



LYNN VALLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Friday, August 28, 2020

Dearest Lynn Valley Families,

We hope this letter finds you well and that you and your child have been enjoying a happy and healthy summer break! Staff at Lynn Valley are so excited to be welcoming back our students on September 10. The announcement in late July by the Ministry of Education regarding the full return to in-class instruction no doubt came with a rush of emotions; excitement, anxiety, fear, happiness and all things in between. Please know that the North Vancouver School District, and in particular, the staff at Lynn Valley recognize that everyone is returning with a different set of experiences and emotions. We would like to reassure you that all Public Health Office, Ministry of Education and School District guidelines for students' safe return to school will be in place. The safety and well-being of all members of our Lynn Valley learning community is our top priority. Our goal is to support you and your children in the most safe and meaningful way. We are all in this together!

Principals and Vice Principals across the district have been meeting this week with District Leadership to review the protocols and key aspects of the safe return to school and will continue this work throughout the next few weeks.

Over the coming weeks, you can anticipate receiving a number of communications from the district, school and your child's classroom teacher. These communications are meant to provide you with clear and updated information: Thank you for your patience and your commitment to taking the time to read all information provided.

As you have already been made aware by the school district, your child will be placed in a learning cohort. The learning cohort will essentially be your child's classroom and will include the students within their class and their classroom teacher(s). Clear safety protocols will be in place for all members within a particular learning cohort, as well as other staff members that may need to interact with cohorts (eg School Administration, Learning Support Teachers, Music Teacher, Teacher Librarian, etc). You will receive detailed school based health and safety protocols next Friday, September 4. Further, once your child has been assigned to a cohort, you will have clear communication from your child's teacher regarding specific protocols within their learning cohort.

KINDERGARTEN FAMILIES: *You will be receiving a separate letter today that outlines some important information regarding your child's gradual entry and school start up.*

What you can expect over the next few weeks:

~Week of August 31 – School Re-Start Team and Health and Safety Team meetings and planning for the safe return of our students and staff

~Friday, September 4 – Communication Home – School Health and Safety Protocols and specific information regarding potential changes to the school schedule (there may be a need to have slightly staggered start and end times as well as staggered break times to ensure safety protocols can be followed)

~Tuesday and Wednesday, September 8 and 9 – Staff will be preparing for the safe and healthy return of students to school

~Wednesday, September 9 – Communication Home from Classroom Teachers – Confirmation of your child's learning cohort with specific cohort protocols as well as specific drop off and pick up information and timing for September 10

~Thursday, September 10 – Students will follow the plan outlined in the communication provided by the classroom teacher from September 9

*Please note that your child will be provided with a unique schedule for Thursday directly from their new classroom teacher and will be at school for a shortened day (2 hours) in the morning. Thank you for your patience and flexibility as we work to build these schedules

~Friday, September 11 – First full day of classes for students

Thank you for your understanding and flexibility adjusting to these new routines and protocols. At Lynn Valley, we continue to prioritize the social emotional well-being of all members of our learning community. The staff at Lynn Valley will be focusing on ensuring that all students feel a sense of belonging and safety in this new normal, and are all so looking forward to having a wonderful school year with your children.

Following up to the email sent on Wednesday, August 26, from Superintendent Mark Pearmain, the school district restart plan has been approved by the Ministry of Education. Below is a link to the school district re-start page that includes resources that you may find helpful as we navigate through this transition together. Starting next week, we will also be updating our school website with up to date resources and information. To help facilitate our planning in the coming days/weeks, we encourage you to fill out the survey (found within the August 26 district email to parents) identifying your intentions for your child's safe return to school.

<https://www.sd44.ca/Pages/default.aspx#/>

Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions or concerns at this time.

With great gratitude and kindness,



Chanin Smyth, Principal

Tim Ireland, Vice Principal