



August 2024

Dear LCS Elementary Families,

Welcome back to another amazing year at LCS Elementary! We hope you had an incredible summer. I am excited to share with you that I am returning to my role as Elementary School Principal. Thank you for your prayers and care during my treatment. We are so grateful that we can place our hope and trust in a very big God; this is truly a place where we can rest and breathe in renewed life.

As September approaches, our administration, teachers, and support staff are all working hard, readying themselves to welcome and care for your children. We are committed to being a place where we equip students for generations to thrive with purpose and faith.

In order to make this vision possible, we need your support and ongoing partnership with our school procedures to ensure the safety and wellbeing of each child. Please refer to the information in this letter and stay connected with us through our website/social media for updates throughout the year. We appreciate your support with our efforts.

Included in this letter is information on:

- September start up
- Pick up, drop off, and office procedures
- Nut aware information
- Parking lot information

## September Start Up

### *Class lists*

Class lists will be posted on the LCS website on Friday, August 30 at 3:00pm. As a team, we invest a considerable amount of time, thought, effort, prayer, and discernment 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 placements. Your loving encouragement and positive support will help your child if they experience uncertainty about the coming year.

### *Chapel*

Next year, our staff is excited about a shift in our chapel schedule that will encourage more opportunities for our families to participate in our spiritual life. Chapels are a wonderful way to promote connection to our wider elementary school community. We look forward to sharing our chapel schedule, which includes times facilitated by individual classes, community & speaker-led sessions, and praise & worship. We hope this will continue to broaden the range of spiritually-formative experiences for our students and community. We are excited to encourage parents to attend our chapels on a weekly basis. Families are welcome to attend, even if their child's class is not leading. Once a month, after chapel, we will be hosting a time of connection with some coffee and cookies that families are invited to join.

### *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 2, contact the CCSTA at [admin@ccsta.net](mailto: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 classes.

### *Office Procedures \*new*

The [school day starts](#) at 8:30am and ends at 2:50pm.

Office hours are 8:00am-3:15pm.

- On Tuesday, September 3, Grade 1 - 5 students will attend for a half day and will need to be picked up at 12:00. *\*\*For those of you with a child entering Kindergarten, you will have received a separate email about the transition into the Kindergarten school year.*
- On Wednesday, September 4, the regular schedule commences.
- There is a later school start for students on Friday mornings with the day beginning at 9:10am. 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 student learning.
- Regular schedule:

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

School starts at 8:30am and we thank you for the effort it takes to develop routines with your family to bring children to school to start their class at 8:30am. All students are asked to line up



at their designated outside door. This allows for a positive transition to the start of the day for the class as a community. Students arriving late, after 8:40am, are to sign in at the office. We are required to document students that are absent or arrive late. Please use the form on the LCS website. It really helps our office staff if you can submit this form in a timely manner before 8:30 am.

### *Supervision*

Outside supervision begins at 8:15am Monday through Thursday. Fridays are a late start (9:10 am). If your child needs to be dropped off at the regular time on Fridays we do have supervision at the back of the school starting at 8:15 am. *Please note that we are unable to provide child care before this time.*

Students are dismissed at 2:50pm at the end of the school day. They are to exit through their regular doors and immediately make their way to the front of the school (i.e. no playground) where there is supervision. In order to maintain the safe flow of traffic, we ask that students would be watching and waiting for their rides. After school, students may only be behind the school if their parents/guardians are with them. Students need to be in the direct supervision and within eyesight of parents/caregivers.

Students are required to be picked up by 3:15pm as after school supervision is provided until that time. After that point, any students whose rides have not arrived will wait in the office.

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 invited into a thriving Christian learning community serving together to empower students to have impact in a changing world.

We are looking forward to the first day of school on Tuesday, September 3! 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  
Elementary School Principal

Anita Wood  
Elementary School Assistant Principal

# IMPORTANT

## Nut-Aware & 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.

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

THANK YOU FOR CARING THROUGH YOUR COOPERATION

## LCS Elementary Parking Lot Protocol

We have current limitations on our parking lot, so your cooperation with our procedures will ensure the safety and efficiency of drop off and pick up routines.

Priority for parking in the lot is given to our Kindergarten families. Except in special circumstances, we would like our families to use the drop off lane. With the support of our staff supervisors, our goal is to maintain a healthy traffic flow. Please have patience and grace for each other.

### Using the Parking Lot:

- Parking stalls are limited and drop off lanes quickly become congested, so please consider carpooling and dropping off children closer to 8:15 to spread out the traffic. The lot is generally very smooth and clear at 8:15am.
- You may use either of the two lanes for entering from 48<sup>th</sup> avenue and for proceeding to the pick-up and drop-off area (this will prevent traffic from backing up onto 48<sup>th</sup> Avenue).
- The parking lot is only one direction moving from West to East. If you are hunting for a parking spot and get to the end of the line, loop around via 48th avenue.
- Please do not drop off students in the parking lot. All students need to be accompanied across the parking lot until they've reached the crosswalk.
- Please leave the disabled parking spaces for the many families who need them for mobility concerns.
- Please do not use your cell phone while driving in the parking lot or drive-through lane. This behaviour is a serious risk to those walking through the parking lot.
- Bylaws do not allow vehicles to park on 48th avenue and will frequently drive by and distribute tickets to vehicles.

### The Drive-Through Lane

#### *Drop Off*

- Drop off children ONLY when you have reached the pick-up/drop-off area marked with yellow along the curb and pull as far forward in the lane as possible.
- Pull in close to the car in front of you as we need to pull cars in tightly so that we can maximize capacity in this lane.
- 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 48<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

#### *Pick up*

- 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 the traffic behind you can keep moving. Please remind your children to be watchful.
- In the afternoon pick up, please do not move the cones or drive past the buses. Often children are still getting organized onto buses and this is a significant safety concern.
- Consider showing up a few minutes later at the end of the school day. Showing up as late as 3:10pm is acceptable and encouraged. The drive thru and parking lot are smooth and clear usually by 3:05pm.

It is understandable at the beginning of a new school year that parents may want to help their children adjust to the school day routine. We anticipate that families will want to accompany their children to their door. This will result in a large number of vehicles and parking will be an issue.

Beginning the 9th of September, Kindergarten and preschool students will be starting school. The parking spaces will be needed for those parents.