

ÉCOLE BOUNDARY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Boundary e-News

February 21, 2022

Dear Boundary Families,

We hope this finds you all enjoying the company of family on this Family Day long weekend. Families are sometimes inherited and sometimes chosen, and either way this has been a long difficult time apart from friends and loved ones. This weekend weather of sunshine has also offered the opportunity to enjoy this land and all its beauty. But wait... an arctic squall has blanked parts of this province and we are just now experiencing a sudden drop in temperatures with snow falling in some local areas! Well, it felt like spring for a few days. This coming week we are expecting some below freezing temperatures, so please ensure your child is prepared for comfortable outdoor play and that you travel safely on foot or by car through some possible icy conditions.

This past week students continued to explore Black History Month and to learn more deeply about the historical events and people who have shaped our national and local history. This coming Wednesday, February 23rd is also Pink Shirt Day. Pink Shirt Day began in Berwick, Nova Scotia, Canada in 2007 when two students took a stand against bullying after a new student was harassed and threatened for wearing pink on the first day of school. These students bought dozens of pink shirts and distributed them to their classmates to wear the next day. The word got out and hundreds of students showed up in pink, some from head-to-toe, to stand together against bullying. Our Boundary students and our extended community have the power to lift one another up by treating everyone with dignity and respect. Opening our minds and hearts in the acceptance and celebration of human differences, will create safe, joyful, productive, and creative learning spaces. We all have an important role to play in this.

Finally, we know many of you have been following the changes in some of the Public Health Orders regarding public spaces and travel, please know that the Public School sector has continued on with its directed protocols, including mandatory mask wearing, particularly when physical distancing is not possible. Please ensure that your child has packed 2 or 3, well-fitting masks to use while at school. Please continue to read the Superintendent's Reports for any updates or changes in current procedures.

As always,

Play safe and be kind

Calendar

Monday February 21 – Teacher / Parent Conference Sign-up Begins

Tuesday February 22 – Grade 3 Virtual Longhouse Program

Wednesday February 23 – Pink Shirt Day

Thursday February 24 – Lockdown Drill

Sunday February 27 – Teacher / Parent Conference Sign-up Closes

Monday February 28 – Grade 6

Tuesday March 1 – Early Dismissal; Conferences, 1:50 Primary, 2:00 Intermediate

Wednesday March 2 – Early Dismissal; Conferences, 1:50 Primary, 2:00 Intermediate

Friday March 4 – Reports Home

Friday March 4 – Band and Strings Registration Closes

Friday March 11 – Last Day Before Spring Break

Monday March 28 – School Re-Opens

Boundary News

Teacher / Parent Conferences – MS Teams

Teacher / Parent Conferences will once again be held virtually on MS Teams. Term two Teacher / Parent Conferences are part of the two informal reports in conjunction with the three formal report cards for the school year. The term two report card will be uploaded on March 4th by 4:00pm.

A reminder that classes will be dismissed early on Tuesday, March 1st and Wednesday, March 2nd to accommodate conferences. Primary classrooms will be dismissed at 1:50 and Intermediate classrooms at 2:00. Each classroom will have different conference times and dates ranging from February 28th to March 4th.

Bookings must be completed between Monday February 21st at 7:00pm and February 27th at 8:00pm. Changes can be made online during that time. However, further changes will not be allowed on the online program after Sunday February 27th at 8:00 pm. Please email your child's teacher directly for changes that need to be made after Sunday February 27th at 8:00 pm. If you prefer a telephone conversation rather than MS Teams meeting, please connect directly with the classroom teacher. The classroom teacher will connect with families if they are doing something different for the second term informal reports.

You may sign up for Teacher / Parent conferences at <https://bit.ly/2XnisKz>.

Pink Shirt Day

On Wednesday, February 23, Boundary will be showing support by wearing pink for Pink Shirt Day. This Pink Shirt Day, our focus is working together and treating others with dignity and respect. The COVID-19 pandemic has affected us all and has shown the importance of helping one another and advocating for those who need it. Help us “lift each other up” and support programs, attitudes, and actions, that encourage healthy self-esteem and teach empathy, compassion, and kindness.

Lockdown Drill

The safety of students and staff is a top priority in the North Vancouver School District. We practice various drills throughout the year to ensure that students and staff are well prepared in case of emergency. On February 24, 2022, at 1:10 p.m., we will practice a lockdown drill at Boundary.

An actual lockdown can be intensely stressful for everyone involved. One of the most common reactions in parents/guardians is to try to reach their child by cellphone. However, cellphone communication can put individuals who find themselves in a lockdown situation at greater risk. For this reason, we ask all parents/guardians for their cooperation in respecting the law enforcement directive of prohibiting the use of cellphones by staff and students during a lockdown.

In the North Vancouver School District, we always recognize our responsibility towards the safety of students and staff on our premises. While the incidence of threatening behaviours in our schools is very, very low, we hope you will find this knowledge of our lockdown procedures reassuring. Please do not hesitate to discuss this information with Mr. MacLeod or Mrs. Wardas with any questions you may have.

Puzzle of the Week

This week's puzzle is now posted. Please see the end of the newsletter or click on this link; <https://bit.ly/334qWWz> for the latest question.

BPAC News

We hope everyone enjoys the Family Day long weekend with their families!! Thanks to those of you who joined the BPAC meeting on Tuesday. Sorry if there was some confusion about the time as it was listed as two different times.

Seeking Donations

Thank you to the few people who have come forward to offer donations for our online auction!

The PAC is working hard to secure donations to make this a success, but we could always use a bit of help. If you work for or own a business and are able to help us with donations, we would greatly appreciate it. Our goal is to raise funds for playground enhancements, new technology for the classrooms, to name just a few. The auction will run from April 24th to May 8th so ideally we would like all the donation items by the end of March.

Contact susan.cleall@gmail.com if you can help us out. We can also provide a formal request letter should you require one.

Social Media

Instagram: [@BoundaryPAC](https://www.instagram.com/BoundaryPAC)

Facebook: [Boundary Pac](https://www.facebook.com/BoundaryPac)

Twitter: [@BoundaryPAC](https://twitter.com/BoundaryPAC)

Website: boundarypac.ca

Boundary PAC Executive

Chair – Sue Cleall (chair@boundarypac.ca)

Vice Chair – Nicole Durnin (vicechair@boundarypac.ca)

Secretary – Tina Pscheidl-Szylowski (secretary@boundarypac.ca)

Treasurer – Henry Chow (treasurer@boundarypac.ca)

Hot Lunch Coordinator – Astrid Damberg (hotlunch@boundarypac.ca)

Directors at Large: Claire Ferrier (past Chair), Sabrina Ferrari, Samantha Gutmanis, Tania Kennedy, Leanne Menzies

Reminders

Drop-Off / Pick-Up Zone

The Drop-Off / Pick-Up Zone immediately in front of the school is a no parking zone. The area is designated for dropping off and picking up only. No car should be in the space of more than one minute and no vehicle should ever be empty of a driver. Please pull up forward as far as possible to allow for others to drop-off behind you. This courtesy will give other drivers more space and vehicles will not block the staff driveway. Please be respectful of the rules around the school for the safety of all our children.

Late French Immersion

Information on the 2022-2023 District Late French Immersion program has now been uploaded to the district website <http://bit.ly/2FoTo9g>. Please carefully read the information regarding registration as space is limited at Boundary and Braemar sites.

Elementary Band and Strings

Registration for the 2022-2023 Elementary Band and Strings program is now open. The NVSD webpage for the [Band and Strings](https://bit.ly/2LFPAre) (<https://bit.ly/2LFPAre>) has been updated and now contains the information for the 2022/23 school year.

Early registration is strongly encouraged as the **registration deadline is March 4th**. Registration on March 4th will be used to organize programming and staffing for September. Low registration numbers may result in program cancellations at school sites. Late registration may not be available and where offered, will be based on program availability at your school site and class size.

Superintendent Report

Please check out this week's Superintendent's report. As usual, there is a lot of useful and important information. <https://bit.ly/3BwTB73>

School Plan

Our updated school plan is now online. Please take a look at the new format which clearly articulates our goals around math learning, responsibility, diversity and Indigenous worldviews. This past fall we met to update, refocus, and prioritize the work we will carry out in support of a vibrant learning community at École Boundary School. The school plan can be viewed on the [Boundary website](https://bit.ly/31fq8NK) (<https://bit.ly/31fq8NK>).

Health Protocols

Please Keep Your Child at Home with any Signs of Illness

If your child(ren) is experiencing any signs of illness, we ask that you please keep them at home. With the increase in COVID cases, we want to ensure the safety of the students and staff at the school. Each teacher is posting a "Window of The Week" which will provide information to keep your child up-to-date with their classroom learning. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your child(ren)'s teacher during regular school hours. If you, or any family member receives a positive COVID through a self-test kit, please report it at <https://reportcovidresults.bccdc.ca>.

Vaccinations for Children Ages 5-11

Information is now available on the [provincial immunization campaign for children ages 5 to 11](https://bit.ly/330180g) (<https://bit.ly/330180g>)

Any child between five and 11 years old can receive a COVID-19 vaccine. Parents can register their child in the [Get Vaccinated system](https://bit.ly/3JVwcQr) (<https://bit.ly/3JVwcQr>) to be notified of when their child can get vaccinated. The vaccines are free and children do not need BC Care Cards to receive them.

For more information about vaccines please see the following resources and information from the [BC Centre for Disease Control](https://bit.ly/3naPTtw) (<https://bit.ly/3naPTtw>), [ImmunizeBC](https://bit.ly/3n8n69g) (<https://bit.ly/3n8n69g>) and the attachment to the newsletter.

School Health Check App

If you are unsure whether to send your child to school due to a cough or runny nose. Please use the School Health Check App to help guide your decision. You can access this App at <https://bit.ly/3kU1JG3>.

Enhanced Safety Measures at Boundary

Masks

Mask wearing has been identified as being very important in the BCCDC enhanced safety measures guidelines. Boundary has been supplying numerous masks, often on a daily basis, to students who forget, lose, or soil their own masks. We are asking that families do the following to help us out:

- Review proper mask wearing with your child(ren)
- Purchase smaller sizes for the younger child(ren) and ensure that they fit correctly
- Ensure your child(ren) come to school with at least 3 masks. Store in a plastic zip-lock bag
- Wash fabric masks daily for optimal safety and hygiene
- For children who cannot wear a mask, we ask families to click on the following [link](https://bit.ly/3r2h23f) (<https://bit.ly/3r2h23f>) to see alternative strategies to keep their child and others safe at school
- Encourage your child to wear a mask while lining up to enter the school and double check for extras.

Teachers will follow-up with parents / guardians regarding any concerns with the wearing of masks in the classroom.

Student Illness

Please continue to monitor your child closely for illness and keep them home when sick. If we feel your child is unwell at school, we will call home and request a prompt pick up. Please see the following links for more in-depth information.

- Complete a Daily Health Check (<https://bit.ly/2FKU78R>) and stay home when sick
- K-12 Health Check app (<https://bit.ly/3kU1JG3>)

- Staff, students and families can also use the BCCDC online Self-Assessment Tool (<https://bit.ly/3n5EhrW>)
- Refer to the BCCDC's "When to test for COVID-19" document (<https://bit.ly/3F63ljf>)
- Reference Guide from BCCDC: What to do if you have COVID-19 (<https://bit.ly/31EPnww>)
- Reference Guide from BCCDC: Instructions for close contacts / households (<https://bit.ly/34q5DSV>)
- NVSD information on COVID [Daily Health Check](https://bit.ly/2FKU78R) (<https://bit.ly/2FKU78R>)

Space Arrangement

We are taking extra precautions to maximize space between people while at school.

- Maximizing physical space of the room – removing extra furniture and some equipment
- Allowing maximum space for students
- Minimizing face to face seating / activities
- Keeping student grouping / arrangements consistent (homeroom, library, lab, music, French etc.)
- Moving Band to the Gym
- Continuing with staggered start/end times
- Minimizing alternative workspaces around the school and in common areas (i.e. students working in small groups in the hallway)
- Limiting students in smaller spaces (carpet time, workstations, workrooms etc.)
- Using consistent seating plans wherever possible in classrooms, library, music, small group instruction

Transitions

- Increased student supervision during transitions
- Students picked up by teachers from outside meeting area at beginning of the day, recess, and lunch
- Students released by teachers from meeting area at recess and end of the day
- Increased supervision and coordination between staff when students are in the hallway getting changed in / out of winter gear, hanging up jackets etc. (This is to reduce crowding in the hallways)
- Using alternate pathways for classes to move around the school
- Assigning students set roles rather than random volunteers and groupings (i.e. computer monitors)

In addition to the procedures mentioned above, Boundary follows the safety measures from the PHO and BCCDC.

Stay Safe,

Tim MacLeod
Principal

Ilona Wardas
Vice-Principal

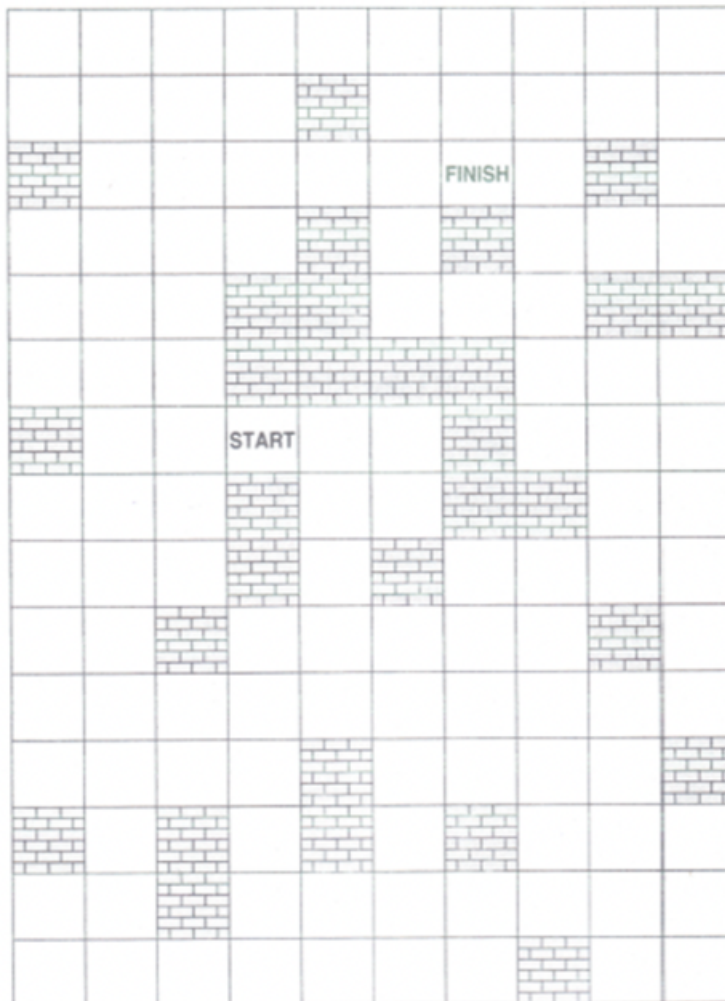
★ PUZZLE OF THE WEEK ★

Solved by: _____

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

It is fun and helpful to work on a puzzle with a group! Please make sure you list all the people who worked on the puzzle together (friends, classmates, family members). Please include last names and divisions too!

Find your way from start to finish passing through all the white squares only one time. You may move horizontally, vertically, but not diagonally!



Please submit your hard work to the box outside of Ms. Rush's room (209) or the office!