

# Newsletter



Lansdowne  
Middle  
School

1765 Lansdowne Road, Victoria, BC, V8P 1A7 Phone: 250-598-3336

June 6, 2011



## Calendar Dates

### June 7 and 8

- Jubilation in June Music Concerts; 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. in the gym

### June 11

- Eco-Action Club Car Wash 9 to 12

### June 15

- PAC Meeting 7:00 p.m. in the library

### June 13 to 17

- Grade 8 Exam Week

### June 14

- Curriculum Completion Day; Regular 8:40 to 11:40; Curriculum Completion from 11:40 to 2:50

### June 29

- Last day of classes
- Report Cards go home
- Regular dismissal at 2:50 p.m.

## Change of Date for June PAC Meeting

The June PAC meeting date is changed from June 8th to **June 15th**, to avoid conflict with the Lansdowne year-end school concerts.

## LOOKING FOR A VIDEO-GRAPHER

During our first school week of September, Lansdowne will be making a short (approximately 2 to 3 minute) school video featuring students and staff. We're looking for a Lansdowne parent (or perhaps friend of a parent) who has a **high quality digital video camera** and **experience filming while in-motion** (moving fairly rapidly around the school building). If you (or someone you know) could lend us a hand in this regard, please contact Vicki Roberts, at 250-598-3336.

## Principal's Message

As we head into June and the final month of another school year, we're already looking ahead to the 2011-12 school year. We have been further developing strategies to achieve our two overarching **School Goals – Personal & Social Responsibility and Improvement in Mathematics** – to take them to the next level. Perhaps as important as the substance of the goals themselves is the role they play as a catalyst for staff coming together to reflect on our strengths and areas for improvement as well as work together on new initiatives to further engage and support Lansdowne's students. Incorporated into both goals, we have greatly expanded our use of **digital technology** – from "book-trailers" to "blogs" – led by the enthusiasm, skill, and vision of teachers on our remarkable Network of Performance Based Schools (NPBS) team. Moreover, we know we've only "scratched the surface" in terms of the potential to utilize this powerful tool to amplify student engagement and learning. Recognizing the false dichotomy of trying to choose between a technological versus a natural focus, we are also excitedly working together on the development of a **School Garden/Outdoor Classroom**, with plans to "break ground" and begin planting this fall – an excellent opportunity to integrate curriculum with hands-on outdoor activities that teach students more about the natural world to which we belong.

As this is our final newsletter of the school year, my appreciation goes out to Lansdowne's staff for the passion and energy they have demonstrated as we lay the foundations to forge ahead in all these areas. To the parents of our grade 6's and 7's, look this Fall for more detailed information about these goals, the innovative use of digital technology to engage students in their learning, and our school garden project. For parents of our grade 8's, we wish you and your children, the very best in the final month of the 2010-11 school year, and a wonderful journey into the secondary schools. Finally, a huge THANK YOU to our Parent Advisory Council for all the dedication you've shown to making Lansdowne Middle School a wonderful community for all students. It's a pleasure to work with you, and I'm already looking forward to next year.

-Ken Andrews, Principal

## *Lansdowne Middle School* **ACTIVITIES & EVENTS**

Event/Activity	Timeframe	Staff Contact
Student Leadership	Throughout the school year, with numerous opportunities to participate	Melinda
Crafty Group	Starting again in September	Mitchel
Eco Action Club	Starting again in September	Mitchel
Backpack Club	Starting again in September	Mark & Mitchel
Project X	Ongoing throughout the school year	Mr. Bedard, Ms. Moore
Woodwork Club	At lunchtime (except Wed.)	Mr. Reid
Jazz Band—Intermediate	Mon & Wed lunch, Thurs after school	Mr. Rawson
Concert Choir	Mon after school, Fridays at lunch	Mr. Lienard-Boisjoli
Jazz Band—Advanced	Tues after school, Fridays at lunch	Mr. Rawson
Vocal Jazz	Tues after school, Thursdays at lunch	Mr. Lienard-Boisjoli
Seaquarium	Ongoing	Ms. Kilpatrick
Me to We	Mondays at lunch	Ms. Moore
Homework Club	In the Library (all students welcome), 2:50 to 3:30 Monday to Thursday	Ms. Dusseault
Youth Creating Inclusion (YCI)	Fridays at lunch in the library	Mitchel and Ms. Spies
Mountain Bike Club	May—June	Mr. Leblond

### **Textbook Deposit Returns**

Every year the school loses thousands of dollars in lost and damaged books. Unfortunately, the \$20 book deposit only covers a fraction of the costs of lost and damaged books (one textbook alone can cost \$80 to replace). So please **help us save valuable funds and teach social responsibility by insisting that your child return all his or her school books.** If your child tells you his/her book(s) has gone missing and can't be found, please help him/her look carefully for it at home and be sure it gets returned to the school. If your child is departing Lansdowne at the end of the school year and you paid an initial book deposit and all books have been returned, **your \$20 deposit will be available in cash for parental pick-up from the school office during the final week of school (June 28 to 30) and during the following school week (July 5 to 8).** Another reminder notice will be put in grade 8 students' report card envelopes. Funds from any unclaimed deposits will be greatly appreciated by the school, and used to offset the high costs we face for lost and damaged books. If you have any questions, please call Ms. Fawcett at (250) 598-3336.

# SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR 2011/12

School newsletter will be distributed the first Tuesday of each month.  
(Except for second Tuesday in January)

## SEPTEMBER

- Tues., 6 - School Opens (9:30 am-11:30 am)
- Wed., 7 - BC Transit Youth Pass Photos at lunch
- Fri., 9 - Pancake Breakfast (\$3.00 per person)
- Wed., 14 - PAC Meeting (Library 7:00 pm)
- Mon., 19 - *Professional Development Day (No classes)*
- Wed., 21 - Student Photo Day
- Wed., 21 - Meet the Teacher & Community Picnic  
(5:30 pm-7:30 pm)
- Wed., 28 - Terry Fox Run

## OCTOBER

- 3rd to 7th - Walk/Bike to School Week
- Mon., 10 - Thanksgiving Day Holiday (No school)
- Wed., 12 - PAC Meeting (Library 7:00 pm)
- Fri., 21 - *Professional Development Day (No classes)*
- Tues., 25 - Parent/Teacher Meetings, 2:30 to 7:00 pm  
(Dismissal at 1:50 pm)
- Wed., 26 - Parent/Teacher Meetings, 2:30 to 6:00 pm  
(Dismissal at 1:50 pm)
- Fri., 28 - Student Photo Retakes

## NOVEMBER

- Wed., 9 - PAC Meeting (Library 7:00 pm)
- Thur., 11 - Remembrance Day (No school)
- Mon., 21 - *Professional Development Day (No classes)*
- Thurs., 24 - Regular 8:40 to 11:40,  
Curricular Completion 11:40 to 2:50

## DECEMBER

- Wed., 7 - PAC meeting (Library 7:00 pm)
- Fri., 9 - Report Cards home
- 13th & 14th - Winter Celebration of Music 9 am & 7 pm
- Fri., 16 - School-wide Winter Spirit Day
- Fri., 16 - Last day before Winter Break

## JANUARY

- Tues., 3 - Students return to school
- Wed., 11 - PAC meeting (Library 7:00 pm)
- Fri., 27 - *Professional Development Day (No classes)*

## FEBRUARY

- Fri., 3 - Deadline for Programs of Choice Applications
- Wed., 8 - PAC Meeting (Library 7:00 pm)
- Thurs., 16 - Students are informed re Programs of Choice;
- Thurs., 16 - District Transfer Forms available
- Fri., 17 - *Professional Development Day (No classes)*
- Wed., 22 - Regular 8:40 to 11:40,  
Curricular Completion 11:40 to 2:50
- 20th to 24th - *District Transfer Process*

## MARCH

- 6th & 7th - Sounds of Spring Music Concerts 9 am & 7 pm
- Wed., 7 - PAC Meeting (Library **5:45 pm**)
- Fri., 9 - School-wide Spirit Day
- Fri., 9 - Report Cards go home
- Fri., 9 - Last day of school before Spring Break
- Mon, 26 - Students return to school
- Fri., 30 - Notifications sent out re transfer requests
- 27 to April 3 - Secondary Student Late Transfer process

## APRIL

- Fri., 6 - Good Friday (No school)
- Mon., 9 - Easter Monday (No school)
- Wed., 11 - PAC Meeting (Library 7:00 pm)

## MAY

- Thurs., 3 - Celebration of Learning Evening  
(Dismissal at 1:50 pm)
- Thurs., 3 - Class Photo Day
- Wed., 9 - PAC Meeting (Library 7:00 pm)
- Thurs., 17 - District Transition afternoon
- Fri., 18 - *Professional Development Day (No classes)*
- Mon., 21 - Victoria Day Holiday (No school)

## JUNE

- 5th & 6th - Jubilation in June Music Concerts 9 am & 7 pm
- Mon., 11 - Regular 8:40 to 11:40,  
Curricular Completion 11:40 to 2:50
- Wed., 13 - PAC Meeting (Library 7:00 pm)
- Tues., 26 - School-wide Spirit afternoon
- Wed., 28 - Last day of school and Report cards go home

### 2011-12 Instructional Time

Days in Session: 188  
Days of Instruction: 181  
Non-Instructional/Admin Days: 7

**Start Time: 8:40 a.m. (8:39 on Wed.)**  
**End Time: 2:50p.m.**  
Minutes of Instruction/Week: 1,555

## School Team Uniforms Need to Be Returned

All athletic teams are finished at the school as of June 1st and students need to return all uniforms to their coaches (if they haven't done so already).



### Lansdowne PAC Fundraising Reminders

#### Thrifty Foods Smile Cards



We are part of the Thrifty Foods community donation program. Thrifty Foods will donate 5% of every purchase made on a Lansdowne coded Smile Card to our school to a maximum of \$2,500. At the end of January, we had only earned \$1,400!! Remember to load up your Thrifty Foods smile card the next time you're getting groceries, it is such an easy way to support our school!!

If you don't have a card, please contact Joanne Klassen at [jtws@telus.net](mailto:jtws@telus.net) and she will arrange to get you one!

#### Other Fundraising Opportunities

Just mention Lansdowne School when you make a purchase and a minimum of 5% of your purchases goes to Lansdowne!! It is such an easy way to support our school, please remember to mention Lansdowne when you shop at the following stores:

**Cobbs Bread** (Oak Bay Avenue and Shelbourne locations)



**M&M Meat Shops**



**The Soap Exchange**



### Attention Parents of Music Students:

Fairway Market offers a great fundraising opportunity through the purchase of gift certificates. With a minimum purchase of \$100 in Fairway gift certificates from Lansdowne Music Parents Association (LMPA), 7% goes directly to your child's music account. Amounts accumulated in student accounts through LMPA fundraising programs can be used toward music trips, school instrument rental, and Lansdowne music t-shirts. Certificates are available in denominations of \$25 and \$50.

For more information or to order Fairway gift certificates, contact Judy Aalders at 250.592.1752 or [jaalders@telus.net](mailto:jaalders@telus.net)

## EXCEPTIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS OF LANSDOWNE STUDENTS

The past month saw worthwhile activities at Lansdowne as well as some special moments of recognition. **CONGRATULATIONS to the following Lansdowne students** and **THANK YOU to Lansdowne staff** who supported these great opportunities:

- **Amy Antonsen, Sidney Boegman, and Jamie Chan** (2<sup>nd</sup> Place Team) and **Veronique Beaudet, Gwyneth Faulkner, and David Henrich** (3<sup>rd</sup> Place Team), who placed in the top three teams at the South Vancouver Island “**All Science Challenge**” held at UVic. Great to see the student teams from Lansdowne claim two of the top three honours (and our congratulations to the 1<sup>st</sup> place team from Ladysmith). Thanks to Mme Challies for making this opportunity possible.
- **Kyle Bourdon, Daniel Chen, Michael Connacher, Johnny Fitterer, Alan Lau, David Lee, Frank Pinote and Jakob Rimmer** who came in second place at the **Western Canadian Volleyball Championships** in Saskatoon! Thanks to Mr. Wutzke & Mr. Schroeder for all their coaching of these boys.
- Lansdowne winners of the Oak Bay “**YOUNG EXCEPTIONAL STAR**” (YES) Awards (see page 6).
- **Erin Franz, Nicola Horwood, and Nora Junkin** (1<sup>st</sup> Place Team) and **Patrick Fair, David Lee, and Martin Yong** (2<sup>nd</sup> Place Team), winners of Lansdowne’s Third Annual Grade 8 “**Survivor Night**”, in which many teams of grade 8 students showed great school spirit and camaraderie as they competed in various physical and mental challenges, starting Friday after school and extending well into the evening. Thanks to Mr. Bedard & Mr. Lindseth for coordinated this fun-filled and spirited event for our grade 8’s.
- Congratulations to Grade 6 student **Erik Diertens** from Advisory 42 for his 1st place finish in the **Bastion Square Grand Prix** Middle School bike race.

Of course, in the busy-ness that is middle school, we’ve likely forgotten numerous other special achievements that occurred in May, so apologies to those we were remiss from including above. Moreover, along with these special achievements, there have also been many wonderful things happening on more regular basis in our classrooms, hallways, and grounds – from interesting student projects, to sports programs, to students reaching out to help one another.

## TRACK AND FIELD



Thirty-two athletes participated in training and track and field competitions during April and May. We had a core group of very dedicated grade six athletes with a few grade sevens and eights. Twenty-six students qualified for the championship meet June 1st at the University of Victoria track.

Stephanie Dunbar jumped her personal best in high jump. Marcel Petruzelli had an outstanding 9.34 metre triple jump, placing 1st in both triple and long jump, as well as second in the 200 metre race. Ben Watts-Wooldridge and Adrian Haasler achieved personal bests in triple jump with 7.98 metres and 8 metres respectively. Danika Postle also had a great result in triple jump, placing 2nd for grade 8 girls with a jump of 8.77 metres. Sophie de Goode placed 3rd in both the 800 metre and 400 metre events. Jack Cooper placed 1st in his 800 metre run. Kelsey Lyall placed 1st and Kai Leong placed 3rd in their 80 metre hurdles events. In the 4 x 400 runners Jack Cooper, Vlad Lyesin, Jack Parker and Marcel Petruzelli placed 1st.

Thanks to all athletes who, through dedicated practice and positive participation, made this a really fun team to coach.

Thanks to coaches Michelle Couture, Roz Penty, Sophia Aristou and Marianne Lidstone. We had a great season!




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### Four Lansdowne Students Win Oak Bay YES Awards



Our congratulations to (from left to right) **Maya Donald-Hamblin, Jessica Izard, Laura Weir, and Nicola Horwood** – **Lansdowne Middle School winners** of the 2011 Oak Bay **Young Exceptional Star (YES) Awards**, presented to young Oak Bay residents for their outstanding accomplishments in the areas of academic achievement, performance (music, athletics, art, sports, etc.), community service, and/or overcoming obstacles. Thanks to Ms. Budgell and the various staff involved in nominating a number of deserving students for this award.

## Attention Lansdowne Music Parents – re: Student Accounts

Any money remaining in the individual account of returning students will automatically carry over to the following school year.

If students are leaving the school, or if they are no longer in band (as of the end of this school year), and if they have money left in their individual account, this balance may be

- kept in trust for future siblings;
- reimbursed for music costs directly related to Lansdowne Middle School (including rental or purchase of an instrument used for school) or private music lessons (**receipts must be provided for reimbursement**); or
- donated to the general music account.

If you wish to leave the money in trust for a future sibling, or if you wish to be reimbursed, contact the LMPA treasurer, Cara Webb ([webbcd@shaw.ca](mailto:webbcd@shaw.ca)) or 250-595-3293.

She will need the following:

- student's name and grade
- name of sibling (if applicable)
- receipts for eligible costs
- name the cheque is to be made out to, and current mailing address.



**All requests must be received by June 15/11, no exceptions.**

Any money remaining and not kept in trust will be used for the enhancement and enrichment of the music program.

(Source - LMPA Constitution and Bylaws, Section 10.9)



## Connect your family to the world... Host an International Student



Discover fascinating countries, make new friends and build lasting relationships by hosting an international student in your home.

The Greater Victoria School District's **Victoria International High School Programs** (VIHSP) is seeking caring families, in SD61 neighbourhoods, to provide homestay accommodation to international students studying in the District's middle and secondary schools.

### We offer the following to our host families:

- Orientation
- Homestay reference manual
- Remuneration of \$825 per month for hosting
- On-going support

### Upcoming Hosting Opportunities:

- July and August – Summer ESL (2 to 8 weeks)
- Fall 2011 - Short-term (1 – 3 months), Long-term – (1 semester and full-year)
- If you've been wondering what it is like to host a student, a short-term placement is a good way to give it a try.
- **Register now** and be ready to host students this Summer and Fall.
- To find out more about our registered homestay program and apply on-line, please visit our website.



**VIHSP, Uplands Campus, 3461 Henderson Road, Victoria, BC V8P 5A8**

[www.studyinvictoria.com/homestay](http://www.studyinvictoria.com/homestay) email: [homestay@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:homestay@sd61.bc.ca)

tel: 250.592.6871

## Greater Victoria Public Library News

### Summer 2011

#### Grades 6-8

This summer, Tweens aged 10-12 are invited to Tween library programs including a Wild & Wacky Scavenger Hunt, an Act it Out! drama workshop, and a Travelling Puppet Show Tween show and puppetry workshop.

Teen volunteers ages 13 and up are needed to read with kids in the Reading Buddies program, or help older adults with new technologies in the Tech Buddies program this summer. Check out our other programs for teens including a Harry Potter party organized by our Youth Advisory Council (just in time for the last movie!), and an online reading club with weekly prizes. Join the ever-popular Advance Reading Copy Club, and get sneak preview books before they come out. Hone your leadership skills in a Toastmasters program and don't forget to enter your original poetry or short story in our annual Teen Summer Writing Contest.

#### Grades 8-12

Teen volunteers are needed to read with kids in the Reading Buddies program, or help older adults with new technologies in the Tech Buddies program this summer. Check out our other programs for teens including a Harry Potter party organized by our Youth Advisory Council (just in time for the last movie!), and an online reading club with weekly prizes. Join the ever-popular Advance Reading Copy Club, and get sneak preview books before they come out. Hone your leadership skills in a Toastmasters program and don't forget to enter your original poetry or short story in our annual Teen Summer Writing Contest.

For a full listing of all library programs, visit [www.gvpl.ca](http://www.gvpl.ca) and register online starting on June 16.

*All Greater Victoria Public Library programs are free!*

### From the Lansdowne Library . . .

#### 2011 Summer Reading List

Here are a few books that I recommend for summer reading.

- *Ghost Boy* by Iain Lawrence
- *The Skin I'm In* by Sharon G Flake
- *Dear George Clooney Please Marry My Mom* by Susin Nielsen
- *Sea of Trolls* by Nancy Farmer
- *Half Brother* by Kenneth Oppel
- *Ship Breaker* by Paolo Bacigalupi
- *Alexandria of Africa* by Eric Walters



For more mature reads I recommend the following:

- *The Things a Brother Knows* by Dana Reinhardt
- *Sister Wife* by Shelley Hrdlitschka
- *Sold* by Patricia McCormick



I hope everyone has a great summer and finds time to read a good book or two.

Ms Spies  
Librarian



## MAKE PHYSICAL ACTIVITY PART OF THE DAY, EVERY DAY

Helping children to fit physical activity into their daily routine creates a pattern for the rest of their lives. Health Canada recommends 90 minutes a day of moderate physical activity for children and youth and 60 minutes a day of moderate activity for adults. Three 10-minute sessions are just as effective as one 30-minute session.

1. **Enjoy Being Active:** Active parents usually have active children. Encourage your child to be more active by setting a good example. Include endurance, strength and flexibility activities for overall health.
2. **Develop Awareness:** Help your child become aware of how much or how little activity they do. Have your child record the number of minutes they are active as compared to the number of minutes they sit each day. Over a few days a pattern will emerge.
3. **Set Goals:** Work with your child to set realistic goals to increase their activity. Setting goals helps children check their own progress. In the beginning, set goals small and very easy to do. If children are successful at meeting their goals, it will encourage them to do more. Success is addictive!
4. **Give Feedback and Praise:** Have your child track his progress. Once a goal has been reached, set a new one. Support and encourage your child to be active every day. A *Physical Activity Chart* and *Physical Activity Stickers* for children are available from Health Canada at [www.paguide.com](http://www.paguide.com).
5. **Get Active As a Family:** Find a fun activity that the whole family can do together. Children enjoy spending time with their parents. Spend active time with children; go for a walk, play tag or do chores together.
6. **As a Family:** Limit screen time, the time spent in front of a TV or computer monitor, to a maximum of 2 hours a day (outside of work or homework).



### ECO-ACTION CLUB NEWS

**By: Adele D, Gohar K, Jacob G, Maya H, Meg P, Mitchel, Olivia R, Olivia T, Sidney B**

We have been busy creating beautiful “what we want the Earth to look like in twenty years” murals that were hung on Earth Day for the Youth for Environmental Stewardship BC (YESBC). We have also attended several workshops... including the BC Hydro Energy campaign – Please check out [www.bchydro.com/firstwave](http://www.bchydro.com/firstwave) for more info. We are hoping that all of Lansdowne classes will create an account and participate in the actions suggested.

Some of us also attended the Green Schools initiative with Mrs. MacDonald, Mr. Schroeder, Mr. Leblond, and a wonderful parent, Linda B. We spoke about earth friendly cleaners, the Global student initiative around Polar Bears and the plan to continue to green our school.

ALSO, we are having a **CAR WASH** to raise funds to support our **Polar Bear Initiative** as we continue to raise awareness for Global Climate Change and how it affects all of us ~ humans and animals! The car wash is here at **Lansdowne School from 9-12 on JUNE 11**. We will be using enviro friendly cleaning products including some really cool cloths and mitts- generously donated by one of our parents, Linda F-B. Please come out and bring your idle free vehicle for us to wash with our environment in mind!!! We will be selling goodies and serving lemonade.



Thanks for your support

# YouthPass PHOTO SHOOT

ONE DAY ONLY!

Lansdowne Middle School  
Wednesday, September 7th  
12:10 - 12:40 P.M.



The YouthPass is a photo bus pass for youth, aged 6 to 18 years, offering unlimited travel throughout the transit region. For added convenience to students and families, BC Transit will take YouthPass photos at your school for one day only.

For the school photo shoot, the student **must** bring:

- a cheque for \$315.00 made out to BC Transit
- **valid I.D.** that shows the student's date of birth
- a **completed application** form (forms will be available in the school office). The form must be **signed** by a parent or guardian.

YouthPasses will be distributed by the school office at the end of September. This YouthPass is valid from Oct 1, 2011 – June 30, 2012. Visit [www.bctransit.com](http://www.bctransit.com) for details about other YouthPass options.



Linking Communities, Businesses & Lifestyles

## Scouting for girls & boys from ages 5 and up COME JOIN THE ADVENTURE! – 12<sup>th</sup> Garry Oak Sea Scouts

Beavers 5-7 yrs, Cubs 8-10 yrs, Scouts 11-14 yrs, Venturers 14-17 yrs

**Registration is now being taken for the 2011-12 Scouting year which begins in September. If registered by June 10<sup>th</sup> 2011 the fee is \$165.00 after June 10<sup>th</sup> the fee is \$185.00.**

For more information please contact:

Leilani Evans, 250-598-7011, [evans@pacificcoast.net](mailto:evans@pacificcoast.net)

Group Commissioner, Registrar, 12th Garry Oak Sea Scouts, Scouts Canada  
[www.12thgarryoakseascouts.ca](http://www.12thgarryoakseascouts.ca)