



Langley Fundamental Elementary School

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Langley Fundamental Elementary website: <http://www.sd35.bc.ca/schools/lfe/default.aspx>
School District #35 (Langley) website: www.sd35.bc.ca

Principal: Mrs. Deah Paton
Vice-Principal: Mr. Neil Powell
Administrative Assistant: Mrs. Tricia Mein
P.A.C. President: Mrs. Jacqui Jack

Date: February 8, 2018

Dear Parents:

Yesterday we had an assembly to celebrate the end of our Integrity goal and to introduce our new goal of empathy. Thank you to Mrs. Reich and her students who presented stories of Olympic athletes who demonstrated integrity. We also had a presentation from Ginny Sawatzky on our sister school; the Gandidzanwa Primary School, as she just visited in October. She showed a video with the students singing and dancing in appreciation of all the help that our school has provided for them over the years. The before and after pictures of the chicken coup to a primary school are amazing. Ginny also shared that before Langley Fundamental partnered with Gandidzanwa, their passing rate was 0% and now it's 65%. It is incredible to realize the impact that we can have on children that are so far away from us.

We will be holding our annual coin drive starting today until Monday, February 19th to raise money and build a kindergarten section of the school. At present, the 57 kindergarten students are crammed into a very small space and with the money we raise from our coin drive, we hope to help expand this space into a suitable learning environment for these children. I saw how excited our children were to begin raising some money and help with this very meaningful project. Thanks again for all your support in this area.

Reminders for Parents

The church parking lot is for parents with children in Kindergarten and Grade 1. **Please remember to back into the parking stalls for student safety and always hold your child's hand when walking through this lot.** Please do not use it as a drive through and pick up spot to meet children as this can be very dangerous for students.

Learning Commons News

Congratulations to Kieana Mitchell, Darya Landsfried, Nita Su, and Ethan Koehn for qualifying for the Langley Book Of The Year Celebration lunch in May.

Reading Is Groovy! – Please return January home reading calendars by Tuesday, February 9th. Returned calendars will be entered in the monthly prize draws that will be taking place next week.

Reading Link Challenge – Students received a practise set of questions last Friday, and an important notice will be coming home this Friday with the dates of the challenge. Our In-school challenge is on Monday, April 9th from 1:40 – 2:40pm in our gym. Parents are encouraged to attend and cheer on our teams. The team that places first will advance to the Langley Challenge on Wednesday, April 18th from 1 – 2pm at Gordon Greenwood Elementary.

Langley Picture Book Of The Year – We are in the process of reading 10 outstanding picture books during our library classes. We started in January, and this program will take us to spring break. Students will be voting for their favorite book after they have heard all 10 books read aloud. We will announce the winning book after spring break. You might be try asking your child which book they have enjoyed the most so far. This is a great opportunity to talk about books with your child!

Upcoming Events

Monday, February 12	Family Day - school not in session
Wednesday, February 14	Valentine’s Day. Dress in red/pink spirit day
Friday, February 16	Hot Lunch
Friday, February 23	Pro-d. School not in session
Monday, February 26	Report card prep.Students dismissed at 11:25am
Friday, March 2	Spirit Day - crazy hat
Friday, March 9	Second term report cards
Wednesday, March 14	Student-led conferences. Early dismissal at 1:40pm
Thursday, March 15	Student-led conferences. Early dismissal at 1:40pm

House Points

	Disney Day	Total:
Canadians	268	1848
Canucks	297	1910
Lions	326	1977
Whitecaps	312	1993

Our next spirit day is February 14th for dress red/pink day.

School Goals

Last newsletter, I included a parenting tip from Michele Borba’s novel, Building Moral Intelligences. The Seven Essential Virtues That Teach Kids to Do the Right Thing. Below are tips 4 and 5 to help support our school character goal of Integrity when you work with your child at home:

4. Ask Moral Questions to Stretch Moral Development

Home and School Working Together for Student Success

Questioning is an important parenting tool for enhancing children's consciences and strengthening moral beliefs. The right kind of questions can help kids expand their ability to take another perspective and ask themselves: "Is this the right thing to do?" Both are critical precursors to taking any moral stand.

Here are a few questions parents can ask that stretch your kid's moral thinking:

"How would you feel if someone treated you that way?" "If you don't follow through on your word, what do you think would happen?" "If everybody acted that way (i.e. cheated, shoplifted) what would happen?"

5. Boost Empathy

Kids who stick up for others are kids who feel for others. Empathy is what motivates that feeling, halts cruel behavior and urges kids to take a stand.

Here are two powerful ways to nurture empathy:

Ask: How would you feel? Ask kids to ponder how another person feels using situations in books, TV, and movies as well as real life. It forces them to think about other peoples' concerns.

Use role playing. It helps kids imagine others' feelings so ask your child to think how the other person would feel if roles were reversed. "Switch sides: what would the other person say and do?" Young kids can use puppets or toy figures to act out the problem from both sides.

Mrs. Paton