



## Lavington Elementary School

9715 School Road  
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Phone: (250) 545-1710  
Principal: Nigel Maccagno

# March Newsletter

## Principal's Message:

As a school, we are continuing to model the phrase 'Rising to the Challenge'. Our most recent challenge has been overcoming illness within our school community. I am very happy to say that staff and students are becoming much healthier based on our school attendance. We are rolling into our third week of close to a 90% attendance rate for the entire school. I want to thank everyone for doing their part during these past months to minimize the risk and spread of illness. Taking part in the daily health checks and keeping open lines of communication have made this moment in time respectful and manageable. I am hoping these signs of health and wellbeing are here to stay.

## Lumby Food Bank:

As you know, our school focused on messages of kindness and care during Valentine's Day. I would like to recognize Korbin Wade for initiating the collection of food and money donations to the Lumby Food Bank and sharing his message. Thank you to the Lavington Community for supporting this message, as we collected \$665.00 & 200 lbs of food for donation. The Lumby Food Bank was extremely grateful and appreciated the unexpected generosity of our community, especially during these challenging times for many.

## Antigen Tests:

We have received our shipment of student antigen tests and are ready for distribution. The school has a box of 5 tests, including instructions for each student. Due to the value, safety, and personal preferences of these tests, we would like to hand them out personally instead of through the students. If you do not want/need a box of tests, please do not feel pressure to pick one up. For those families who would like to receive a box of tests for each child, please come to the office as we have them labelled and ready to go.

**Reminder:** Antigen tests will **NOT** be administered at school. These tests are intended for 'At Home' use only. Please see more information on use and test result actions here:

[Rapid Testing At Home \(bccdc.ca\)](https://www.bccdc.ca)

**Information on recent Safety Alerts:** <https://recalls-rappels.canada.ca/en/alert-recall/rapid-antigen-test-kits-and-potential-exposure-hazardous-substances>

## Parking Lot Safety:

We are asking for your support to improve both adult and student safety in our parking lot.

The lane below is to be used for student drop off in the morning, however, please do not stop and get out of your vehicle in this lane. This lane is intended for a quick student drop off and a slow exit from the parking lot. If you need to get out of your vehicle to assist your child or take them to their lineup, please park your vehicle in a vacant spot within the lot itself or on the back side closest to the firehall.



Our goal is to eliminate the long line that occurs in the morning that at times stretches into School Road. As well, we do not want vehicles passing each other, creating blind spots while people are trying to walk to the school. If the drop off line rolls through smoothly, we will not see students getting out of the vehicles at the end or middle of the parking lot which exacerbates the problem and increases risk.

**Please note:** The last bus to arrive in the morning is at approximately 7:55. The bell to let the students know to gather their belongings and head to their lineups is at 8:11. At 8:16 the students then transition into the school. The office begins collecting student attendance at 8:25 in order to begin the safe arrival process. If you are arriving after 8:16, please drop your child/ren off at the front entrance as we can support their transition into the school from there.

The pick ups at the end of the day are less problematic, as people have been keeping the bus lane free for its pickup and are finding parking spots to wait for their child/ren. Again, there are a lot of students and families walking around at this time. Please navigate with caution.

As our parking lot is not ideal for pickups and drop offs, a sound and safe option is to always go slow. Drive with care and caution.

I have reached out to our maintenance department to look into future parking lot options. For example, a pull-out zone for drop offs and/or more parking spaces for staff and families. I will keep you posted with this development.

Thank you for your understanding and for supporting the safety of our parking lot for all community members. You are the best!

## Lavington Calendar: Upcoming Events

March 3<sup>rd</sup>: P.A.C Meeting @ 6:30

March 17<sup>th</sup>: Wear Green Day

March 18<sup>th</sup>: Last Day before Spring Break

April 4<sup>th</sup>: First Day back from Spring Break

Respectfully,

Nigel Maccagno