



ÉCOLE BOUNDARY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Boundary e-News

February 27, 2022

Dear Boundary Families,

In light of the current conflict in Ukraine and in response to the information that is being shared via media and social media, we offer our kindest thoughts of hope and strength. We know that some of our Boundary families have ties to Ukraine or Russia and the events unfolding will be very frightening and perhaps trauma triggering at this time. Our thoughts also go to many other families who may have emigrated from other parts of the world and may have experienced this kind of conflict first-hand. All schools in the North Vancouver School District are aware of and practice the 10 Universal Elements for Caring and Compassionate Schools. These elements include 'Connecting and Welcoming; Nurturing Hope; Empathizing With Others; Talking About Feelings; Modeling Coping Skills, Including the First People's Principles of Learning; Maintaining Routines; Engaging Students; Communicating Safety; and Cultivating Community. For more information about this and other resources, please refer to our District Portal here [Parents - Social Emotional Learning and Mental Health \(https://bit.ly/3JYS3We\)](https://bit.ly/3JYS3We).

This past week was filled with chilly weather and glorious sunshine. Many classes took advantage of the dry weather to conduct lessons and exploration in the outdoors. The new outdoor area at the front of the school has become a very popular place to gather, play, and learn. This past Wednesday, the school was awash with pink shirts! Students continued to work through Second Step lessons with a focus on celebrating differences, uncovering bias, and lifting others up with thoughts, words, and actions on Pink Shirt Day.

Just a reminder that this coming week is our informal Parent Teacher Conference week with two early dismissal days on the schedule. Please ensure that you have signed up for a conference time online or have made other arrangements to speak with your child's teacher about current strengths and stretches in their learning. Please see more information below.

As always, your diligence in continuing with daily health checks, keeping children home when ill, hand washing, and providing at least 3 well-fitting masks has made such a positive impact on the health and well-being of the school community. Until we hear otherwise, we will continue to follow these protocols and mandates. Thank you for your patience and diligence.

Calendar

Sunday February 27 – Teacher / Parent Conference Sign-up Closes; 8pm
Monday February 28 – Grade 6 Virtual ODS Presentation
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 Early Registration Closes
Friday March 11 – Last Day Before Spring Break
Sunday March 13 – Daylight Savings
Monday March 28 – School Re-Opens
Friday April 15 – Good Friday (students not in session)
Monday April 18 – Easter Monday (students not in session)
Tuesday April 19 – BPAC Meeting; 6:30pm
Thursday April 20 – Class Photos
Friday April 21 – Earth Day

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>.

Video Conferencing Etiquette

The up-coming parent teacher meetings are an excellent opportunity to discuss video-conferencing etiquette with your child. Let your child know what you do to prepare for these experiences and share with them how to find this kind of information online. A quick Google search comes up with lists that include:

1. Ensuring you are on time by logging in early so you can deal with any technology issues that may arise.

2. Muting your speaker and turning off your camera until the meeting begins thus ensuring your privacy and the privacy of others in your household or office.
3. Dressing properly for the meeting and ensuring that your background is blurred or appropriate for the meeting.
4. Introducing everyone who is listening to the call, especially if they are off screen. Children need to know this, expect this, and ask for this when video conferencing with their peers. Modelling this during conferences will help to ensure your child knows to expect and ask for privacy when video chatting.

The teachers are looking forward to the teacher/parent conferences next week.

Rapid Antigen Tests for K-12 Students

Rapid Antigen Tests for K-12 students have arrived and Boundary and will be sent home on Tuesday, March 1st. The Province of British Columbia has procured enough supply to provide one box of five test kits for each student (elementary and secondary). Information on when and how to use the tests is provided in an [information sheet](https://bit.ly/3splTwZ) (<https://bit.ly/3splTwZ>) prepared by the Ministry of Education.

Appointments

Just a reminder to inform the office and the classroom teacher when your child has an appointment during the day. Our procedure requires the student to check-out (also check-in) at the office when they are leaving the school. We ask that the student makes visual confirmation the parent is outside before leaving the building. If possible, please book appointments outside of school hours to minimize the disruption to the instructional day.

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](#)

Facebook: [Boundary Pac](#)

Twitter: [@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/2FoTo9q>. 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>) 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/3Hlvo4R>

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/33018Og) (<https://bit.ly/33018Og>)

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



Rapid antigen at-home test instructions

K-12 Students



In a phased distribution approach, families of students in public, independent and First Nations K-12 schools are being provided with a box of five Artron rapid antigen at-home tests distributed through their school district/authority.

The information below on when and how to use the tests is summarized from [BCCDC](#).

When to Use the Test

These tests are intended for students in K-12 schools. They should only be used when the student has [symptoms of COVID-19](#).

If a person in your household finds it hard to breathe, has chest pain, can't drink anything, feels very sick, and/or feel confused, contact your health care provider right away, or go to your local emergency department or call 9-1-1.

Do not give your child a rapid COVID-19 test if they do not have symptoms of illness.

Test instructions are included in the box, and also in this [BCCDC instruction document](#).

Test Results

If the result is positive, it means your child likely has COVID-19.

Use information from BCCDC to [understand the test results](#), including what actions your child should take. [Complete an online form to report their test result](#) to public health and notify your school that their absence is due to illness.

If the result is negative, your child may return to school when they feel well enough to return to regular activities. Notify your school that their absence is due to illness.

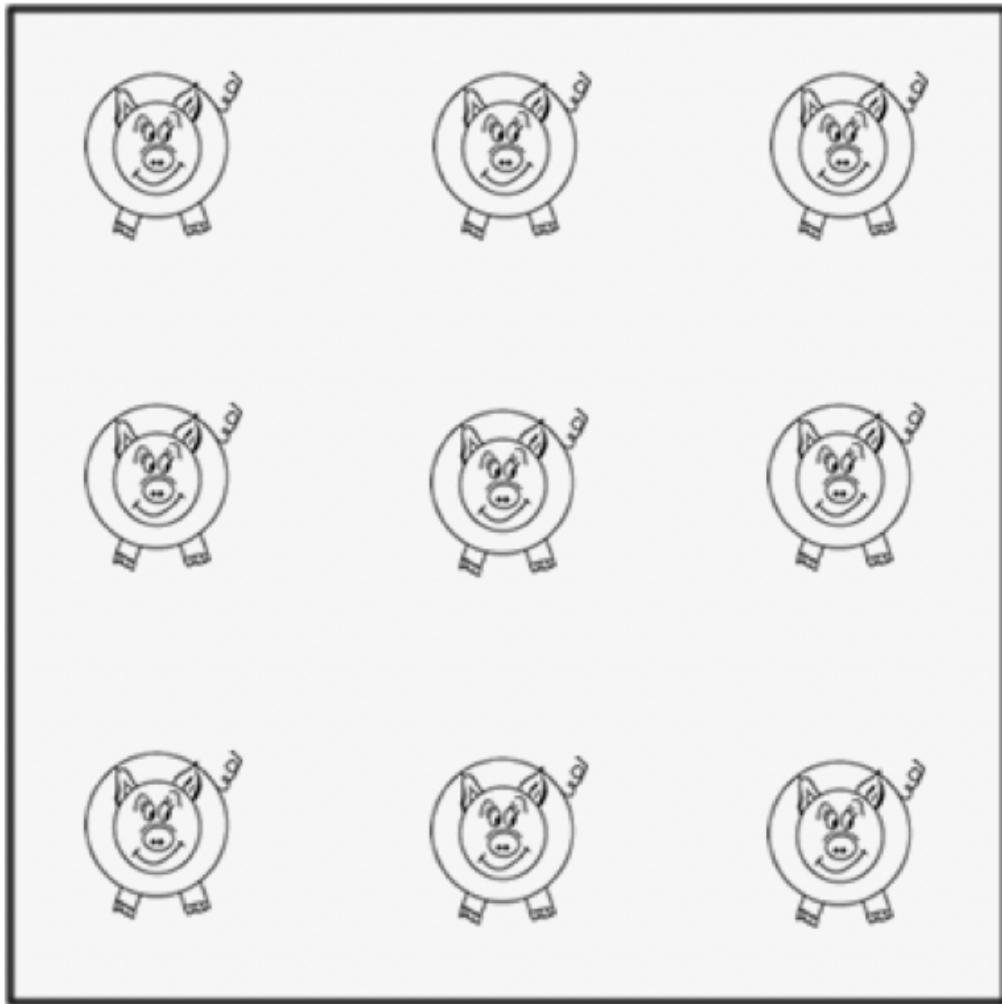
Visit [BCCDC](#) for up-to-date information on COVID-19.

★ 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!

Draw two squares so each of the pigs is in their own pen.



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

Special thanks to thoughtco.com for the puzzle