

Griffin Gazette

Peek at the Week – Oct 30 – Nov 6th



Principal's Message

Happy Halloween!

Even though it will look a bit different this year, it will still be lots of fun. Classroom teachers have talked with their students about specific plans (board games, movies, etc) for the afternoon. Unfortunately, no treats can come in from home to be shared due to our health and safety guidelines. If a few fun treats for them to eat individually happen to fall into their lunchboxes, that is certainly ok.

It is preferable for kids to keep it simple and either wear their costumes to school or get changed themselves at lunch. We would prefer that they don't get picked up to go home and change. With staggered schedules, we do not want extra traffic while the students are out playing. There is time after lunch for kids to get changed or add final touches to their costumes before the parade at 1:30PM. Masks are okay during the parade but students should be prepared to show adults who they are if asked. Plus that way, grandparents will be able to recognize them in the video.

The Halloween Parade will be done by individual classes as they walk past the cameras and strike a pose. The video will be sent out asap so that everyone can see all of the creepy creatures and characters. We hope you enjoy it and that everyone has a safe Halloween on Saturday.

News From the NG PAC

Seasons Eatings 2020 Neilson Grove Library Fundraiser is online this year:

<https://fundraising.purdys.com/1079847-78496>

All proceeds from this season's 2020 Purdy's Fundraiser will go towards supporting the Neilson Grove library!

Let's gift ourselves and our families some sweets to tantalize our taste buds while supporting our library to feed our minds.

Deadline to order online: 11/19/2020

Drive-thru Pick Up from Neilson Grove: 12/1/2020



Halloween Safety Tips

Halloween is a wonderful time of celebration for our community and families. We enjoy it when students dress up for Halloween, but we do ask for your cooperation to help keep Halloween safe and fun for everyone. Please consider the following tips:

- Students in costume at school should be easily recognizable. This means that full face masks may not be permitted except during the Halloween Parade. Students will identify themselves to all staff members if requested.
- When choosing a costume, make sure that it is easy to move about in and doesn't restrict mobility.
- Replica weapons (guns, knives, etc.) are not allowed.
- We encourage costumes that are not too scary for our youngest students to see.
- School codes of conduct must always be followed, even when in costume. This includes maintaining respectful and appropriate behaviour with others and with school property. Vandalism is never acceptable.
- Please avoid the use of open flames in jack-o-lanterns, etc. A battery-operated light or a glowstick is a safer option.
- **The use and possession of firecrackers or fireworks at schools is strictly prohibited at all times (before, during or after school).** Please visit the [City of Delta website](#) for more information on fireworks permits and regulations.

Thank you to the Grade 7s for decorating the hallways with SOAR posters.



BC Centre for Disease Control has tips on how to celebrate Halloween as safely as possible: <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/social-interactions/halloween>

Thank you for talking with your child(ren) and helping to ensure that Halloween is a fun and safe celebration for our entire community.

Drop-offs/Pick-ups reminders:

Please try to arrive or leave as close to the start and end times as possible. This way we can minimize the numbers of adults and children outside the school at the same time.

Dogs are permitted on leash but please remember that the kids (and adults!) are drawn to them and forget to physically distance.

The playground is also getting very popular at the end of the day. We have specific play groupings to stay in learning cohorts throughout the day. Please limit the playtime right after school.



We are in need of casual noon-hour supervisors.

If you are available 11:45am – 1:15pm on any days during the week, please contact the office for more details. (604) 940-4468



Please remember to SLOW DOWN as you drive to and from our school.

Many of our students walk, bike, or ride their scooters to school and we all need to make sure everyone gets to school or home safely. A big THANK YOU to Dal, our crossing guard at River Rd, for keeping us safe for all these years.

As mornings grow darker, and the wet weather comes, please use extra caution using the crosswalks at River Road or on Admiral Blvd. in front of the school. If you are driving - be very aware of pedestrians. If you are walking - make eye contact and wait until the car has stopped in order to cross safely.

Our Staff Parking Lot is for STAFF PARKING ONLY. Please park on Admiral Blvd. if you are visiting the school.

The PAC also invites parents to report vehicle descriptions and license plate numbers on the Police Non-emergency line:

604-946-4411

Outdoor Learning will be happening a lot this year so students are

expected to dress appropriately for all weather. Indoor shoes and an extra pair of dry socks could come in very handy throughout the year.

The CDC has announced approval of a new Mouth Rinse COVID test for Children - you can find a video here.

<http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/testing/children-youth>

Appendix C: Daily Health Check Example

The following is an example of a daily health check to determine if you should attend school that day.

Daily Health Check			
1. Key Symptoms of Illness*	Do you have any of the following new key symptoms?	CIRCLE ONE	
	Fever	YES	NO
	Chills	YES	NO
	Cough or worsening of chronic cough	YES	NO
	Shortness of breath	YES	NO
	Loss of sense of smell or taste	YES	NO
	Diarrhea	YES	NO
	Nausea and vomiting	YES	NO
2. International Travel	Have you returned from travel outside Canada in the last 14 days?	YES	NO
3. Confirmed Contact	Are you a confirmed contact of a person confirmed to have COVID-19?	YES	NO

If you answered "YES" to one of the questions included under 'Key Symptoms of Illness' (excluding fever), you should stay home for 24 hours from when the symptom started. If the symptom improves, you may return to school when you feel well enough. If the symptom persists or worsens, seek a health assessment.

If you answered "YES" to two or more of the questions included under 'Symptoms of Illness' or you have a fever, seek a health assessment. A health assessment includes calling 8-1-1, or a primary care provider like a physician or nurse practitioner. If a health assessment is required, you should not return to school until COVID-19 has been excluded and your symptoms have improved.

When a COVID-19 test is recommended by the health assessment:

- If the COVID-19 test is **positive**, you should stay home until you are told by public health to end self-isolation. In most cases this is 10 days after the onset of symptoms. Public health will contact everyone with a positive test.
- If the COVID-19 test is **negative**, you can return to school once symptoms have improved and you feel well enough. Symptoms of common respiratory illnesses can persist for a week or more. Re-testing is not needed unless you develop a new illness.
- If a COVID-19 test is **recommended but is not done** because you choose not to have the test, or you do not seek a health assessment when recommended, and your symptoms are not related to a previously diagnosed health condition, you should stay home from school until 10 days after the onset of symptoms, and then you may return if you are feeling well enough.

If a COVID-19 test is not recommended by the health assessment, you can return to school when symptoms improve and you feel well enough. Testing may not be recommended if the assessment determines that the symptoms are due to another cause (i.e. not COVID-19).

If you answered "YES" to questions 2 or 3, use the [COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool](#) to determine if you should seek testing for COVID-19.

A health-care provider note (i.e. a doctor's note) should not be required to confirm the health status of any individual.



Ministry of Health



BC Centre for Disease Control

If you have fever, a new cough, or are having difficulty breathing, call 8-1-1.



<i>If a Student Develops Any Symptoms of Illness</i>	<i>If a Staff Member Develops Any Symptoms of Illness</i>
<p>Parents or caregivers must keep the student at home</p> <p>IF STUDENT DEVELOPS SYMPTOMS AT SCHOOL:</p> <p>Staff must take the following steps:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Immediately separate the symptomatic student from others in a supervised area. 2. Contact the student's parent or caregiver to pick them up as soon as possible. 3. Where possible, maintain a 2-metre distance from the ill student. If not possible, staff should wear a non-medical mask or face covering if available and tolerated, or use a tissue to cover their nose and mouth. 4. Provide the student with a non-medical mask or tissues to cover their coughs or sneezes. Throw away used tissues as soon as possible and perform hand hygiene. 5. Avoid touching the student's body fluids (e.g., mucous, saliva). If you do, practice diligent hand hygiene. 6. Once the student is picked up, practice diligent hand hygiene. 7. Staff responsible for facility cleaning must clean and disinfect the space where the student was separated and any areas recently used by them (e.g., classroom, bathroom, common areas). <p>Parents or caregivers must pick up their child as soon as possible if they are notified their child is ill.</p>	<p>Staff must stay home</p> <p>IF STAFF DEVELOPS SYMPTOMS AT WORK:</p> <p>Staff should go home as soon as possible.</p> <p>If unable to leave immediately:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Symptomatic staff should separate themselves into an area away from others. 2. Maintain a distance of 2 metres from others. 3. Use a tissue or mask to cover their nose and mouth while they wait to be picked up. 4. Staff responsible for facility cleaning must clean and disinfect the space where the staff member was separated and any areas used by them (e.g., classroom, bathroom, common areas).
<p>The threshold for reporting student and/or staff illness to public health should be determined in consultation with the school medical health officer</p>	
<p>Anyone experiencing symptoms of illness should not return to school until they have been assessed by a health-care provider to exclude COVID-19 or other infectious diseases AND their symptoms have resolved</p>	

Stay Home When New Symptoms of Illness Develop

Students and staff should stay at home when new symptoms of illness develop. The key symptoms to watch for are fever, chills, cough, shortness of breath, loss of sense of smell or taste, nausea, vomiting and diarrhea.

- If the staff or student (or their parent) indicates that the symptoms are consistent with a previously diagnosed health condition and are not unusual for that individual, they may return to school. No assessment or note is required from a health care provider.
- For mild symptoms without fever, students and staff can monitor at home for 24 hours. If symptoms improve, they can return to school without further assessment.
- If symptoms include fever, or if after 24 hours, symptoms remain unchanged or worsen, seek a health assessment. A health assessment can include calling 8-1-1, a primary care provider like a physician or nurse practitioner, or going to a COVID-19 testing centre.

NG Staggered Schedule

	Group A - Div 2, 4, 7, 8	Group B - Div 1, 3, 5, 6, 9
8:50AM	Arrive/Enter classroom	
9:00AM		Arrive/Enter classroom
10:20-10:35AM	Recess	
10:35-10:50AM		Recess
11:45-12:25	Outside playtime	
12:15-12:30		Eating lunch inside
12:30-12:45	Eating lunch inside	
12:30-1:10		Outside playtime
2:50PM	Dismissed	
3PM		Dismissed

Playground Areas are divided into Primary and Intermediate Zones to keep learning groups separated as much as possible.

Primary students play on the older playground structure, the first half of the field, and the first sets of swings.

Intermediate students (Gr. 4-7) play on the newer/bigger playground structure, the back half of the field, the swings that are closer to the fence, and the basketball courts.

Playground equipment (ex. soccer or basketballs) has been allowed to be used by students in the same class and a schedule has been developed for the grass field and basketball courts to be used by each intermediate class (gr. 4-7) on alternating days.