



We respectfully acknowledge that we live, work, learn, and play on the unceded and traditional territories of the Coast Salish peoples – s̓k̓w̓x̓ wú7mesh (Squamish), sel̓il̓iwit̓ulh (Tsleil-Waututh), and xwm̓ə̀k̓w̓ay̓ əm (Musqueam) nations.

March 5, 2021

Newsletter

Tennyson Admin Team Message

Can you believe that it is already nearing mid-March? Spring is on the way, the weather is getting warmer, the days longer, and the growth and development in our students is so visible! February was a great month at Tennyson, with many activities related to Black History Month, and “Being Kind”. Our work and learning in the area of anti-racism, inclusion of diversity, and equity is ongoing; we know how important it is to make these areas a daily focus. Thank you to all of our staff for their amazing work with our students, and to our PAC (the PAC is **all** of our parents and guardians) for your tremendous support of the school and of our staff and students. As we head into spring break, we wish all of you a time of relaxation, rejuvenation and fun! While activities will look different this year than in the past, we know that we move forward together as a community. Happy Spring!



Not Returning to Tennyson for 2021/2022?

We are currently working on our student enrollment numbers for next school year. **If you know that your child currently enrolled in Kindergarten through Grade 6 will NOT be returning to Tennyson for the 2021/2022 school year, please let the office know ASAP**, via email: tennyson@vsb.bc.ca. For families with children on Option 4, a District communication explaining the September enrolment process will be issued at the beginning of April. We thank you for your assistance with this.



Principal: Douglas Roch
Vice Principal: Kateryna McNicol
Admin Assistant: Veronica D'Angelo



Director of Instruction: Richard Zerbe
Liaison Trustee: Barbara Parrott
PAC Co-Chairs: Tai Scott/Katherine Smith

Reporting Absences/Lates

A big thank you to our families for using the Safe Arrival Line – almost every family uses it every time! When you call our main phone number (604-713-5426), just press “1”, which is also prompted in the menu.



Dressing for the Weather

At Tennyson, students are outside for all recesses. It is important that students dress for the weather. This includes having jackets, water-proof gear and boots when it rains, and sun protection for sunny days. We also ask students if possible to have a pair of indoor shoes, particularly for common spaces. Wiping one’s shoes on the mat by the doors is also helpful in taking care of our school. These things help keep the floors and carpets in good shape.

Grounds Construction Update

The work on the east side of our school continues – you can see that a portion of our old playground has been dismantled as work is being done on drainage and irrigation piping for the new field! Although the old building is looking quiet, a lot of work has been done inside to prepare for demolition. We anticipate having information to share about this process and timelines very soon.



Traffic Safety Around the School – Update

The City has been working on the plan for traffic signage around the school. **The anticipated timeframe for the new signage to be put up is between March 12th and March 19th.** If this does occur during this timeframe, we will return from Spring Break to a new traffic “pattern”. Our ask is that families observe all signage, do not stop or park in any intersection or crosswalk (very dangerous!), and travel around the school clock-wise to improve flow and decrease congestion. The adult day centre across the street has asked parents to refrain from using their parking lots, as it is used to pick up and drop off adults with mobility and health needs.

Just as a reminder, here is the general signage plan (this refers only to the sides of the streets directly next to the school):

Maple St: from W 10th to W 11th, Maple will become a Pick-up/Drop-off zone
W 11th Ave: from Cypress to Maple, W 11th will become a Pick-up/Drop-off zone
Cypress St: from W 11th Ave to W 10th Ave, Cypress will remain a 2-hour parking zone
W 10th: from Maple to part-way down 10th, W10th will become a no-stopping zone (part of the bike route plan) and also a bus zone.



Parent Speaker: Friendships, Conflict, Building Resilience

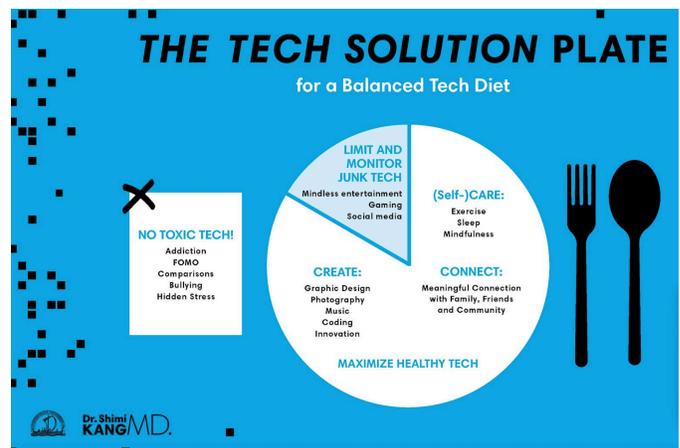
The PAC recently hosted an excellent speaker, Registered Clinical Counsellor Nicola Doughty. She spoke about children’s friendships, play, developmental stages, navigating conflict, relational issues, and building resilience (and how we all, as adults who work with children, can help them to build these skills). Here is a link to her excellent pdf document:



http://www.lordtennyson.ca/uploads/1/2/4/2/12421219/tennyson_2021_friendships_conflict_building_resilience_1.pdf

Upcoming Parent Speaker: Technology, Covid & Kids (March 9th at 7pm, online)

The Tennyson PAC is coming together with a few other PACs to host Dr Shimi Kang, MD who will deliver a presentation on navigating technology with your children. This is a recommended session for parents/guardians with children of any age. Here are some particulars:



In her live on-line presentation you will learn:

1. How technology is impacting children’s brain, body, and behavior
2. How to differentiate between healthy, stressful, & addictive tech experiences
3. How to reset children’s tech habits for a successful school year
4. Guidelines on how to maintain healthy tech habits in your school/ home during the pandemic and beyond including free downloadable reset resources.

This one hour interactive webinar will be divided into three 15 minute sections with a Q&A for each part. Dr. Kang will end with an open 15 minute Q&A conversation.

Check out more information including how to attend this presentation here: <https://trafalgarpac.ca/shimi/>

Acts of Kindness and Generosity: Street Feet Sock Drive

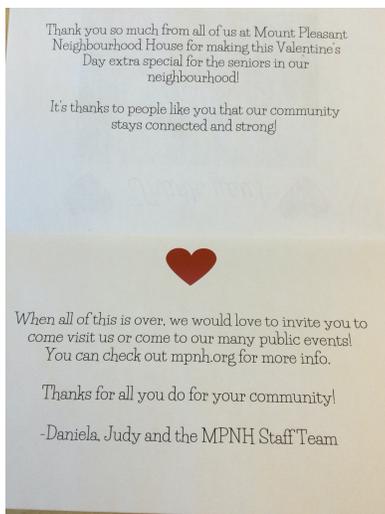
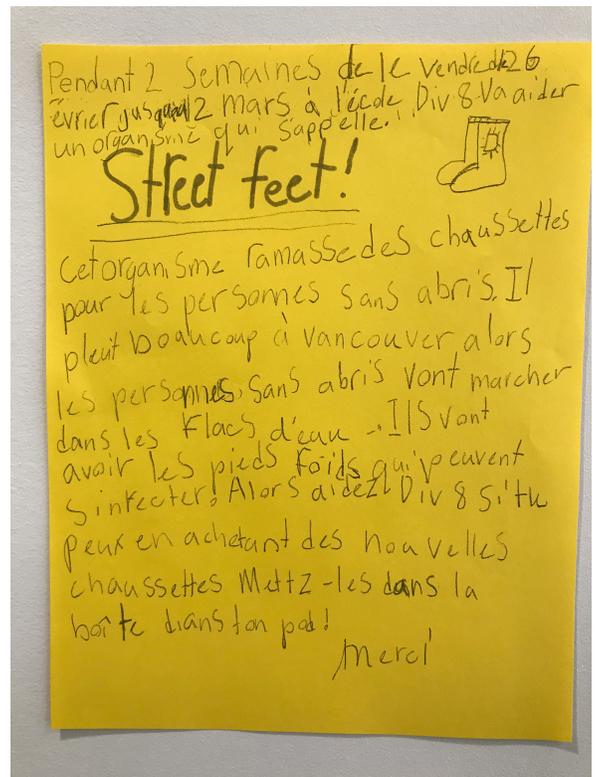
Division 8 students are hosting a Sock Drive! The mission is to collect at least 100 pairs of new socks to donate to the Street Feet Society so they can distribute them to people in need.

"Street Feet" is a term used to describe the effect of living outside in an often damp climate that causes feet to become infected, and can lead to many other health issues. Street feet is a very common phenomenon for people affected by homelessness on the west coast. The population living in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside is continually impacted by this health issue, and a simple solution to the problem would be providing access to clean, dry socks.

The class has left boxes for socks in each classroom commons. The boxes will be there until Friday March 12. The socks you donate don't have to be fancy, they just need to be new. You can grab a pair at the supermarket or local drug store if you're not out clothes shopping at the moment.

A big thank you in advance,

Division 8



Making Learning Visible: Kindness Cards for Elderly Neighbours.

Many divisions at Lord Tennyson participated in creating original, thoughtful and caring Valentine's day cards for the elderly in Vancouver. The Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House was very excited and grateful to receive so many cards to hand out for the elderly in care homes during this especially lonely and challenging time. What an amazing way to bring kindness to those in need!

Below is a photo of Division 8 students making kindness cards.



Celebrating Learning: Anti-Racism, Diversity, Inclusion

The students of Division 8 recently engaged in a project as part of Black History month where they learned about the important work of Martin Luther King Jr, and completed a visual display of dreams that promote anti-racism and inclusion. The statements they created remind us that that anti-racism is something we need to work on all of the time.



Celebrating Learning: Kindness Chains



Students in many divisions recently created Kindness Chains in conjunction with our recent Pink Shirt Day and February “Kindness Month”. Students drew pictures or incorporated words or phrases regarding acts of kindness and being kind to others. In the photo, the Kindergarten students of Divisions 17 and 18 drew pictures such as hearts to represent “being kind”. Thank you to our PAC and PAC Co-Chair Katherine for providing us with the colourful paper for the chains!

Celebrating Learning: Black History Month

Tennyson staff, students, and families engaged in many conversations during Black History month about recognizing and honouring the accomplishments of black Canadians. The 2021 theme is “the future is now”. One activity that students throughout the school engaged in was learning about the positive impact of Portia May White, a distinguished black Canadian singer/musician, and of Willie O’Rea, former Canadian professional hockey player and the first black hockey player in the NHL. Students created artwork on cut outs in the shape of musical notes and of hockey sticks which included inclusive messages. These are proudly displayed throughout the common areas of the school.





Tennyson PAC News

The next Parent Advisory Council meeting will be on February 22nd at 7pm on Zoom. All Tennyson parents/guardians are welcome!

Here is the Tennyson PAC website: www.lordtennyson.ca



IMPORTANT DATES

Please check the school and PAC websites for the ongoing addition of items and events

- March 9: Parent Presentation – Dr. Shimi Kang @ 7pm**
- March 15-26: Spring Break/District Closure**
- March 29: Welcome back!**
- April 19: PAC Meeting @ 7pm on Zoom**
- April 22: Early dismissal for all students; (Divs 9-18 @ 1:50pm; and Divs 1-8 @ 2pm)**
- April 26: District Professional Day (non-instructional day)**

