour Roll, Principal's List or Super G will be asked to stand up for a round of applause in congratulations on their fine work.

Spring break is two weeks this year. When we return, the Heart and Stroke fundraiser will kick off officially on Thursday, April 7 with an assembly. Packages for the Jump Rope for Heart fundraiser are going home with students this week to give everyone a chance to collect donations or pledges over the break. I know that students will strive yet again to do their very best with this skipping and fundraising event as they do with the many endeavours undertaking in the school.

IMPORTANT DATES AT LORD

March 21-April 1 ~ Spring Break
Monday, April 4 ~ School Re-opens
April 7 & 14 ~ Jump Rope for Heart
Tuesday, April 12 ~ PAC Meeting
Friday, April 15 ~ Pro-D School Closed

I wish you all well over the time off and look forward to seeing everyone back at school on Monday, April 4.

Sincerely,

Sarah Gray

Vice Principal

CLASSROOM NEWS & HIGHLIGHTS

Highlights from a few of the classrooms include:

Division 1: Papier Maché , a musical, badminton team, media elements, and a technology course at Templeton. All grade 7 students have been learning for 6-8 one hour blocks at Templeton, working alongside senior students to put together a multimedia presentation. Well done!

Division 2 & 3: Pysanky eggs! Students worked with guest artists to create their own original and authentic pysanky egg, true to the form and style of this traditional Ukrainian art form.

Division 4: Measurement comes to life! Students have been learning to make realistic estimates of lengths and check for accuracy with a meter stick and then compare the two values. They have also investigated the relationship between different tools that are not typically used for measuring. For example, did you know that it would take 120 million paper clips, end to end, to stretch across Canada?!?

Division 6: The little ones have been learning Yoga. Each student helped to demonstrate a few of the poses they have been practicing at our recent school assembly; Shark, Dog, Table and Doll. Yoga is a great way to be active yet it is also a strategy to learn how to be calm.

Please note: News from Divisions 5 & 7 will appear in a future edition of the Lord Newsletter.

REPORT CARD AWARDS CRITERIA

Congratulations to all students on another great term. Intermediate students will be recognized at an upcoming assembly for the following achievements:

Principal's List: an A in all core subjects (LA, Math, Science, Social Studies) and A or B in all other subjects.

Honour Roll: All letter grades of A or B with up to one C+ in a non core subject.

Super G: G for all work habits and behaviour marks.

SCIENCE SHOW

On March 15, senior students from Templeton came with their science teacher, Mr. Hengeveld, to put on a magic science show for all of our students. The show was interactive, interesting and entertaining and sure helped to add interest in science for many of our students at Lord. The secondary students were great role models for our students. It was nice to welcome them back as some of them attended Lord a few years ago. Thank you to the senior science team and to Mr. Hengeveld!

BOOK FAIR ~ A BIG SUCCESS!

This week, the book fair has been in the library, thanks to Kelly Robinson and her team of helpers. On the very first day, we exceeded our school goal of \$1500 – the purchases were already beyond \$1600 by Thursday morning! That means we will get a whole bunch of new books for our school literacy collection as an incentive from Scholastic. Reading with your child everyday helps develop their reading and writing skills. Hopefully you were able to add some motivating new titles to your child's collection at home thanks to our book fair. Thanks for your support of this school event and well done everyone! Enjoy those new books over the break!

THANK YOU PAC!

In March, the PAC decided to donate \$75 to each division as part of the fundraising efforts through the hot lunches. Thank you to all of the parents involved in making that possible, especially to Sherri Reilly who has been leading the charge with the hot lunches for the second half of this school year. The time spent coordinating the food orders, cooking all of those meals and setting the place mats out for each student is very much appreciated!

LITTLE BUILDING UPDATE

On Friday, March 4, a group of Lord parents had a chance to visit the 2 alternative programs in their current locations. These two programs will be moving into the outbuilding at Lord for next school year, September 2011.

We met staff, parents and students of the alternative programs. They were all friendly, open, sincere, nice people! They were very candid and open. Here is what they had to say about school:

~ Everyone is nice, I have new friends at this school and I am happy.

~ I come to school every day.

~ This is a family for me. I love waking up and coming to school.

~ I like the breakfast. It is welcoming and I am connected to all teachers.

~ I really like it a lot. It is peaceful, calm, kind, comforting, affirmations and connections.

The students in the East Side program are positive and it was great to meet them. They are in the alternative program because in that setting, they are successful and it helps them feel more motivated, confident and connected to school and their future.

Some reflections from the Lord parents on the visit are:

~ the staff, parents and students at the alternative programs had a strong sense of community and connection similar to how our school staff, parents and students feel about Lord

~ they seem to have similar commitment, belief and spirit about education

~ the staff of the program was very interested in being as flexible as possible to accommodate concerns

~ The energy of the kids themselves, was infectious positive.....it was clear that they loved being in this program, and they commented how unusual it was that the whole group worked together with no cliques.

~ How can I get my child in this program?!?

Did you know...

~ the alternative programs will be in the out building as its own self contained program

~ secondary students will not share any of our facilities that we have in our main school building

~ recess break for our elementary students will be at a different time than the secondary students

~ the working committee of parents, staff and administration is open to hearing your suggestions and ideas to make the transition positive for all involved. Please contact the office if you want to be on the committee.