

Hello Families,

Centre Mountain Lellum Start-Up for September 2023-24

Over the last few years, we have moved to a staggered start for our students to begin the school year. We realize this schedule may not be convenient for some families, but we feel this staggered start time is best for students of a large middle school, and it has been very successful over the past few years. With plenty of notice, we hope families will be able to arrange rides and childcare, if needed, for the first two days of school. We have not had confirmation that buses will be available for all trips, but we will keep everyone posted as we get closer to September 2023.

So, for week one, the schedule will be as follows:

Tuesday morning, September 5 – Grade 6 students only. Students will arrive for an 8:40am start time and will stay at school until 11:30am. Bus schedule is yet to be determined, so parents may want to arrange rides for the first day. However, we do know bus transportation is provided to and from school on Tuesday, so it would be a great day for our new grade 6 bus students to try the bus on day one since it will only be grade 6 students riding that day. No school for Grade 6 students on Wednesday, Sept. 6.

Wednesday morning, September 6 – Grade 7 students only. Students will arrive for an 8:40am start time and will stay at school until 11:30am. Bus transportation will be provided in the morning, but it may not be available for the 11:30am pick-up. We will update you on this as we get closer to September. Parents may want to organize rides for the 11:30am pick up time from school.

Wednesday afternoon, September 6 – Grade 8 students only. Students will arrive for a 12:30pm start time and will stay at school until 2:40pm. Bus transportation will be provided for the after-school pick-up, but it may not be available for the 12:30pm drop-off time. We will update you on this as we get closer to September. Parents may want to organize rides for the 12:30pm start time.

Thursday and Friday, September 7 & 8. Full day for all students. School will begin at 8:40am and will end at 2:41pm. This is the regular start and end times for our students Monday to Friday.

Previous message sent on behalf of the Sooke School District

We would like to thank our school community for your ongoing support accessing safe routes to school. We appreciate the feedback that we have received and continue to work with the City of Langford to improve student safety on their way to and from school.

Recently, recommendations to improve student safety were adopted that we would like to make you aware of.

Our Occupational Health and Safety and Transportation teams have worked closely with the City of Langford and RCMP to address safety concerns around roadways near our schools. A decision has been made to move the location of our crossing guards and add a fourth (temporary) crossing guard for the remainder of the school year to enhance the safety for our students and crossing guards.

Changes effective as of May 1, 2023:

- The district will temporarily fund a fourth crossing guard located at the crosswalk near the top of PEXSISEN Elementary (near Meridian Ave). Driver behaviour in the area puts students at risk, and we hope that the addition of a crossing guard will enhance student safety.
- The two crossing guards that currently operate on the roundabout at Westshore Parkway will move. The traffic using the roundabout is heavy and the added merge lane just after the roundabout means that drivers are often not paying attention to the crosswalk but focusing on getting out of the roundabout. This location remains a significant safety concern for pedestrians. Moving forward, we do not encourage students crossing at this location.
- One crossing guard will operate on the Northeast side of the roundabout on Westshore Parkway (near the Westhills show home). It is currently construction traffic only.
- There will be two crossing guards at the bottom of the hill at Westshore Parkway and Constellation Ave. It will help with the volume of drivers turning right off of Constellation Ave and will direct students along the school-side of the sidewalk.
 - The crossing guards will be supporting students crossing Westshore Parkway. Crossing across Constellation at the bottom of the hill will not be supported. Students should cross in the marked crosswalk at the top of Meridian if they are coming along the sidewalk on the opposite side of the schools.

With the change to the crossing guards at the Westshore Parkway roundabout, we encourage families to cross at safer locations and make their way on the Northeast side of Langford Parkway to cross near Constellation Ave **or** Westshore Parkway where they can cross at Meridian Ave. **That could look like crossing at the lights near the Tim Hortons or the marked crosswalks near Commander Court which is single laned with clear sight lines.**

Attached is a map of the new locations of our crossing guards to help you plan your route to school.

Please note that **schools and the district are not responsible for roads or sidewalks**. If you have a concern about a road or a sidewalk, **please contact the City of Langford directly**.

If you would like to report an incident or a concern about driver behaviour, **please contact the Westshore RMCP directly**.

Crossing guards will be in their new locations on Monday, May 1. Thank you.

Reminder: Parking and pick-up for Centre Mountain Lellum

We have noticed that some of our families are parking in the PEXSISEN Elementary School parking area to pick up their child after school. Please do not use the PEXSISEN parking area or drop-off/pick-up loop for the Centre Mountain Lellum students. As you know, this area can get very congested and the elementary school has a very small pick-up/drop-off loop. Thank you.

If you are coming into Centre Mountain Lellum Middle School at any time, please park in the lower parking lot. The upper parking lot is for staff and buses only. Thank you for your cooperation.

Blended Learning Program

If you would like to receive more information regarding the Grade 6-9 Blended Learning Program, please click on the link below to see the SD62 Blended Learning form for the 2023-24 school year. You can also find more information on the SD62 website: Schools/Secondary/Westshore Centre for Learning and Training/SD62 Programs/Grade 6-9 Blended learning Program.

<https://forms.office.com/r/nWF8SSmN76>

Yearbook purchase

Pre-order your Centre Mountain Lellum yearbook. This is our first year in our beautiful new school and our first yearbook will be a special one to treasure.

Yearbooks will be dispersed to students at the end of June. Don't miss out on ordering one before they sell out.

[SchoolCashOnline.com: Welcome](https://www.schoolcashonline.com/)

PAC 50/50 Raffle

Tickets are on sale from now until May 14th and the draw will be held on May 16th.

Tickets can be purchased directly online, or if you would prefer to pay by e-transfer, please send an e-transfer to cmlpactreasurer@gmail.com. Make sure to include your name, address, email address, phone number. You will receive your ticket confirmation and numbers within 24 hours.

Find the jackpot here and share it with your family and friends to grow the pot!

www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/cml-pac

Important Dates

Monday, May 22	No school – Victoria Day
Monday, May 29	No school – Non-instructional day for students.
Tuesday, May 30	PAC AGM (more information to come regarding time and details)
Tuesday, June 27	Grade 8 Leaving Celebration for students
Thursday, June 29	Last day of school for students

Thank you,
Darren Russell, Glenn Bedard and Kelly Dvorak