



December 2021

ARISE Newsletter

2021 proved to be another successful year for LDS; we started several **new programs**, added an electric mobile classroom, **LDS Access**, and welcomed many new **special team members**! Thank you for joining us on this journey and we hope you have a wonderful holiday season. We look forward to serving you in the new year.



\$100K for 100 Kids is Back to Transform more Lives!

Our annual fundraising initiative is critical for providing bursary supports to current and future students of LDS. Please share with your family, friends, and networks and ask them to consider [donating](#). Every amount makes a difference and all donations made before December 31st will be **MATCHED**, doubling your impact!

Please note that [donations of securities](#) should be made by December 17th to receive a charitable tax receipt.



Take a look at the Early RISErs program in action!

Early RISErs Applications Open for January

Our team of early childhood professionals provides expert supports to children and families our unique and innovative development program, [Early RISErs](#). Through the 10 week program, students ages 3-5 learn social skills and language development, early literacy and numeracy, and physical literacy from our team that includes Early Childhood Educators and researchers, Speech Language Pathologists, Kindergarten teachers, Occupational Therapists, and Behavioural Interventionists.

The program is suitable for ANY child whose family would like to gain a detailed understanding of their child's development, their strengths and stretches, and to learn from professionals how to best support them and advocate for them in the early years and going into Kindergarten. Applications for 2022 cohorts are open. [Apply now!](#)



What is Speech Language Pathology (SLP)?

An SLP can evaluate, diagnose, and treat a wide range of speech, language, communication, and swallowing disorders. There are several benefits for children with learning differences to work alongside our SLP to address specific needs. To learn more and apply for sessions, please visit our [website](#).



Learn From Home with RISE at Home

Students can receive our RISE one-to-one instruction from the comfort of their own homes with our [RISE at Home](#) virtual learning support. This program is available for all students, whether you are currently enrolled and live in Vancouver, or looking for support from **anywhere in BC!** Learn more about this program and apply on our [website](#).

News From Our Assistive Technology Studio



AT Feature: Read&Write

Read&Write is a literacy and writing toolbar that can be installed on most browsers, or directly on a computer or tablet. Read&Write provides a wide range of tools to help students overcome challenges reading or writing on a digital screen.

One of the most valuable tools is its Text to Speech feature; reading almost any computer text aloud. Read&Write makes it easy for the user to follow along by highlighting the text being read. You can even convert this text to an mp3 file to listen to later.

Want to learn more? Email [Mike](#), and he will be happy to answer questions!



AT Studio Webinar

With the ongoing growth of our Assistive Technology Studio, LDS is able to offer software and hardware tools that can enhance the learning experiences and confidence of our students.

Some of these tools can be accessed from home for free!

To learn more about these technologies, sign up for a one-on-one [webinar](#) with our Assistive Technology Manager, Mike.

Events

Holiday Closure

Student sessions for 2022 end at 5pm on Saturday, December 18.

LDS Learning Centres will be closed for the holidays from December 25 through January 3rd.

We hope you all have a restful break and we look forward to seeing you in the new year!



VPL + LDS Free Online Workshops



Thank you VPL for a great series of free workshops for parents this season. We look forward to returning in 2022 with more - stay tuned!

Careers



Here We Grow Again

Are you passionate about **making an impact in your community**, and changing the lives of children with learning differences? If so, we have the perfect opportunity for you!

To meet the needs of our growing organization we have several opportunities in a range of positions from instruction, communication and SLP!

Learn more about these opportunities and how to apply on our [website](#).

Help us

#KeepOurKidsLearning

With your help during these difficult times, we can make our research based programs available to vulnerable learners in need throughout our province.

Become a Monthly Donor