

North Vancouver School District

Parent and Community Update Friday, October 16th, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It is hard to believe we are now half way through Term One! So many exciting events and activities have happened over the course of our opening 6 weeks.

Based on the feedback we have been receiving daily, there is a high level of confidence throughout our community in the school and the precautions and procedures we have in place to support this return to active instruction. We feel we have been very thorough detailed with our preparations and daily protocols, and we appreciate this feedback!

Mostly we would like to thank you, our parent community, for taking the precautions and protocols seriously, and working hard to help your children understand the necessity of moving forward so successfully, the way we are.

Student Attendance

Student attendance over the first 5 weeks has remained very stable, however, we have seen a significant increase in the number of students arriving late. With our class spacing and staggered entry managed very well by the classroom teachers, we are hoping that parents will make every effort to have their child(ren) arrive just **prior to the first bell at 8:43am**. Arrivals after this time are causing issues with our call-back system and student tracking.

A reminder that students who arrive to school late will need to report the door of their classroom, and wait to be invited in. The classroom teacher will then update the attendance on-line.

COVID-19 Update

A huge thank you to all of our families for your hard work monitoring for Covid-19 symptoms and taking such prompt, careful action. Your efforts are noticed and we feel they are helping enormously.

As any COVID-19 situations, contacts, or cases arise, any communications and/or updates regarding this will follow protocols established by School District 44 and under the direction of Coastal Health and its professional contract tracers. We would ask our community members to continue to trust these very capable teams and their judgement.

We have noted and very much appreciate the caution and care shown by those families who have kept their child home if any signs of cold, seasonal flu or similar symptoms are present. By continuing with this respect for the student population we feel every family is participating in keeping Cleveland safe.



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All families are reminded that they must complete a daily health self-assessment prior to arriving on school grounds and also assess their child for signs and symptoms of cold, influenza and COVID 19. This is a required step that must be taken every day for the safety of your child, staff, and other children. If during the school day your child displays any symptoms of COVID-19 or is sick, you will be notified immediately to pick up your child.

We do also want to assure you that we are revisiting and reinforcing our safety and hygiene protocols regularly at the school (including washing hands, sanitizing, regular surface cleaning, limiting visitors, etc).

We remind parents that we must continue to keep the school closed to all outside visitors. The only adults in the school will be school district employees who are responsible for supporting student learning. Parents have no access the classroom or other areas in the school. Should you need to contact the school office or administration you are asked to call the school at (604) 903-3390 to speak with a staff member or to make an appointment to access the school.

Terry Fox Event 2020

In 1980, while talking about his Marathon of Hope and his dream to raise money for cancer research, Terry Fox said, "Even if I don't finish, we need others to continue. It's got to keep going without me."

Forty years later, the Cleveland community is doing just that. On October 8th, Cleveland students and staff participated in our annual Terry Fox Event. Special thanks to our event volunteer coordinators, Carole Mulliez, Tara King and Jennifer Leask, and to the many, many parents who volunteered to help provide supervision along the route. Your enthusiasm was contagious! Thank you also to our resident DJ, Christian Behnke, for providing us with "tunes" to help us warm up prior to the event. Merci!

This year's annual Cleveland Terry Fox Event raised \$3,789 in donations for the Terry Fox Foundation, which supports cancer research here in Canada. Thank you to all of you who donated generously to this important cause! Way to go, Cleveland!





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Library Update

Letter from Myriam Dumont, Librarian

Dear families,

It is hard to believe that we are already halfway through October. I wanted to let you know about a few exciting developments at our library here at Cleveland Elementary.

First off, our library reopened this week! We are thrilled about this and excited to do so in a safe manner. To facilitate the opening of the library, we are encouraging every student assist us by bringing and wearing a mask for their time in the library, regardless of their age or if they wear a mask usually. Please ensure that your child has a mask on their library day. I've spoken to the students about this and have encouraged them to start a routine where they pack their backpack the night before with their library book and a mask. Disposable masks are a great option for kids who might otherwise lose their masks. Thank you for helping with this to ensure that we all stay safe and healthy! If you are unsure of your child(ren) library day please see the schedule below.

Divisions with Library on Tuesday: Fo1,Fo4,Fo7,F11,F13,E01,E07

Divisions with Library on Wednesday: Fo2,Fo5,Fo6,Fo8,F12,Eo4,Eo5

Divisions with Library on Thursday: Fo9,F10,F14,E02,E03,E06,E08

Division with Library on Friday: Fo3

The Scholastic Book Fair launches next week and will take place Oct 19-23. The purchasing link becomes active on October 19th but you can browse the book selection with your children this weekend. Please note that this will be the only book fair we have this year; you can purchase both French and English books. A reminder that books will be shipped directly to your home and that on Wednesday, October 21st between 6pm-8pm all orders placed will qualify for free shipping.

https://bookfairs-canada.myshopify.com/pages/5149048

DEAR (Drop Everything And Read) will take place on **October 26**th. This is a BC wide initiative that takes place on BC library day where kids across the province read for 15-20 minutes. We have celebrated this day now for 3 years, stay tuned for photos!

Have a great weekend everyone!

Myriam Dumont, Teacher Librarian



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Photo Day

Monday, October 19th is photo day at Cleveland. At this time we will **not** be doing class photos, only individual. Due to COVID restrictions, it will be a much longer process this year, likely taking all day to fit in all of our students. We will be starting with Kindergarten classes, working our way up to grade 7. If your child cannot be at school on Monday, our retake day is scheduled for **Tuesday, November 10th**.

All ordering of photos will be online, we'll send more information about ordering shortly after photo day.

Any students in the transition program who wish to have a photo taken can contact the main office to book a time on photo retake day.

Halloween

This year, due to the limitations we find ourselves under, Halloween at the school will look a little different.

Friday, October 30 will be our day of Halloween celebrations, and we will be permitting costumes throughout the day, according to each teacher's specific guidelines. Certain conditions, however, must be adhered to:

- -costumes must be simple and permit the child to maintain it over the course of the day
- -ideally the costume can be worn all day -we will not have the ability to store used clothing/costumes
- -any costume must keep the face visible, with the exception of a non-medical mask
- -no makeup or messy face paints

Finally, we cannot permit any candy, wrapped or not, to be brought into the school.

Term One Reporting and Parent-Teacher Interviews

This year, Term One Reports are scheduled to be published on Friday, December 11.

Due to social distancing restrictions, any needed parent-teacher meetings will have to be virtual. Your child's teacher will contact you prior to Term 1 Reports being published to provide an opportunity for you to sign up for a meeting. This will likely be a phone call or an MS Teams meetings. Please make sure you keep an eye on your email.

To support the parent-teacher interview process, classes will be dismissed early at 2:00 pm, on the two days of November 17 and 18.

Also, a reminder that **Friday October 23** is a Provincial Professional Development Day (school is not in session).



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Used Bike Collection Drive

We all know the positive impact a bicycle can make in someone's life...

Every fall, the Cleveland community holds a used bike donation drive. This year, however, we are encouraging families who have bikes to donate, to drop them off directly at Obsession: Bikes, where the bikes will be overhauled and made available to others. Last year, our school community donated over 100 bikes.

James Wilson, the owner of Obsession: Bikes, operates a local charity called Bikes for Tykes, which makes overhauled bikes available to children at Christmas through Family Services of the North Shore.





So... rather than storing a bike all winter that you or your child is no longer using, consider dropping it off at Obsession: Bikes, located at 94 Lonsdale Avenue (on the corner of 1st Street and Lonsdale Avenue). James and his team are ready to start accepting used bike donations.

If you have questions about this program, please contact Mme Debra Cusanelli (dcusanelli@sd44.ca).

Thank you for your support!

Canopies and Tables

With provincial guidelines stressing the organization and movement of learning activities to the out of doors, and with a focus on moving as many of our teaching opportunities into our many outdoor and alternate teaching spaces, we have set up canopy and table stations at various locations spread around our upper playground areas.

The canopy stations have been a big hit with classes, and are in use for large portions of each day.

Thank you to all our special helpers and volunteers who arrive every morning and at the end of each day to help with set-up and take-down. An extra big thank you to the canopy coordinator, parent David Schmidt.



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If you would like to assist with this very worthwhile task, and have a few moments just after 9 am or before 3 pm, please let our main office know.





Safety of students, families, and staff is our priority. Should you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact your child's classroom teacher, Principal Bill Reid, or Vice Principal Laura Stewart directly.

Sincerely,

Bill Reid Laura Stewart

Principal Vice Principal

breid@sd44.ca Istewart@sd44.ca