



# Larson Newsletter

At Larson School, staff and parents work together to provide a safe, challenging and supportive environment that enables and inspires students to succeed, become lifelong learners and responsible citizens.

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www.LarsonElementary.ca

At Larson We Care About - Ourselves & Others  
- Learning  
- The Environment

October 2011

Issue # 1

Welcome to the new staff members to Larson School: Mrs. Mullaly (Eng. Kindergarten), Mme Swain (F.I. Kindergarten), Mme Wong (F.I. Gr. 3/4), Mme Fortin (F.I. Gr. 2), Mme Valoise ( F.I. Gr. 4/5) Mme Russell ( F.I. Gr. 5/6), and Mr. Bowering (Eng. LAC).

Congratulations to Ms. Backie on the birth of her daughter, and we wish Mme Kirkwood all the best in her new role as a secondary school counselor.

For the 2011-2012 school year, Larson welcomed 63 Kindergarten and 40 new Gr. 1-7 students to our school. Our total student enrollment is 440 with a staff of 45 providing support collaboratively in various roles. We are also very fortunate to have a very active and supportive group of parents contributing and working cooperatively with the school. Please visit our school website for the listing of class organization for this school year.

Thank you to everyone for participating in this year's Terry Fox Walk/Run event. At our Terry Fox assembly last week, we presented Larson community's contribution to the Cancer Research Foundation in the amount of \$ 600 to our guest speaker, Fred Fox (brother of Terry).

On Thursday, October 20, our school will be participating in the Great British Columbia ShakeOut (province-wide earthquake drill) as part of our Emergency Preparedness Plan. Each year, our students are taught safety procedures in the event of a fire and/or earthquake, and school-wide mandatory drills are practiced throughout the school year. Please have a discussion with your child as to your family's "emergency" plans.

At the Fire Prevention Week Assembly for students in Kindergarten to Grade 3, the firefights reviewed many fire safety rules, in particular, the dangers associated with fire works on Hallowe'en. All students from Kindergarten to Grade 7 were given a Fire Safety brochure to be shared with their families.

Parents are strongly encouraged to **walk** their children to and from school whenever possible, to reduce the dangerous congestion on the streets around our school. Please be reminded to follow the directions of our student safety patrollers and to use the crosswalk in a safe manner.

Members of the Vancouver Giants (hockey team) will be visiting Larson school next week to present a "Read to Succeed" challenge to our students. Students who complete a two-week challenge of: reading for 15 minutes or more outside of school hours and being physically active for at least 30 minutes each day will be given a "Free" ticket to one of the Vancouver Giant's games. After the presentation of the challenge, students will be given a passport to record their reading and physical activities and parents will be responsible for initiating the passport each night. More information will come home with your child.

**Reminder: Provincial Professional Development Day – Friday, October 21, 2011. Students do not attend.**

We invite you to regularly visit our school website: [www.larsonelementary.ca](http://www.larsonelementary.ca) for planned activities and events in Larson School's calendar, and for updated information from both the school and the North Vancouver School District.

Please contact the school if you have questions or concerns as we continue to strive for a safe and caring environment for all students, younger siblings, parents, and staff. We look forward to a great year with the participation of everyone in our school community.

## Head Lice Alert

The school has been notified of a number of cases of head lice. Please check you child's hair and scalp carefully.

**Step 1:** Read the following information about head lice.

**Step 2:** Find a comfortable well-lit area.

**Step 3:** Wash hair. Apply conditioner and leave in (do not rinse). Use a fine toothed lice comb to check the hair. Check the hair from the scalp to the end of the hair strand. First look at the hair at the back of the neck, behind the ears and above the forehead. Then, check the rest of the head.

You are looking for live lice. Adult lice are difficult to see as they move quickly. They are the size of a sesame seed and are tan, brown or gray.



**Step 4:**

If you find a louse, **check all household members**. Treat only those who have head lice by using Head Lice Shampoo or Wet Combing. (see step 3).

If you do not find lice, it does not mean that your child does not have lice or that he/she will not get it. Check again in a few days.

**Step 5:**

Let the school know if your child has head lice.

To find head lice early, it is a good idea to check your child/children regularly for head lice.

For further information, please contact the public health nurse at your local health office/center.

## Basketball

The basketball season is starting and the school is looking for coaches for the boys' teams. If you are able to volunteer please

contact Mr.  
Haywood at  
604-903-3570



## Larson After School Program

The Larson After School Program is led by North Vancouver Recreation Commission staff and will be offered to grade 6 and 7 students on Thursdays. The first term will begin on Thursday, October 7<sup>th</sup> until Thursday, December 16<sup>th</sup>. Cost is \$40.00 per student for the ten weeks. Registration information will be coming soon.

## SEPTEMBER 2010

### Reminder to families with a child who has a life threatening allergy:

- Inform the school of your child's allergies, and have your doctor fill out the ANAPHYLACTIC STUDENT EMERGENCY PROCEDURE PLAN form (available at the school office).
- Persons diagnosed with a life threatening allergy are advised to carry an epinephrine auto-injector at all times and wear medical identification, such as a MedicAlert® Bracelet ([www.medicalert.ca](http://www.medicalert.ca))
- Provide the school with an up to date auto-injector (Epipen or Twinject) –  
**Please note:** School staff are only able to administer the 1<sup>st</sup> dose of the Twinject. It is important to check the expiry date on all auto injectors.
- Teach your child.....
  - \*To recognize the signs and symptoms of anaphylaxis and how to seek help
  - \* Where his/her Epipen/Twinject is located, and (if age appropriate) how to use it
  - \*To take their auto-injector on all field trips
  - \*To not share snacks, lunches, or drinks.

**Medical conditions:** If your child has a serious allergy or medical condition such as diabetes, epilepsy, severe asthma, blood-clotting disorders, or serious heart conditions it is important to complete the necessary forms at the school.

### Websites:

[www.epipen.ca](http://www.epipen.ca) Epipen has a free reminder service to help parents keep track of the expiry date  
[www.anaphylaxis.org](http://www.anaphylaxis.org) Anaphylaxis Canada  
[www.allergysafecommunities.ca](http://www.allergysafecommunities.ca) Canadian Society of Allergy and Clinical Immunology

**For more information please contact your Public Health Nurse Maria Gul at 604-983-6700**

Community and Family Program  
241 – 2121 Marine Drive  
West Vancouver, BC V7V 4Y2

## Newsletters on the Website

Visit our Larson Website at: [www.larsonelementary.ca](http://www.larsonelementary.ca) to see **past, current, and future** school newsletters. In an effort to cut down on paper use, we post our newsletters to the website. If you do not have internet access or would prefer to have newsletters sent home, let the office know and we will send a paper copy via your child. Extra hard copies are available near the front door. Newsletters are posted by the end of the second week of each month.

## Reminder

Please be advised that there is **no supervision before or after school**. Students are encouraged to arrive at school at 8:40 a.m. and to go home after school, unless supervised by their parents/guardians/care-givers.

## Lunch at School

Students may go home for lunch if an adult is there and expects them. Students who bring lunch to school must remain at school for the lunch hour. Only students with written permission from their parents may leave the school grounds during the lunch hour. This is a very important safety issue, as the school needs to know where students are at all times.

Students eat their lunch in the classrooms. The bell to go outside rings at 12:15 pm. Students not finished eating can remain in their class until 12:25 pm when all students are to go outside for some exercise and fresh air. Eating lunch at school is a privilege. Students are expected to follow the Code of Conduct and Lunch Hour Expectations which are posted in the classrooms. Students unable to follow the Code of Conduct may forfeit the privilege of eating lunch at school.

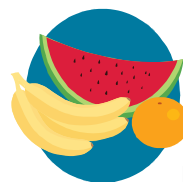
## Absent or Late

**The Call Back Number is 604-903-3572**

If your child is going to be late or absent please phone the Call Back Number at 604-903-3572 available 24 hours. The school will contact you if we do not hear from you. Children need to come to the office and sign in when they arrive at school after 8:55 a.m. or 12:55 p.m. When taking your child from the school during the day please sign them out/in at the office when they leave/return.

## Textbooks

Over the last few years, the school has purchased new library books and textbooks for Math, Social Studies and Science in both French and English at a variety of grade levels. Students are expected to look after all textbooks and to return the assigned texts in good condition at the end of the school year. A replacement fee will be charged for lost library and text books. We thank parents for helping to reinforce the respectful use of all books, supplies, and equipment.



## **B.C. School Fruit and Vegetable Nutritional Program**

Did you know that our school is participating in the B.C. School Fruit and Vegetable Nutritional Program? Students will receive a free snack. This snack is not meant to replace food normally consumed at recess or lunch. The goal is to increase fruit and vegetable consumption. Fruits and vegetables contain vitamins, minerals, phytochemicals, antioxidants and fibre that promote health and prevent disease. Studies show that Canadians in general are not eating enough fruits and vegetables.

## Curriculum Meetings

During September teachers will be holding **curriculum meetings**. The purpose of these meetings is for teachers to provide an overview of their curriculum program for the year, discuss their expectations concerning behaviours, their homework policy, class rules, agenda use and any other information pertinent to their program. This meeting is designed as an information night for the parents. Should you wish to discuss your child with his/her teacher please arrange with the teacher for another mutually convenient time and date.

### Divisions for 2010-2011

Division	<i>English</i>	
	Grade	Teacher
E01	6/7	J. Lanzi/J. Crowe
E02	6/7	J. Haywood/ J. Lonergan
E03	4/5	W. Nipp
E04	4	B. Miller
E05	3	T. McMordie
E06	2	L. Deminger
E07	1	P. Fong
E08	K	J. Backie

### *French*

F01	6/7	S. Fulton
F02	5/6	S. Kirkwood
F03	4	C. Trenzak
F04	3	P.Vezina/N.Dionne
F05	2/3	C. Hernandez
F06	2	J. Merovitz/ N. Dionne
F07	1	N. Shandro
F08	1	K. Brett/N.Dixon
F09	K. A.M.	A. Lalonde
F10	K. P.M.	A. Lalonde

## School District Volunteer and Volunteer Driver Policy

The School District works closely with the Schools Protection Program in ensuring the safety of our students within the school as well as when the students are away on field trips. The school district has recently revised the requirements for volunteers in the school and volunteer drivers.

All volunteers in the school must complete a **Volunteer's Form**, available from the school office.

In addition to a completed volunteer form, volunteer drivers for school events/field trips must bring in proof of insurance coverage and provide a transcript of their driving record every three years.

A copy of your B.C. driving record can be obtained from a driver licensing office (free of charge once every three years) either in person or by phone 604-661-2255 to be mailed or faxed to you or to the school office at 604-903-3571.

The following is required by the Driver Licensing Office:

- Your B.C. driver's license number, or
- One piece of primary identification and a second piece of either primary or secondary ID

### Important Dates to Remember

September 23 – PALS BBQ  
5:00-7:30p.m.

September 24 – Terry Fox Walk  
1:15p.m.

September 27-28 - Family Photo  
Nights

# September

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
			1	2	3	4
5	6 Labour Day	7 School Opens 10:00a.m Dismissal	8 Old Class all day	9 9:15a.m. New Class	10 Assembly 1:15p.m.	11
12	13	14	15	16	17 Return all forms to the office	18
19	20	21	22	23 PALS BBQ 5:00 – 7:00p.m.	24 Terry Fox Walk 1:15p.m.	25
26	27 Family Photo Night Curriculum Night Week	28 Family Photo Night	29	30		

2010

# October

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
					1 PALS Lunch Day	2
3	4 Walk to School Week Gr. 6 Hep. B Shots	5	6	7 Individual Photo Day	8	9
10	11 Thanksgiving 	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21 PALS Lunch Day	22 Province Wide Pro. D. Day	23
24	25 Grade 6 Outdoor School	26	27	28 Photo re-takes	29 Halloween Parade 1:15p.m. →	30
31						

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