

YENNADON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Telephone: 604-463-8871 Fax: 604-463-0228 Principal: Mrs. L. Lawrance Vice-Principal: Mrs. J. Walker

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

Newsletter #8 April 29, 2021

Principal's Message

It is hard to believe that we only have two months left in the school year. It turns out 2021 is feeling a lot like 2020 in terms of the obstacles it presents to keeping schools open and classes running. A lot of the difficulties surround meeting the COVID Protocols, which drastically limit the flexibility of schools to adapt to changes that would normally be easily overcome, and daily challenges with staffing levels. Given these constraints, I am genuinely impressed with how well our school and community are working as a team to pull through this year together. I recognize very well that given all the problems, services for many students are inconsistent and there is a lot of reliance on alternate plans. I genuinely appreciate the understanding and patience that our parent community has shown with the shortcomings this year has entailed. I think we have all tried hard this year to picture ourselves in each other's shoes, and so for that I am thankful.

At Yennadon, we have a hard working, dedicated staff and parent group who not only work in classrooms to support student learning, but also put a lot of effort into extra activities for our students. Our students are very fortunate to be in a vibrant and active learning environment and we thank each and every one of you who give that 'little extra' to make Yennadon an exciting place to learn!

Mrs. L. Lawrance, Principal



Upcoming Events

May 1 – June 29 Walk & Wheel Every Day! Sun., May 9 Happy Mother's Day!

Wed., May 5 9:00 am Assembly – in school Zoom (Theme: Celebrate and Appreciate)

Thurs., May 6 7:00 pm PAC Meeting (via Zoom)

Wed., May 12 District Non-Instructional Day – No School for Students

Mon., May 24 Victoria Day Holiday - No School

Wed., May 26 7:00 pm Grade 7 Virtual High School Orientation (via Zoom)

Fri., May 28 Class Placement Parent Input DUE (forms available on school website)



Yennadon Elementary is on Twitter!

For quick reminders and updates, follow us on Twitter @YennadonSD42. For up-to-date COVID-19 Information relating to School District 42 visit: https://www.sd42.ca/coronavirus-district-response/

School Safety Reminders

For safety reasons skateboards, scooters, and bicycles must be walked on school property during the busy 8:00 am to 3:00 pm period on school days. Students who choose to ride their bike to school are strongly advised to bring a lock and properly secure their bike to the rack.





Moving?

If you know you will <u>not be attending</u> Yennadon Elementary next year, we would appreciate it if you let us know via email at <u>yen reception@sd42.ca</u>. 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-2021 22-web.pdf





Healthy Habits for Kids

Healthy habits, including healthy eating, regular physical activity and being smoke free begin at home and continue throughout life. At a young age, children learn to make decisions and begin to make more choices of their own. They are developing habits and attitudes they may carry with them for the rest of their lives. Peer pressure influences children and youth of all ages and is particularly strong in the early teen years.

In the meantime, you, as a parent, play an important role in helping your children stay healthy. You may want to:

- Encourage your children to eat three well-balanced meals by selecting food outlined in Canada's Food Guide, ample vegetables and fruit is particularly important
- Offer them water and lower-fat milk (1% or 2%) instead of pop and other sugary drinks
- > Serve healthier options like fresh fruit, veggie sticks and low-fat yogurt for after school snacks
- Encourage free outdoor play and limit their screen time
- Make both your indoor and outdoor family activities free from secondhand smoke
- Encourage your children to choose activities they love any activity dancing, basketball, hockey, soccer, swimming or rollerblading
- Schedule active family outings like hiking, swimming or biking

Set a good example yourself by eating healthfully and being physically active on a regular basis and by being smoke free.

Eat Well... Be Active... Live Tobacco Free!



Class Composition for 2021/2022

We are beginning to create 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.

If you feel there is further information to consider about your child, you may submit input to the principal in writing using the form on the school website or by sending an email to lisa_lawrance@sd42.ca by May 28, 2021. Please refrain from requesting specific teachers or peers by name.



Warmer Weather Attire and Safe Shoes

As the warmer weather becomes more the norm (hopefully), our thoughts are starting to turn to Spring and Summer clothing. Please remember our dress code, in which we ask students to wear appropriate clothing to school.

Students are expected to dress in a manner appropriate for an elementary school. The school district is committed to providing students with learning environments that are safe, responsive, and inclusive. The district recognizes that decisions about dress reflect individual expression of identity, socio-cultural norms, and that they are personal.

Students may attend school and school-related functions in dress of their choice provided that their choices:

- Conform with established health and safety requirements for the intended activity;
- Do not represent or promote weapons, gang culture, and controlled substances including but not limited to drugs, alcohol or tobacco;
- Use respectful language;
- Do not depict or promote violence, racism, sexism or discrimination; and
- Are not intimidating to others.

Staff may use their discretion if they believe an article of clothing is not appropriate for an elementary school. Ultimately, the school administration has the responsibility to apply the dress guidelines when necessary. If any person dresses in an inappropriate manner, the student should be advised personally and discretely and given an opportunity to meet school district guidelines.

Family Education Centre

The Family Education & Support Centre has been supporting families in our community for over 40 years. Please visit their website at www.familyed.bc.ca to find out more about the services they offer.





Walk and Wheel Every Day!

Yennadon school and PAC are promoting active school travel from now till the end of the school year. Some benefits for our community include fostered friendships, increased sense of belonging, and better understanding of the local area. Remember to cross smart: always cross at designated crosswalks and follow pedestrian signs and traffic signals. Plus, watch for drivers turning left or right through the crosswalk.

Active students are healthy students. We encourage you to walk, bike, scooter, and skateboard to school as often as possible. The students will get some fresh air, exercise, and a feeling of independence. If you do not live near the school, try parking just a few blocks away (5 minutes) and walk with your children. You'll free up vehicle space in the school roundabout, get some fresh air, and have a chance to hear about your child's day.

A reminder that school grounds are a 'feet only zone'. Once you arrive on our school grounds, please remember to <u>walk</u> bicycles, skateboards, and scooters, and especially stay out of vehicle parking lot areas. Many thanks to the PAC for helping kick-off our Walk and Wheel campaign by providing a week's worth of trivia questions and daily class prizes!

