



LOCHSIDE ELEMENTARY PARENT/GUARDIAN NEWS

Helena Takhar - Principal
Leila Sinclair-Wise – Vice Principal

September Start Up 2024

ÍY SÇÁCÉL, Hello Parents & Guardians,

Welcome back Lochside Lizards, and a big 'Welcome to Lochside' to our new families joining us this year! We hope that everyone has had a wonderful summer break, and we look forward to hearing all about your adventures next week. Below you will find a few details that you will need to know for our first week back to school:

Tuesday, September 03 :

Thank you to LEPAC, who will be set up with coffee/tea & treats at the front of the school to welcome families back to school - what a great way to reconnect with our wonderful community!

- Students in Grade 1 - 5 attend from 8:40am - 10:30am
- Students should return to their old classroom line-up - they will be spending the morning with their last year's teacher and peers
- NEW STUDENTS - meet Mrs. Takhar (Principal) & Mrs. Sinclair-Wise (Vice Principal) at the flagpole located at the front of the school - as per the welcome email you received - students will be connected to a classroom
- Students **DO NOT** need to bring their school supplies or indoor shoes
- Students **NEED** to bring a nut-free snack and water bottle
- Bus Students - information below
- Please ensure you have discussed a meeting spot with your child for dismissal time
- New students will be brought to the flagpole at dismissal to meet their families

Wednesday, Sept 04:

- Students attend a full day of school (8:40-2:48pm)
- Same as Tuesday, meet your last year's teacher at last year's line up spot
- Students will spend the day with their last year's class
- Students DO NOT need school supplies and indoor shoes until Friday
- Students will NEED a snack, lunch and water bottle - as we do have some new students joining us, please ensure that all food items are nut-free
- New Kindergarten Students will start their Gradual Entry schedule today - please refer to the newsletter that was emailed to you with details regarding Groups and Times.

There will be more information coming next week which will focus on transitions into our new class, but for now we wanted to let you know what the first few days will look like at Lochside Elementary. Please continue to scroll down for more calendar information and other important updates.

Friendly reminder to please let the school office know if your child is not returning to Lochside this school year, or if there are any medical changes for your child. We wish you all a safe and fun-filled long weekend!

With gratitude, HÍSWKE,
Helena & Leila

CALENDAR

Please Note: This calendar is in process - there will be updates going forward

Please continue to check the [school website](#) for updates.

SEPTEMBER

17- Individual Photos
19- LEPAC Welcome Back BBQ/Meet the Teacher
20- Terry Fox Run
23: Non-Instruct. Day
30: Stat Holiday- TRC Day

OCTOBER

14: Stat Holiday
17- Great, Shake Out Earthquake Drill at 10:15 am
24- LEPAC Halloween Dance
25: Non-Instruct. Day

NOVEMBER:

5- Photo Retakes
5/6- Book Fair
5/6/7: Early Dismissal 1.48pm
11: Stat Holiday
18: Non-Instruct. Day

Information Items Below:

TRANSPORTATION UPDATE

ALL bus students will receive their new bus pass for 2024-2025 on Tuesday, September 03. These bus passes are REQUIRED, for transportation safety reasons. Students MUST scan when getting on and off the bus. The transportation department has worked very hard to place each bus card into a plastic sleeve with a lanyard to help prevent lost cards. If your child loses their bus pass there is a \$10 new card fee.

Tuesday, Sept 03:

All buses are running the normal morning pickup route.

Dismissal: Lochside students will depart at 10:30am from Lochside. Please note that if it typically took 20 min to arrive at the pickup location, you will add 20 min to 10:30am - for ex: pickup would then be 10:50am at the pickup destination

Wednesday, Sept 04 onwards bussing will be on schedule for the morning and afternoon routes.

If you have any questions or require further clarification about the new registration procedure, please email our transportation department transportation@saanichschools.ca

Parking Lot Protocol



As you know our parking lot is tight and can get very congested and full. Please take extra time and care when dropping students off and picking them up from school. Pay close attention to the Drop-Off areas and ensure that students are crossing the parking lot in a safe manner.

Please do not STOP right at the entrance to our parking lot. This causes cars and traffic to back up onto Royal Oak Drive.

Parents are reminded to not leave vehicles unattended in the Drive-Thru or Drop-Off lanes while picking up their child.

Non Instructional Days in 2023



Please mark the following **Pro D dates** on your calendar:

- Monday, September 23, 2024
- Friday, October 25, 2024
- Monday, November 18, 2024
- Friday, February 14, 2025
- Friday, April 11, 2025
- Friday, May 16, 2024