



## YENNADON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Principal: Mrs. L. Lawrance Vice-Principal: Mrs. J. Walker

Website: <https://elementary.sd42.ca/yennadon>

Newsletter #7

March 31, 2020

### **Principal's Message**

*On behalf of the staff at Yennadon, we would like to thank you for your flexibility and patience during these unique times. As you know, in class learning is temporarily suspended across the province. Our staff are busy making plans and working collaboratively to support learning in a very different context. Our first priority is the health and well-being of our staff and students.*

*Beginning next week, staff will provide learning opportunities that students can complete from home. We understand that these are stressful times for everyone. We will ensure that the work provided allows for learning to occur without placing additional stress on families.*

*These are challenging times, though we are committed as a staff to support your children in their learning. We are very proud of the kind and generous community at Yennadon and will be doing what we can to support all of our families as we move through these times together.*

*As we begin this new reality in teaching and learning, the staff are focusing on care, compassion, community, communication, and connection. We plan to take things slow and steady, while providing meaningful and manageable learning opportunities. We've got this!*

*Take care and stay safe!*

*Sincerely,*

*Mrs. L. Lawrance, Principal*



### **Upcoming Events**

**Please consider all upcoming field trips/performances cancelled or postponed at this time.**

Fri., Apr. 10	Good Friday
Sun., Apr. 12	Happy Easter!
Mon., Apr. 13	Easter Monday
Mon., May 18	Victoria Day

### **Staying in Touch!**

For quick reminders and updates, follow us on Twitter @YennadonSD42.



For Yennadon PAC updates follow @yennpac on Twitter @yennadonpac on Instagram and the Yennadon PAC Website at [www.yennadonpac.weebly.com](http://www.yennadonpac.weebly.com)

For up-to-date COVID-19 Information relating to School District 42 visit:

<https://www.sd42.ca/information-community-coronavirus/>





### **Moving?**

If you know you will not be attending Yennadon Elementary next year, we would appreciate it if you let us know via email at [yen\\_reception@sd42.ca](mailto:yen_reception@sd42.ca). During the next couple of months, we will be working very hard to accommodate all of the requests to transfer to Yennadon, and it is very helpful to our planning if we know who will or will not be attending next year. Thanks for your help with this request.

### **Guidelines for Transferring Schools**

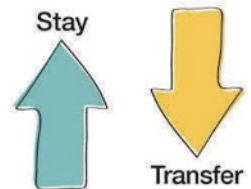
These guidelines apply to students who want to:

- Transfer to Yennadon from another school in Maple Ridge / Pitt Meadows
- Transfer out of Yennadon to another school in Maple Ridge / Pitt Meadows

Parents need to go to their current school to request a **student transfer form**. The current school will keep this form. There will be a series of three meetings to decide on transfer requests in the months of April, June, and August. Once decisions have been made at these meetings, parents will be phoned to let them know. Families who move into a school catchment need to go to that school to register. If they are hoping to attend a different school, they can indicate this on their registration form.

In general, acceptance criteria for prioritizing new registrations are:

- Students who live in catchment
- Students who live out of catchment with siblings already in the school
- Out of catchment without siblings
- Out of District with siblings
- Out of District without siblings



At **Yennadon**, we generally can **only take students who live in our catchment**. Sometimes, we can take students who live out of catchment, but who already have siblings in our school. Given how full we are, we usually do not accept students from out of catchment if they do not have siblings in our school. As always, if you have questions, please give us a call!

Please refer to the Student Transfer Guidelines for more detailed information:

[https://www.sd42.ca/assets/media/Elementary-Transfer-Guidelines-2020\\_21.pdf](https://www.sd42.ca/assets/media/Elementary-Transfer-Guidelines-2020_21.pdf)

### **Class Placement for 2020/2021**

It is not yet time for parents who would like to submit input regarding class placement – this is done in our April newsletter, and forms will be available on our school website. It is appropriate, however, to put some advance reminders in this newsletter. Here are some things to remember as we begin to think about creating our classes for next year.



Please be assured that staff devote considerable time, care and attention to this process. This very complex and lengthy responsibility occurs over several weeks and continues into September when class placements are finalized.

Throughout the year, there have been many opportunities for parents and teachers to discuss each child. Staff work together to consider the following criteria very carefully: **social emotional skills and relationships, as well as learning styles, strengths and needs**. Our goal is to create safe and engaging inclusive classrooms that balance these factors, as equitably as possible.

Finally, input must refrain from requesting specific teachers or peers by name. We will remind you in the April newsletter that these **forms are available on our website or at the Office**.

## **The Benefits of Play for Children's Intellectual Development**

Play contributes to children's learning and development in many ways. Play contributes to healthy cognitive growth, the development of imagination and creative thinking, logical reasoning and problem-solving skills, and memory.

- In dramatic play, children learn to use objects and actions symbolically, which is essential for language, literacy, and numeracy.
- Play and language both involve symbolic representation: language uses words to represent objects, actions, and situations, and in play children use language and objects to represent other things, such as a cardboard box for a tent. Socio-dramatic play fosters children's language development by nudging them to make intentional use of talk to identify and elaborate on play themes.
- Play lays a foundation for future success in writing, reading, and developing abstract scientific and mathematical concepts.



Recent research documents the many benefits of a play-based environment and it has even been shown that these benefits can create success throughout life. Of course, reading with and to your child is very important and so is counting and talking about your child's interests.

## **Online Learning Resources Available for SD42**

All of us are learning to adapt during these unusual times. Technology is able to assist us greatly in many ways with this! Staying in touch and learning! Check out these amazing FREE resources from SD42.

For **log on instructions and password information**, please refer to the newsletter sent out through the Parent Portal.

## **Novel Coronavirus FAQs**

On March 17, 2020, the Ministry of Education suspended all in-classroom instruction indefinitely to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. To provide our school communities with the latest information, the district has created a list of frequently asked questions. This list also includes the FAQs sent out by the Ministry of Education on **March 25, 2020**. The FAQs on this web page are updated regularly as the district receives additional information and clarification.

**You can browse our FAQs by category using the tabs, or search for your specific question in the designated field, or ask a new question that has not been answered yet.**

You can find all this information on the district website at: <https://www.sd42.ca/faq/>



# The Redesigned Curriculum at YENNADON ELEMENTARY

## How are teachers engaging students with Creative Thinking?

Creative Thinking is a core competency that is woven throughout our curriculum and is becoming more essential in daily life and the workplace. When students engage in creative thinking, they solve problems from a fresh or new perspective, and create solutions that are unconventional and require “thinking outside the box.” Creative thinking can be developed and improved by cultivating key techniques. Curiosity and open-mindedness are encouraged to provide the space for creative thinking to occur. New ideas and inspiration are developed through individual and collaborative brainstorming, play and periods of reflection. Although novel ideas are encouraged, they must also have value for their intended purpose. Students learn to evaluate their ideas by determining whether they support the well-being of self, community and the land.

For more information about the curriculum, visit <https://www.sd42.ca/new-curriculum/>

**Coming in April: Place-Based Learning.**



*Students in Mrs. Matthew's Grade 4/5 Class using their imagination and resourcefulness to recreate scenes from Louis Sachar's novel "Holes".*



**Core Competencies: What are they and why are they in the new curriculum?** The new curriculum centres around the following three core competency areas: **communication**, **personal and social**, **thinking**. They are sets of intellectual, personal, and social and emotional proficiencies that all students need to develop in order to engage in deep learning and life-long learning. Competencies are evident in every area of learning and in every grade and come into play when students become actively engaged in their learning. During the school year, students will have an opportunity to self-assess their proficiencies in these core competencies.