



LCS
ELEMENTARY

LANGLEY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

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August 2021

Dear LCS Elementary Families,

It is our hope that your summer was filled with reconnecting with family and friends, with rest and relaxation. This is a beautiful land that we live in and we hope you've had the opportunity to explore and play in God's creation! This has been a topsy turvy summer with COVID worries, vaccines, forest fires, an impending election, and conflict in the world. We are so grateful that we can place our hope and trust in a very big God who is holding this world in His hands.

As we launch into a new school year, staff are working hard, readying themselves to welcome your children. We are eager to invite them into the awe and wonder of learning and exploring their place in God's world.

We are sure you must have many questions about the start of this school year, especially in the context of rising COVID cases. As you've likely seen in the news, the Ministry of Education has given some guidance and set some requirements for how this school year will start off. Our goal is always to keep students safe and healthy while engaging them in meaningful learning.

Included in this letter is information on:

- current COVID safety protocols
- September start up
- parking information
- nut aware information



COVID Safety Protocols

Please remember to do daily health checks of your child. If your child has symptoms of the common cold, influenza, COVID-19, or other infectious disease your child should stay home, and seek care from a health-care provider as needed.

Hand sanitizer will continue to be available in many locations throughout the school. Handwashing will always be encouraged and built into the routines of the day for all students.

Masks will be required by all staff, visitors, and students in grades four and five when indoors or on the bus. Students in kindergarten to grade three are encouraged to wear masks.

September Start up

Class lists

Class lists will be posted on the LCS website on Friday, Sept 3 at 3:00pm (*note: lists will not be posted at the school, they will only be online*). Please remember and be assured that a considerable amount of time, thought, effort and prayer has gone into making the class lists. Many factors such as balancing learning support resources, gender ratio, academic ability, learning style, previous classroom experiences and student friendships each play a significant role in class placement. Your loving encouragement and positive support will help your child if they experience uncertainty about the coming year.

Chapel

We are so excited to be able to have chapel together as a school community in the gym. As we transition into this regular practice, we will alternate primary and intermediate chapels. This reduces the number of people in the gym and we are able to invite parents to join. Classroom teachers will keep you informed as to when your child has chapel.

Bussing

If you signed up for your child to ride the school bus you should be contacted in the fourth week of August, or the first week of September. If you have not heard anything by September 3, contact the CCSTA at admin@ccsta.net or call 778-986-9011. For those who are new to the bus system, please be aware that it often takes a few days for the routes to fall into a rhythm so you may choose to make alternate arrangements for the first day or two of class.



Scheduling

The school day starts at 8:30. On Tuesday, September 7, Grade 1 - 5 students will attend for a half day, needing to be picked up at 12:30. On Wednesday, September 8, the regular schedule commences. Langley Christian School operates with a later school start for students on Friday mornings. Staff members, on the other hand, have an earlier start so that we can devote the 75 minutes before school to Professional Learning Communities that ultimately benefit our students. ***For those of you with a child entering Kindergarten, you will have received an email about the transition into the Kindergarten school year.*

8:30 (9:10 Friday)	Bell rings and classes start
10:15 - 10:30	Intermediate Recess
10:45 - 11:00	Primary Recess
12:30 - 12:45	Lunch
12:45 - 1:15	Recess
2:50	Dismissal

There is not a staggered start this school year. In order to respect the time of teachers before the school day begins, we are shifting back towards a common start time at 8:30. As we all work to make this shift, teachers will be gracious with students trickling in shortly after 8:30. We thank you for the effort it takes to develop routines with your family to bring children to school to start at 8:30.

The time before the school day starts is a busy time for our teachers as they ensure that everything is ready for the day, check in with other teachers, and make arrangements for upcoming lessons and events. Please remember that parents may enter the school by appointment only in order to manage the number of contacts in the building. We appreciate your understanding and care.

Understandably, the first week of school is a unique time in the school year. We expect that many parents will want to accompany their children to their classroom door during the first few days. We appreciate your understanding as we work together to make Langley Christian Elementary a safe and healthy community for all.

Supervision

Outside supervision begins at 8:15 am (8:55 am for late start Fridays). Students should be dropped off between 8:15 and 8:30 (8:55 and 9:10 for late start Fridays) so that classes can begin promptly. ***Please note that we are unable to provide child care before this time.*** If it is necessary for students to be dropped off before 8:15 in the

morning, these children will have to remain outside, unsupervised until supervision begins. If necessary, supervision will be provided in the covered area next to the playground for students on late start Fridays between 8:15 and 8:55 am.

Students are dismissed at 2:50 at the end of the school day. They are to exit immediately through their regular doors to the front of the school. Students need to remain at the front of the school unless they have first met with their parents/guardians at the front of the school and have been accompanied to the back of the school to be supervised by them. This means that students may only be in the field or forest if their parents are with them.

During this time of COVID-19, we ask that parents with preschool children do not use the playground as they wait to pick up their children after school. As the year progresses, we may revisit this guideline.

Students should be picked up by 3:15 pm. After school staff supervision is provided until 3:15 pm. After that point, any students whose rides have not arrived will wait by the front doors.

Please pray that God will bless our communal effort to make LCS a place where He is honoured, each person is valued, and where students are 'equipped to discover their gifts, develop Christ-like discernment, and seek their life's calling.'

We are looking forward to seeing most of you on Tuesday, September 7! Blessings on the remainder of your summer, and we hope you are able to soak up every last sunshine-y (or cloudy) day!



Lori Carpenter
Principal



Anita Wood
Assistant Principal

PARKING **LOT**



SAFETY

LCS Elementary Parking Lot Pointers

Some helpful notes:

- Recognizing that parking stalls are limited and drop lanes quickly become congested, please consider carpooling and dropping off children closer to 8:15 to spread out the traffic.
 - You may use either of the two lanes for entering off 48th Avenue and for proceeding to the pick-up and drop-off area (this will prevent traffic from backing up onto 48th Avenue).
 - Your vehicle will only be loaded/unloaded once you have merged at the end of that lane. Stopping sooner blocks cars behind you and backs up 48th Avenue.
- Please stay to the right as you proceed to pick up your children. That way, if you have already loaded your children, you may carefully pass a vehicle that is ahead of you.
 - If you pull up to the pick-up area and your children are not present to load, you will be asked to cycle around a second time so that traffic behind you can keep moving.

PLEASE DO NOT DROP OFF CHILDREN BEFORE REACHING THE DROP-OFF AREA
PLEASE DO NOT DROP OFF CHILDREN IN THE PARKING LOT

Please respect the rules and drop off children **ONLY** when you have reached the pick-up, drop-off area.

- Pull in close to the car in front of you...we need to pull cars in tightly so that we can maximize space in our parking lot
- Please do not park on 48th Avenue. We have a covenant with the township that forbids us from parking on the road.
- Consider showing up a few minutes later at the end of the school day. Showing up as late as 3:10 is acceptable and encouraged.
- Students should be dropped at school no earlier than 8:15 am (8:55 am for late start Fridays) because supervision begins at that time. Please make arrangements so that your child will be picked up by 3:20. Please call the school if you have been delayed.
- Please do not use the handicapped parking spaces for drop-off/pick-up purposes. We have many families who need these spaces.
- Please do not use your cell phone while driving in the parking lot. This behaviour has been observed many times and poses serious risk to those walking through the parking lot.

It is understandable at the beginning of a new school year that parents want to help their children adjust to the school day routine. We anticipate that a lot of you will want to accompany your children to their door. This will result in a large number of vehicles and parking will be an issue. We ask that you consider parking at the Middle High Campus or Southridge Church if possible. Other than that, please consider parking on 228th. We also ask that you use the first couple of days to acclimatize your children.

Beginning the 14th of September, Kindergarten and preschool students will be starting school. The parking spaces will be needed for those parents.

IMPORTANT Safety Information



Langley Christian Elementary School is a community where parents, students, and teachers all work together to provide a positive, happy, and safe learning environment for all. In order for all of our students to attend school safely, every classroom from Preschool – Grade 5 is designated as NUT-AWARE. We have some students at almost every grade level with very serious LIFE THREATENING NUT ALLERGIES! We are asking that you do not send any lunches or snacks that contain any type of nuts or nut oils. We recognize that this policy makes packing

your child's lunches and snacks a little more challenging; however, this is also a very concrete way of living out our vision of Christian community – caring for one another, ensuring that all can belong.

If your child has nuts in their breakfast (cereal, peanut butter etc.) it is VERY IMPORTANT that your child brushes his/her teeth thoroughly, and washes their face and hands before coming to school. For many of the children with nut allergies – nut residue from a child who has had peanut butter on their hands and then touches something that they touch afterwards is enough to cause a severe and life threatening reaction.

GOOD SNACK/LUNCH IDEAS

- *fruit
- *veggies and dip
- *meat and cheese
- *pickles
- *yogurt
- *plain or multigrain Cheerios
- *raisins/craisins
- *fruit leather/fruit snacks
- *popcorn
- *teddy grahams
- *crackers (stone wheat, Breton, Premium Plus)
- *Arrowroot cookies
- *NO-NUT Nut Butter
- *Dare cookies (the ones with the nut-free symbol)
- *Quaker granola bars (the ones with the nut-free symbol)
- *President's Choice (Superstore) brand has a number of identified nut-free snack products

FOODS TO AVOID

- *peanut butter/almond butter etc.
- *nutella type chocolate/nut spread
- *trail mix
- *anything prepared with peanut oil
- *breads that contain nuts/pine nuts
- *potato chips (if fried in nut oil)
- *granola bars with nuts

Please read labels on packaged foods before sending them to school – when in doubt please leave it at home.

THANK YOU FOR CARING THROUGH YOUR COOPERATION