



*"Home of the Thunderbirds"*

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September 18, 2020

Dear Parents, Guardians and Friends,

Carisbrooke school is up and running! Thanks to all of you for your cooperation and patience as we work together to establish our new normal. The purpose of this email is to fill you in on 'need to know' items, some FAQ's and calendar items.

Last week Superintendent Mark Pearmain did a video Town Hall with Deputy Chief Medical Officer at Vancouver Coastal Health Dr. M Lysyshyn. This link will connect you to the video [recorded town hall](#) . I think that you will find it highly informative.

Below there are a some highlighted FAQ's from the updated [BCCDC Schools FAQ](#) web page. It was updated on September 11, 2020.

[What are the main protective layers being put in place by schools in BC?](#)

The main protective layers being used by schools in BC include:

- Making sure students and staff stay home when they are sick or are required to self-isolate. This will include daily "health checks" for everyone entering the school.
- More and improved cleaning and disinfection.
- Having students and staff placed in learning groups.
- Changing the classroom or learning environment to make the most of the space being used.
- Ensuring physical distancing can be maintained between learning groups through changes to schedules and other procedures.
- Regular hand washing or use of hand sanitizers.
- Use of non-medical masks where a person cannot maintain physical distance outside of their learning group.

[Is it safe for students to play together on the playground? Do we need to do anything to make playgrounds safer?](#)

Being outside, and on an outdoor playground, is a safe environment for students to play together. Focus more on minimizing physical contact between younger students rather than staying 2 metres apart.

No cleaning or disinfection is required for playground structures. More information is available [here](#).

All students should practice hand hygiene before and after play.

[What should happen if staff or students become sick while at school?](#)

A student will be separated, provided a non-medical mask or tissues to cover their coughs or sneezes, and cared for if they become sick at school. Their parents or caregiver will be notified and asked to pick them up as soon as possible.

Staff will be separated and asked to go home as soon as possible.

In both cases, the spaces they were in will be cleaned and disinfected.

Schools will follow the guidance on what to do if a student or staff member develops symptoms, [found here in Appendix C](#).

#### **Will I be notified if there is a positive COVID-19 case in my child's school?**

Staff and families of students will be contacted if public health believes they may have been exposed to COVID-19 at school, and provided with recommended follow-up steps (noted below).

Staff and students not exposed may or may not be notified if there is a positive COVID-19 case in a school. This is at the discretion of the school medical health officer.

#### **Only public health can determine if a staff or student may have been exposed.**

Public health will:

1. notify anyone who may have been exposed.
2. provide any follow-up steps like self-isolating or monitoring for symptoms.
3. work with school administration to decide if communications to the school community are needed.

#### **Coming up this week**

- **Photo day** will take place on **Monday, September 21**. Individual student photos will be taken in an outside studio. All ordering will be online and photo packages will be mailed directly to homes. Kindergarten students who are not in attendance on this day will have their photos taken on the photo re-take day, date to be determined. If you are a student in the Elementary Transition Option, you are invited to come for your photo at 9am. Another option for the Transition students is to join their class for the whole day. 😊
- We had hoped to host a school 'Open House' on Wednesday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>. In the present circumstances this is not possible. Please expect that your classroom teacher will be reaching out to arrange an opportunity to connect **between Wednesday, September 23 and Wednesday, September 30<sup>th</sup>**. Each teacher will find their own way to communicate with families, either through video chat, a pre-recorded message, or a one to one conversation. For example, as part of their gradual entry process Kindergarten teachers have already worked to arrange phone appointments. You can expect to learn a little about the teacher, classroom routines, as well as instructional planning.
- The annual **Terry Fox Run** will be held on **Friday, September 25<sup>th</sup>**. One class will be walking/running at a time on the field, air quality permitting. This year is the 40th Anniversary of Terry Fox's Marathon of Hope and Carisbrooke Elementary is proud to be continuing the legacy of one of our greatest heroes. Please join us and support this wonderful cause by donating to: <http://www.terryfox.ca/CarisbrookeElementary>. Together, we can all make a difference! #terryfoxschoolruns @terryfoxfoundation . Unfortunately, parents, guardians and community members are not allowed to participate this year due to PHO restrictions.

#### **Other Information -**

If you have any changes to your primary emergency contact information (key family cell numbers, etc.) please email [carisbrooke@sd44.ca](mailto:carisbrooke@sd44.ca) to update your records. We know that you are busy filling in all of the paper school forms so that we can update all student information. As this process takes a while, you are encouraged to email key emergency phone contacts in case of emergency if they have recently changed. No need to email if there are no changes.

School CASH online <https://sd44.schoolcashionline.com/> has been updated to include planner payment and Kindergarten fees. Please remember to fill in the new COVID daily health check form as well.

**Orange Shirt Day** will be held on Wednesday, September 30<sup>th</sup> to commemorate, acknowledge and learn about the history of Indian Residential Schools in Canada. Get your orange shirt ready! Details to come.

**And as always –**

- Please arrive on time each day and avoid missing school days. As there is no supervision before and after school, please do not send children too early.
- When dropping off or picking up, all adults must observe physical distancing rules. If you cannot maintain a safe distance please consider wearing a mask to keep us all safe and healthy. Otherwise, it is ok to 'drop and disperse'.
- If your child will be late or absent please call the main office line 604 903 3380 and listen for the appropriate prompt to leave a detailed message. If your child is sick, please include symptoms in your message.
- At this time, the number of adults allowed into the building is restricted to essential staff.
- If your child arrives late or needs to leave early for an unavoidable medical appointment, please call the office line when you arrive at the front door. Someone will come to welcome your child after you have completed the sign in process.

Please contact me at any time should you have any questions or require additional information. Stay well!

Sincerely,

Lisa Upton

Principal, Carisbrooke