



# LOCHSIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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## HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Dear Parents/Guardians:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank members of our school community for helping to make Lochside Elementary School such a great place to learn. Thank you to students for your efforts with your schoolwork and the way you are showing positive behaviour and kindness to each other on the playground. Thank you to all staff members as your positive attitude and effort to support our students are greatly appreciated. You constantly strive to modify and adjust practice to better meet the needs of all of our students. To the parents, grandparents, and community volunteers, we cannot thank you enough for your assistance. You read with children, drive on field trips and come to sporting events and give of your time to support the many LEPAC sponsored events. Without the ongoing positive support of students, staff, parents, grandparents, and community members, Lochside Elementary School would not be the success that it is today.



Respectfully,  
Joe Grewal, Principal

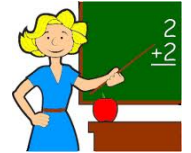
## Lochside T-Shirt Sale 2:30-3:30 pm Thurs. Dec. 19<sup>th</sup>



### HIP HOP PRESENTATION 1:15 pm Wednesday, Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>, 2013

Students at our school have been learning Hip Hop with our artist-in-residence, Shania Kelly. There will be a Hip Hop presentation on Wednesday, Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> starting at 1:15 pm. We will also have a couple of presentations by the dancers from Dansko Studios. A big thank you to LEPAC for providing the funding for our Artist-In-Residence.

### WELCOME NEW KINDERGARTEN TEACHERS



Kindergarten teachers, Helen Hawley and Rowena Keeb, are retiring at the end of December 2013. I'm pleased to announce that teachers Jennifer Nelson and Pieter Koopmans have been hired to replace the two retiring staff members. Ms Nelson graduated from the University of Victoria in 2009 with a Bachelor of Elementary Education Degree. While attending university, she also worked at a local preschool. During her time at the preschool she completed an Early Childhood Education Assistance Certificate. Since September 2009 she has been working in the Saanich School District as a Teacher On Call.

Mr. Koopmans completed a Bachelor of Education Degree at the University of Victoria with a focus on elementary education in 2007. Since graduating he has worked in the district as a Teacher On Call, Teacher-Librarian and Learning Assistance teacher at Lochside Elementary. He has been a part of the Lochside Elementary School community for two years and loves its inclusive atmosphere and dedication to learning. Mr. Koopmans is a father of three young daughters and is looking forward to working with the children in Mrs. Hawley's class.

Both teachers have been in the school during the last few weeks and getting familiar with the students in each of the classes. We are looking forward to having them in the school in the New Year.



### HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE

Thank you to LEPAC for organizing our Food Drive from December 2<sup>nd</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup>. The response from the Lochside parent community was amazing!

Thank you to Heather C., Scarlet Y. and other parents including Kelly P., Kerry W., Robyn B., Julia K. who helped with the Food Drive. Thank you to all parents who sent food items during the last few weeks. We were able to put together eight hampers for families in our local community as well as send a large quantity of food to the Mustard Seed Food Bank.

## NEW CURRICULUM DIRECTIONS



The review of K-9 draft curriculum will take place during the 2013/14 school year. The review and feedback process is intended to be broadly based to gather feedback from many individuals, schools, districts, organizations, regions, networks and groups within the education sector.

The Ministry will gather feedback through a variety of processes and this input will continue to inform the redesign process. All feedback is appreciated.

As available, draft curriculum documents will be posted online for review. For now, K-9 draft curriculum is available for Math, Science, Social Studies and English Language Arts. If you are interested please have a look at the following website. <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/>

### **DATES TO NOTE:**

Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> 10:15 am Hip Hop Dress Rehearsal for students

1:15 pm Hip Hop Performance for Parents

Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> 10:15 am Final Assembly & Sing-A-Long – Goodbye to Mrs. Hawley & Ms Keeb

12:00-2:30 Grade 4/5 Swim at Commonwealth Place

Jan. 6<sup>th</sup> School Re-Opens

Jan. 8<sup>th</sup> Maple Man – French classes

Jan. 14 - 15<sup>th</sup> Kindergarten Screening – Vision/Hearing

Jan. 15<sup>th</sup> 6:30- 8:00 pm LEPAC Meeting

Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup> 3:00 – 5:30 pm Ready Set Learn

Jan. 24<sup>th</sup> Family Literacy Day

Jan. 29<sup>th</sup> 7:00 pm K Information Evening

Feb. 3 - 7<sup>th</sup> Kindergarten Registration

Feb. 10<sup>th</sup> Family Day Holiday

Feb. 14<sup>th</sup> Valentine's Day

Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> Non-Instructional Day

Feb. 26<sup>th</sup> Pink Shirt Anti-Bullying

Feb. 27<sup>th</sup> 1:48 pm Early Dismissal

Mar. 10 - 21<sup>st</sup> Spring Break

## KINDERGARTEN INFORMATION EVENING

Wednesday, January 29, 2014

7pm- 8:30pm

Sidney Elementary

2281 Henry Avenue, Sidney



- Engaging Learners through play.
- Optimal learning environments for success
- Beginning literacy, language and numeracy development
- A day in kindergarten
- Opportunities to be involved at the school.
- French Immersion option (k-12)



### **Kindergarten Registration**

February 3 to February 7, 2014 at your neighbourhood school. All children born in 2009 are eligible to begin Full Day Kindergarten.

Our Kindergarten programs offer:

- Teachers who are knowledgeable in early childhood development.
- Engaging learning opportunities through play.
- Optimal learning environments for the success of every child.
- French language instruction.
- Rich literacy and numeracy experiences.

**To register at your neighbourhood school please bring:**

- Proof of your address (resident driver's license, utility bill, etc).
- Proof of your child's age (birth certificate).
- Your child's BC Care Card.