

# Griffin Gazette

Peek at the Week – Oct 5 – 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020



## Principal's Message

Here we are in October – the mornings start out a little foggy and maybe a little bit of smoky, but then beautiful sunshine in the afternoons and stunning sunsets at the end of the day. It might be a bit like how our students feel in the morning – a little bit groggy to start but as they reconnect with their classmates and continue with their day, they get brighter and happier and hopefully have lots to talk about once they get home.

Our Terry Fox event will be kicked off with a schoolwide Zoom Assembly at 9:15AM tomorrow. Classes have signed up for their run-times and students are encouraged to track how many laps of the school grounds they are able to complete this week. The outer perimeter is 300m and the grass field is 200m (thank you to Mrs. Doolan for 'mapping her run')

Toonies For Terry fundraiser is online this year:  
<http://www.terryfox.ca/NeilsonGroveElementary>

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/>



## BIKE/SCOOT/WALK to School Week is this week!

October 5-9<sup>th</sup>, rain or shine, we are celebrating being outside and starting our days in the fresh air and enjoying our beautiful community.

Please be extra safe and make sure that any drivers make eye contact with you before you cross an intersection. There have been foggy mornings and we want everyone to arrive safely to school.

**\*\*The Staff Parking Lot is for Staff & Licensed Daycares Only – please do not use the driveway during drop-off/pick-up times**

# TERRY FOX RUN 2020

## Neilson Grove – Toonies for Terry



40 years ago – Terry Fox started his run across Canada to raise money for cancer research. After 42 km a day for 143 days (5 373 km!), he was forced to stop. Now we run for Terry each year to honour his dream. Our goal is to raise \$2 for every student at Neilson Grove to donate to the Terry Fox Foundation. This year our fundraising will be done online through this link:

<http://www.terryfox.ca/NeilsonGroveElementary>

Did you know that the perimeter of the school grounds is 300m? and the perimeter of the grass field is 200m?

How many laps can you run today? If we add it all up, how many kilometers can the whole school run this week??

Each class will pick times throughout the week to do their laps. Please be prepared to go for a run each day as we honour Terry's legacy.

All we ask is that you try, just like Terry.

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**\*\*Slight change in the dates\*\***

**AFTER SCHOOL POTTERY @ HOME!**



Spend frosty autumn afternoons creating with clay!

Enjoy pottery according to your own schedule during this flexible 8 week program. Each Monday a new project will be sent to your home by YouTube link, ready to guide you step by step, for when your family is ready to play with clay!

Projects include designing a pottery hot chocolate mug and a pretty coil cocoa kettle! Carve a penguin from Plaster of Paris! A haunted Halloween sculpture is fun to make! or if you prefer, a sculpture of a skiing snowman or reindeer!

Winter gift giving season is ahead, so why not create your own personalized gifts! Learn to create a bowl out of whimsical autumn leaf shapes! Each project teaches techniques, so please feel free to replace any of my project ideas with designs your own!

All clay supplies, dinnerware safe glazes, and kiln firing provided!

As usual, returning students will receive a bonus pottery project, this time creating a pottery Christmas tree decoration or, if you prefer, a dishwasher clean/dirty pendant instead!

**TO REGISTER:** [venetia.inglis@gmail.com](mailto:venetia.inglis@gmail.com)

**CLASS START DATE:** **Monday October 12th.** Each Monday your family will be emailed a new YouTube pottery project for 8 weeks.

**SUPPLY PICK-UP:** **Friday October 7<sup>th</sup>,** after school, in the school parking lot.

**COST:** Siblings and/or parents are also invited to join in the fun at a special rate. \$65 for one child, \$130 for two family members, while the third only pays \$45. (Payment by e-transfer is welcome, or by cheque made out to Venetia Inglis).

**SUPPLIES:** Your child's/family's package will include enough portions of clay divided up for the different weekly projects, a plaster form for carving, and an offering of 5 colours of dinnerware safe glaze. (You choose them when you pick up your supplies).

**HOME SUPPLIES:** You will need to have on hand a recycled yogurt or sour cream container with lid, toothpicks, sharpened chopstick, paper towels/newspaper or even a tea towel for working on. It's also a good idea to have an old cloth for wiping hands just to keep tidy while working with clay.

**POTTERY FIRING DATES:** We all get busy, so feel free to work on projects according to your own schedule. A variety of pottery firing dates are available during the first two weeks of December to accommodate your family! So take your time.



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><b>Parents or caregivers must keep the student at home</b></p> <p><b>IF STUDENT DEVELOPS SYMPTOMS AT SCHOOL:</b></p> <p><b>Staff must take the following steps:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Immediately separate the symptomatic student from others in a supervised area.</li> <li>2. Contact the student's parent or caregiver to pick them up as soon as possible.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>5. Avoid touching the student's body fluids (e.g., mucous, saliva). If you do, practice diligent hand hygiene.</li> <li>6. Once the student is picked up, practice diligent hand hygiene.</li> <li>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).</li> </ol> <p>Parents or caregivers must pick up their child as soon as possible if they are notified their child is ill.</p>	<p><b>Staff must stay home</b></p> <p><b>IF STAFF DEVELOPS SYMPTOMS AT WORK:</b></p> <p><b>Staff should go home as soon as possible.</b></p> <p>If unable to leave immediately:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Symptomatic staff should separate themselves into an area away from others.</li> <li>2. Maintain a distance of 2 metres from others.</li> <li>3. Use a tissue or mask to cover their nose and mouth while they wait to be picked up.</li> <li>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).</li> </ol>
<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><b>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</b></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**

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