

Griffin Gazette

Peek at the Week – Thanksgiving Weekend edition



Principal's Message

We all have so much to be thankful for – most importantly that we have had a successful startup and continue to be healthy and safe. The fewer faces in bigger spaces challenge is a big one in our school since we are used to having classroom buddies and having playtime with everyone at once. I commend all of the students and families for their resilience and flexibility as we continue to all get through this together.

We had a very fun run around the school grounds last Friday to commemorate the 40th anniversary of Terry Fox's run across Canada. So much fun that if we added up all of the laps that each student ran – imagine a relay with each and every student lined up to head out of Ladner and across BC – we would have ended our relay 320km away!! = all the way...past WHISTLER and on to LILOOET! Or past MERRITT and almost to KAMLOOPS! If we caught a ferry – we would end our race in Tofino!! That's really far!

We were also able to reach our goal to raise \$2 per student! Thank you so much for donating. The Toonies For Terry fundraiser is still open online:
<http://www.terryfox.ca/NeilsonGroveElementary>

We wish everyone a very healthy and safe Thanksgiving Weekend.

**Please join us on Zoom @7PM
TONIGHT for the first PAC meeting of
the year!**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://ca01web.zoom.us/j/63316511745>

Meeting ID: 633 1651 1745

Passcode: 929772

News From the NG PAC

Due to the indefinite suspension of the Hot Lunch and Milk Program and the PAC's inability to actively fundraise for our school due to COVID 19, we wanted to present an option for parents to donate their remaining Munchalunch balance from the 2019/2020 school year to the Neilson Grove PAC. However, if you would like this amount refunded to you, please email neilsongrovepac@deltasd.bc.ca and a cheque will be issued to you.

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

The school district is hosting a presentation for families on substance use prevention, addiction and recovery by Guy Felicella on Thursday, October 8 from 6:30 - 8pm. Please visit our [website](#) for more information.

<https://www.deltasd.bc.ca/event/substance-use-prevention-addiction-and-recovery-presentation-with-guy-felicella/>

Parent/Teacher Zoom Interviews will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 21 & Thursday, Oct. 22 after school.

There will be Early Dismissal @1:50PM for Group A (Div 2, 4, 7, 8) and 2PM for Group B (Div 1, 3, 5, 6, 9)

ParentConnect will open tomorrow (Friday) at 11AM to schedule appointments with your child's teacher(s).

With Thanksgiving almost here and Halloween fast approaching, the BC Centre for Disease Control has released some tips on how to celebrate as safely as possible:

Thanksgiving tips: <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/social-interactions/safer-celebrations>

Halloween tips: <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/social-interactions/halloween>





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 (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.