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# ACADEMICS @ LUCERNE

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## Dear Parents, Guardians, Students and Teachers

One of the best things about Lucerne is the involvement of the community in the school.

When families and schools work together, children are more likely to build good relationships and be more successful at school. There are things you can do at home, and with your child's school, to help your child to be their best. Teachers can provide suggestions that can help you to help your child learn. Similarly, you can provide suggestions to your child's teacher to help them in supporting your child's learning. By working together, parents and teachers can build positive relationships based on mutual respect and understanding of each others' role, knowledge and expertise.

Communicating about your child's wellbeing, their progress at school and ways you can help will all assist your child to be their best. Good communication between parents and teachers gets everyone on the same page. It's okay to ask for advice about how to help your child or ask questions about what's happening at school. It also helps teachers to know if there is anything outside school that may be affecting your child.

All children may have trouble with learning at some point. If you are concerned, or if a teacher raises a concern, having a conversation about the issue is an important first step. You can work with the school to come up with a plan. You can ask how you can help, what the school will do, and how you will keep track of progress.

One of the best things you can do to help your child be a confident and enthusiastic learner is to show and tell your child that you believe learning is important and that you believe in your child. Being part of your child's school community is one way of showing them that you value their education. Not all parents are able to volunteer at school – and that's okay. Attending student led conferences, concerts or events, attending Parent Advisory Council (PAC) meetings, or simply communicating with your child's teacher frequently are other great ways you can be involved in the school community.

As the principal of Lucerne I believe that it is important for parents to feel comfortable in contacting me and letting me know about things we are doing well, or things that we can do better. Next time you are in the building, I encourage you to stop by and say hi, or if you can't make it in to send me an email or give me a call.

All the best  
Nick

## Reading with Heather Jenkins

In the words of Ms. Jenkins “Reading doesn’t just happen”. It takes dedication, perseverance and practice. Using an approach based on the research of Richard Allington and Adrienne Greer, Ms. Jenkins engages students everyday in a robust reading program that not only seeks to create strong readers, but to foster a love of reading as well.

The program has six fundamental principles:

1. Every child reads something he or she chooses because students read more, understand more and are more likely to continue reading when they have the opportunity to choose what they read.
2. Every child reads accurately because it is not just the time spent with a book in hand, but rather the intensity and volume of high-success reading, that determines a student’s progress in learning to read.
3. Every child reads something he or she understands because studies show that it doesn’t take practicing basic skills to improve reading; it takes lots of reading and rereading of text that students find engaging and understand.
4. Every child writes about something personally meaningful because when students write about something they care about they write longer, more clearly, and process texts at a deeper level.
5. Every child talks with peers about reading and writing because it provides measurable benefits in comprehension, motivation, and even language competence.
6. Every child listens to a fluent adult read aloud because it increases students’ own fluency and comprehension skills, as well as expanding their vocabulary, background knowledge, sense of story, awareness of genre and text structure, and comprehension of the texts read.



Entering Ms. Jenkins’ room you will see a classroom library that is diverse and includes a wide variety of options. This is to catch students in the net of reading. Students begin each morning with individual reading. They all have a browsing box that is filled with books of interest to them, and they start the day by reading through this material. During this time Heather and Kerry do one on one reading conferences with the students to support them in understanding what they are reading. This includes a focus on reading strategies, as well as a metacognitive (thinking about thinking) strategies.

The six principles are present in all aspects of Ms. Jenkins reading instruction, but really come to life when the class learns about their reading super powers. These powers are influenced by the work of Adrienne Greer and encourage the students to use their super powers, Making Connections, Asking Questions, Inferring, Visualizing, and

Transforming (how does the book change your point of view?). To teach these super powers, Ms. Jenkins has compiled an extensive list of books that highlight each one. When she reads to students she uses these books to explicitly teach these skills to students and then extends this learning into the students own practice.



Ms. Jenkins philosophy is that everybody can be a strong reader; All it takes is time, a Hero (someone who will read with them and engage them in their reading), and that One Book that catches them and makes them a reader for life.

Parents can support their child by taking them to libraries, book shops, and in general sharing reading materials with them. They can also help their

children by talking to them about reading, asking them questions about what they read, and modelling the thinking of good readers. To help parents do this Ms. Jenkins suggested the following questions to begin the conversation after your child has finished reading:

- What did they like about the story? Is there something they didn't like about the story?
- What did you notice about the character?
- What did you learn about life from reading this? What are you going to take away from it?



Reading doesn't just happen it takes dedication and hard work, but with support everyone can achieve their reading goals.



## Career Education with Richelle Johnston

In Career Education 7/8/9 we have started our Career Mentor Network Series. Today we have our first guest, who is a Conflict Manager. Deborah Sword is speaking about her journey to becoming a Conflict Manager and an expert in Conflict Resolution. She is passionate and enthusiastic about her career path, and is also leading students in a mock conflict resolution session so that they can practice the strategies and skills to manage their own conflicts.



The purpose of this series is for students to learn from authentic, 'real' people who have followed their passions and are excited about the work that they do. We have several guests coming in throughout the fall/winter, with a wide range of areas of expertise (child psychologist, archaeologist, farrier, long-haul driver, entrepreneur etc).

If anyone is keen on sharing their passionate career journey, I would love to have them. They can contact me at [richelle.johnston@sd10.bc.ca](mailto:richelle.johnston@sd10.bc.ca)



### Teacher Email List

#### **Elementary**

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# School District 10 (Arrow Lakes)

## 2017-2018 School Calendar 5 Day Week

<span style="background-color: yellow;">   </span>	Weekends
<span style="background-color: lightblue;">   </span>	Statutory Holidays
<span style="background-color: lightgreen;">   </span>	School Vacation Periods
<span style="background-color: red;">   </span>	School NI/Pro-D Days
<span style="background-color: lightcoral;">   </span>	Administration Day



September	5	Schools Open
September	25	NI / Pro D Day
October	9	Thanksgiving Day
October	20	NI / Pro D Day
November	13	Remembrance Day Stat
November	17	NI / Pro D Day
December	22	Winter Vacation
January	5	
January	8	Schools Re-Open
January	22	NI / Pro - D Day
February	12	BC Family Day
February	23	NI / Pro-D Day
March	19	Spring Vacation
March	30	
March	30	Good Friday
April	2	Easter Monday
April	3	Schools Re-Open
April	23	NI / Pro - D Day
May	18	NI / Pro - D Day
May	21	Victoria Day
June	28	Last Day of Classes
June	29	Administrative Day



Days of Instruction	179
Non-Instructional Days	7
Administrative Day	1
<b>Total Days in Session</b>	<b>187</b>

AUGUST 2017							SEPTEMBER 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
												1	2
		1	2	3	4	5	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
27	28	29	30	31									
OCTOBER 2017							NOVEMBER 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
										1	2	3	4
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	26	27	28	29	30		
29	30	31											
DECEMBER 2017							JANUARY 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30	31			
31													
FEBRUARY 2018							MARCH 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3					1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28				25	26	27	28	29	30	31
APRIL 2018							MAY 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
29	30						27	28	29	30	31		
JUNE 2018							JULY 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2							
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
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