

S E P T E M B E R 2 0 1 6

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Ladysmith Intermediate News

Ladysmith Intermediate School District 68
317 French Street, Box 849, Ladysmith, British Columbia, V9G 1A6
Phone: 250-245-3351 Fax: 250-245-3117



LIS School Hours

8:35 am
Welcome Bell

8:40 am
Start of Classes

10:15 am – 10:30 am
Recess

11:45 am – 12:25 pm
Lunch

12:25 pm – 1:37 pm
Instructional time (Mondays)

12:25 pm – 2:37 pm
Instructional time
(Tuesdays-Fridays)

Principal's Message

Dear Parents,

Welcome to all of our returning students, parents, new students, and our lovely grade 4 students. Ladysmith Intermediate School staff is proud to be a caring community of learners, and I see that caring, nurturing quality in each and every staff member. I believe that you and your children will also see it in the teachers' eyes and in their approach to your child. We are here for you and for your child, and we will do everything possible to help your child have the best possible year of learning and growth.

This year we would like to welcome some new faces to our LIS family! Sandra McCulloch- Student Services teacher, Moira Dolen- Grade 6/7 teacher, Linnaea Wiseman- Librarian, Nika Silickas- Counsellor, Lisa Dymond- SLP, and Tracy Copp- EA. We are excited to have such an enthusiastic, knowledgeable group of new and returning teachers for our students.

We work best together as a team (child, family, and teacher) so communication will be very important to us. Teachers will be in constant contact with parents, and if you have any questions or concerns or just want to talk, you can reach me at the school (250-245-3351), or come and join us any time.

Sincerely, Colette Young, Principal

Coming Soon



Save the Date!

[September 22]
PAC Meeting 6:30pm

[September 23]
Grade 6 Immunizations

[September 23]
Terry Fox Run /
Jersey Day

[September 29/30]
Pro-D Day- No School

[October 6]
Meet the Teacher Open
House 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Student Drop Off/ Pick Up

In an effort to make the Student Drop Off / Pick Up area as orderly and safe as possible, the following rules must be followed:

1. Give yourself lots of time to Pick-Up and Drop-Off your children safely
2. Obey all road rules, speed limits and signage
3. Pull as far forward as possible in the marked Student Drop Off / Pick Up area
4. DO NOT exit your vehicle while in the Student Drop Off / Pick Up area
5. Be sure to have your child exit / enter the vehicle from the curb side
6. If using the school parking lot, cross at the marked walkways only
7. Be sure to cross the roadways at the stop sign
8. CHILDREN ARE NOT TO CROSS IN FRONT OF CARS WAITING IN THE STUDENT DROP OFF / PICK UP AREA
9. Park in designated areas only (**on 4th as the bus uses French Street**)
10. Use courtesy to pedestrians and other parents
11. Stay calm and be patient
12. Please follow safety instructions from SD 68 personnel

Be Prepared & Organized

School is all about preparing children for life. As adults we wouldn't show up to work without the tools and equipment needed to do our job well. The same is true for children. School supplies are often in abundance during the first couple of weeks of school. However, children need their supplies organized and readily available all year long. Set up a plan to have essential supplies at home and at school. Also, check with your child's teacher regarding their expectations for classroom readiness.

Get Involved

There are many different ways to be involved with your child's education. Ask any teacher and they will tell you that those children whose parents show interest in what their child is doing at school perform better. If time constraints prohibit you from being a regular classroom helper, look for other ways to get involved. Come out to our PAC meetings, coach a team, or even set aside 15 to 20 minutes each night to review with your child what he or she did that day. What we focus on expands. Children have a keen sense of what we value as parents and respond accordingly. Have a great school year!

Get to Know Your Child's Teacher

Good communication between you and your child's teacher may very well be the most important ingredient to ensuring that your child has a successful year in school. Be sure to attend "meet the teacher night" on October 6th to establish rapport with your child's teacher. If you can't make it that night, arrange another time to introduce yourself. Remember, no one knows your child as well as you do and your insights will be greatly appreciated by your child's teacher and will go a long way to aid in a successful school year. If your child's teacher actively uses home-to-school planners for communication, be sure to use it regularly!

Set Goals!

We all know about the power of goal setting. This is a great time of year for parents to teach their children how to set goals and reap the benefits of goals achieved. I recommend setting goals in only 2 or 3 key areas. Perhaps areas that have been a challenge in the past (getting to school on time, completing homework daily). Make the goals specific and measurable. It is sometimes helpful to have a reward in place for the successful attainment of goals every month or even every week. Goals achieved deserve to be rewarded.

Student Information Forms

Information forms and other important forms will be sent home this week. Please complete and have your child return them to their teacher as soon as possible. It is important that we receive all contact information quickly in case of emergencies. Thank you for your cooperation.



Lice Notification

Parent/student – Please notify your child's school of suspected or confirmed infestations and follow the instructions for treatment in the school's educational package and on the SD 68 website http://www.sd68.bc.ca/parents/parents_intro.html.

Meet the Teacher

Our "Meet the Teacher" evening will be held on **Thursday, October 6th**. The event will begin with a school wide assembly in the gym at 5:00pm to formally introduce our teachers. Classrooms will open at 5:00pm until 6:00pm. We look forward to seeing you.

Terry Fox Run

Our annual Terry Fox run will be held on **Friday, September 23rd at 10:15 am**. Everyone is welcome to join us for the run! All pledge money raised goes directly to the Terry Fox foundation. Parent volunteers are needed.

Nut Awareness

Peanuts, peanut butter, almonds, and products that contain nuts can be harmful to children with allergies. Teachers educate students in classrooms about this issue. Adults and students using such products are responsible for washing their hands, desks, and equipment in order to minimize the risk of allergic reaction. Our "Nut/Allergy Aware" policy offers no absolute guarantee but is a practical step to keep students safe. However, we do have children in our school with severe allergies, so please pack nut free lunches and snacks.

Scent Free School

LIS works together to ensure that all students and staff are safe at our school. We have a few staff members who are severely allergic to scents. Please refrain from wearing scented perfume, cologne, creams, soaps etc.. Thank you for keeping everyone healthy and safe.

Extra-curricular and Intramural Sports

There are many exciting activities starting this month for students at all grade levels. Thank you to the many staff for their collaborative efforts in sponsoring and organizing these important opportunities. Permission forms for participation in specific clubs will be sent home in the days and weeks ahead.

Professional Learning Communities

This year teachers and educational assistants at LIS are continuing to better support student learning at our school. Throughout the year, teachers and EAs will meet as collaborative teams to share best practices and identify ways to improve academic achievement for your children. These meetings will take place Monday afternoons. This continues to be a great example of the commitment of all our staff to help students succeed at LIS.

Student Planners

This week your child will receive a student planner. In addition to being an excellent tool to enhance home and school communication, these planners contain important information regarding expectations for behaviour, work habits, and dress at LIS. Please take some time to review these expectations with your child. The cost of each planner is \$5. Thank you to the PAC who will be covering the remainder of the cost of the planners.



Emergency Preparedness

SD 68 is committed to promoting Safe Schools for all students and staff. Part of that commitment is ensuring staff and students are trained and prepared to respond to any threat, minor or serious, to our school population. To this end SD 68 staff and students periodically conduct 'practice drills' to simulate effective responses to potential safety threats. These drills are similar to our fire and earthquake drills with an added focus on staying safe within the school building.

Should you arrive at your child's school during such a practice, please follow instructions that will be posted at the entrance to the school.

Also, **if you are visiting the school, please use the front door only and sign in at the office.** Children's safety is our first priority.

Please refer to the Emergency one pager for parents and visitors.

Parent Volunteers/Drivers

We welcome all parents to share in their child's education through volunteering and driving for sports or field trips. District policy requires volunteers to have a criminal record check and all drivers must have a criminal record check as well as a driver's abstract prior to driving our children or volunteering in our classes.

Bussing and Z-pass cards for this school year

District Message: Z- passes will be used again this year for bus riders. Should a student lose or destroy their card, the cost will be \$10 to have that card replaced. Students will have 3 days grace without the card and then they will not be allowed to ride the bus, so please make sure that cards are kept in a safe place. If cards are malfunctioning, they will be replaced at no cost and they will be distributed by the drivers. Last year we had almost 200 students go through multiple cards, some as many as 8 cards during the year, and there is a substantial cost in this service.

The bus routes are all posted on the website, Students & Parents/Parent Resources/Transportation Registration and there is a link at the bottom of the box "Our Bus Fleet". This page provides information on how to register for the bus for those who have not done so yet. If you are unable to register or are having difficulty, please contact us and we would be more than happy to help.

Parent Emails

Again, please let us know your email so that PAC and LIS can email important newsletters and notices. We are trying our best to save the environment and go paperless. If you need a paper copy of newsletters, please let us know. You can also find the newsletters on our website.

<http://schoolsweb.sd68.bc.ca/lis>

We look forward to a year of learning, successes, and great experiences. ☺