

# Griffin Gazette

Peek at the Week – June 8-12<sup>th</sup>

## Principal's Message

It feels so much better to have students and their excited energy return to our building! We saw some sleepy smiles but most expressed how glad they were to be back in class. We are glad when we can have everyone connected through Zoom or Google Meet.

It was not an easy week though. You will be aware that the topic of racism, and in particular the systemic challenges faced by the black community, has been front and center in the news. The images and stories have been horrifying and highlight the need for greater understanding and compassion. We can, and must, do better.

Your child may have seen some of the extremely upsetting images on the news and been impacted by them. What is happening around the world is troubling, but it is also an important learning opportunity for our students. The province is developing anti-racism curriculum. Delta School District is currently enhancing its diversity resources, and developing anti-racism resources for K-7 for the fall.

I encourage parents and teachers to talk about current events and how important it is to stand up for one another and to choose kindness - always.

## New staggered schedule times

The students in our building have done a tremendous job of following instructions and learning the new routines each day. Now we can tighten up our entry and dismissal times to every ten minutes. Our **NEW** staggered arrival & dismissal times are:

Divisions 5/8/9 - Arrive @9AM and **2:40PM** Dismissal

Divisions 1/6/7 - Arrive **9:10AM** and **2:50PM** Dismissal

Divisions 2/3/4 - Arrive **9:20AM** and 3PM Dismissal

Please do not arrive early. Parents are welcome to accompany their child to their classroom's outer door at drop-off and pickup. Please let them stand on their spot unaccompanied and observe from a safe distance. We encourage parents to depart quickly once their child has entered the building.



## Grade 7/Year-end planning

Grade 7 parents: Time to have fun playing dress-up with your semi-reluctant tween! Please send in your grade 7/baby photo reenactments to [dpalmer@deltasd.bc.ca](mailto:dpalmer@deltasd.bc.ca) by Wednesday, June 10th.

Katie Kynaston will also be taking photos of each grade 7 student and the headshots will be included in the slideshow. If you would like to buy a photo package for \$20 you receive an 8"x10" and 5 edited digital photos. These photos have been very popular in previous years. It is amazing to see their transformations into young adults!

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1GMoHT9GEc2v4LXQaudPqrFyf22ElhPB92Pre796UUjk/edit?usp=sharing> Please sign up for one of the time slots (five students will be physically distanced and have their photos taken per time slot). Photos will be taken at Neilson Grove (playground area).

All of the photos will be used to create a slideshow to celebrate how far the grade 7 students have come on their learning journey as we send them off to high school.

Please fill in this short survey as we try to plan our ideas for events around the PHO guidelines for gatherings of <50 people and staying 2 meters apart. <https://forms.gle/HWLnnwxZQPukXL8z8>

## School items to be returned

You may be wondering about what to do with any library books, textbooks, sports uniforms, musical instruments, Chromebooks, or other items that belong to the school but are still at your house. Let us know when you would like to drop them off outside on the bench or on the table by the front door. We will pick them up and return them to the correct places. We would like to get everything back by June 19<sup>th</sup> if possible.



Grace then/now ☺

## Message from Munchalunch

Hello Families,

We hope you are all doing well. We wanted to send you a Munchalunch update. We have been able to cancel all Munchalunch orders from Spring Break to the end of the current school year. This has resulted in a credit in your Munchalunch account for any orders during this time period. This credit will roll over in your Munchalunch account to next school year. In the circumstance your child is not returning to Neilson Grove, or if you would prefer to have your credit amount returned to you by cheque, please email our PAC Treasurer, Marilyn Belsham, at [mkbelsham@gmail.com](mailto:mkbelsham@gmail.com). Also, if you would like to donate these funds to the NG PAC in lieu of a refund cheque, please let Marilyn know. Cheques are available for pickup at the Office.

Thank you for your understanding,  
Your Hot Lunch Team, Janet O'Brien & Katie Taylor

# BACK TO SCHOOL PROTOCOLS

## WHEN TO KEEP YOUR CHILD AT HOME

- Everyone entering the school needs to make sure that they are healthy. Anyone who is showing symptoms or feeling sick needs to self-isolate at home so they don't get others sick.
- Parents and caregivers must assess their child daily for symptoms of common cold, influenza, COVID-19, or other infectious respiratory disease before sending them to school.
- If you are unsure about sending your child to school, please refer to the [BC COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool](#), or contact 8-1-1, or the local public health unit to seek further input.
- If your child does show symptoms while at school, they will be isolated and you will be notified and asked to pick up your child as soon as possible.

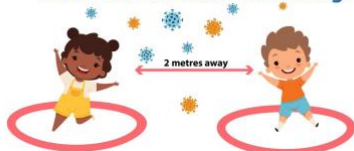


## PREPARING YOUR CHILD FOR A DAY AT SCHOOL

- Please ensure that your child washes his/her hands before school and when they return home. This will be a frequent, routine procedure throughout your child's day at school.
- Your child will be asked to use only their personal items and not to share them. All lunch items, including wrappers/garbage/compost will be packed out in lunch kits as well.
- Please pack water bottles, as all water fountains will be turned off.
- Please apply sunscreen to your child before they arrive at school, or send sunscreen they are able to apply themselves (teachers will not be permitted to apply sunscreen to your child), and a hat for sunny days, and proper clothing for all kinds of weather, as we will be spending lots of time outdoors.



Let's Practice Social Distancing!



## INCREASED HEALTH & SAFETY MEASURES

- We need to be careful so that we don't spread germs at school. To keep everyone safe, things will be different at school.
- Students who come to school will attend in smaller groups and will attend part-time.

## MORNING DROP OFF / PICK UP

- We will implement staggered drop-off and pick up times, in addition to modified/staggered lunch and recess times in order to ensure physical distancing measures are kept.
- Students will go to their class line up area to wait. There will be 2 meter distancing markers to stand on/in (chalk circles, tape boxes, tape lines).
- Parents will not be able to come into the school, unless absolutely necessary. This would be through the office only. The front door will remain locked throughout the day.



## ENTERING THE BUILDING

- Students will be invited in from the line up one by one.
- A teacher or other staff member will assess each student for symptoms of respiratory infection and admit students one by one
- Each student will go to their desk/table in the classroom, drop off their supplies, and proceed to the sink to wash their hands



## CLASSROOM SET UP The classroom will look different.

- Desks/tables/spaces will be set up to leave at least 2 meters of space in between them.
- Many things in the classroom will be put away.
- Students will sit at their own table or desk.
- There will be tape/markers on floor for one way travel to avoid accidental close contact.

## LOTS AND LOTS OF HAND WASHING

- There will be many hand washing times throughout the day.
- You may want to send hand sanitizer to keep in your child's area for their personal use.



## WASHROOM USE

- We will limit washroom use to one at a time and specific bathrooms will be used by each class.
  - We need to limit the things that we touch and keep it clean.



- Online devices will be needed and many of our school computers have been signed out. BYO device is strongly encouraged.



- Classes will be very quiet and have little movement. Please include activities or something to do during quiet time in your personal daily supplies.

## HALLWAY TRAFFIC

- There will be directional flow markers for students to follow in hallways so that physical distancing can be observed.

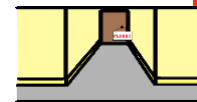
## SNACKS AND LUNCHES

- Children should bring all food in a lunch bag and containers that can be packed in and all remaining food and wrappers will be packed out (you may want to send an extra baggie to pack the garbage in).
  - There will be NO lunch drop off after school starts.
- Students will eat snacks and lunch in their assigned seat.
- Students will eat only their own food, and will not share with others.



## SOME SPACES WILL BE OFF LIMITS

- Gym, Library, Story Studio, Nest, Multi-purpose rooms will be No-Go Zones



## THE CUSTODIANS WILL WORK HARD TO HELP KEEP OUR SCHOOL CLEAN (THANK YOU LLOYD!!)

- We need to remember to respect how we use all areas of our school.
- We can make their job easier by making sure that we clean up after ourselves and leave our desk/table spaces clear.
- Our school will be cleaned and disinfected more frequently, including classrooms and high touch areas.



## RECESS AND LUNCH BREAKS

- There will be NO physical contact sports, but there will be more time outside with classmates.
  - Playground structures will be open starting June 1. Play areas will not be disinfected.
  - We will not be able to share equipment at school. Physical distance will be enforced.
- Students will need to find other things to do outside, and keep their distance from others.



## ATTENDANCE

- If your child is unable to attend school on a day they have been scheduled to attend, please call the school office to notify them.



## INSTRUCTION

- Students will need to stay at their desk or table and do their activities on their own, keeping distance at all times.
- Much of the time will be spent outside, with physical distance boundaries observed.

