

Griffin Gazette

Peek at the Week – Sept 21-25th, 2020

Principal's Message

We had another exciting week of learning and adjusting to our new routines. We were happy to see the air quality from the smoke improve slightly but a few more glimpses of blue sky are still on the wish list. We all hope that the fires are out soon.

Thank you to parents who 'drop/grab and go' each day. We have many students moving through the outside areas and we need to make sure they have enough space to get to and from class safely. Masks are encouraged for everyone since there are many students moving through. Parents should not be near student lineups. Our grade 6/7s are lined up away from the doors to make more room and they need room to walk through when it is time for school.

Teachers are available by email or to meet by phone or Zoom by appointment. We are discouraging the classroom door conversations due to physical distance requirements.

Our Kindergarten class is almost finished their gradual entry and we will be welcoming them for full days starting on Monday. I enjoyed seeing them get their photos taken for their very first school picture. Ms. Drinnan's 'Small Folk' were extra adorable today.

We have an updated Daily Health Checklist (attached below) from the Ministry of Health which has more detailed info on what to do if you have one or more symptoms of illness. The key thing is to Stay Home When Sick and follow the guidelines to monitor symptoms, call 8-1-1 or see a health care provider if needed, and follow their instructions.

Mrs. Reid would like everyone to know that the library is open and classes have been scheduled for their library blocks and book exchanges. Students are reminded to make sure they give her space since she does not have a learning group - she works with all students. Books that come in are 'quarantined' for three days before they are put back on the shelves so there might be a bit of a wait for some of the popular titles. The kids were told that the books are resting ☺ If you have found any books at home, please return them to the classroom bin.

**Reusable Masks are available for all students and can be provided by teachers upon request. They have been supplied to us by the district as part of the safe restart plan.

**If you arrive more than 5min. late, please knock on the front door and check-in at the office (we need to know you are here). If you are leaving early, please call the office from the car and we will send students out to the front of the school.



**Don't forget - Friday is a ProD
day so no school for students!



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.



<i>If a Student Develops Any Symptoms of Illness</i>	<i>If a Staff Member Develops Any Symptoms of Illness</i>
Parents or caregivers must keep the student at home	Staff must stay home
IF STUDENT DEVELOPS SYMPTOMS AT SCHOOL:	IF STAFF DEVELOPS SYMPTOMS AT WORK:
<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 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).
The threshold for reporting student and/or staff illness to public health should be determined in consultation with the school medical health officer	
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	

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.

We are trying to reduce physical contact and have not allowed shared equipment onto the field.

