

# Griffin Gazette

Peek at the Week – Sept 28 – Oct 2, 2020



## Principal's Message

We have had another exciting week of learning and getting to know each other a little better. The students have been writing about their DNA (Dreams, Needs, and Abilities) as a school-wide project. It is wonderful to read about the unique talents and aspirations of each of our amazing students. Stay tuned - we will be creating a virtual 'Open House' to share more about what school is like on the inside of the building.

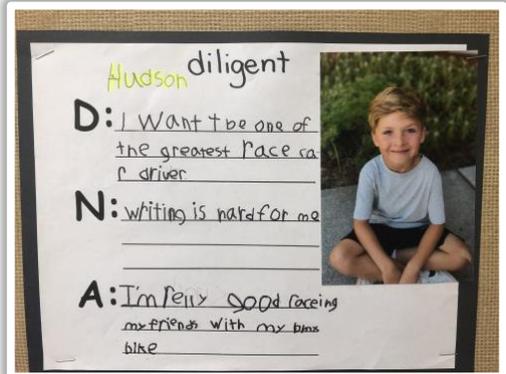
Our school goal is that **"Our community of learners is building skills to feel successful with their learning and connected to the school"**. While many things are different this year, that goal has not changed. We hope that everyone continues to feel a sense of happiness and belonging at school.

As Griffins, we also continue to SOAR and the 'S' is for Safety. Everyone is doing their best to make sure that all of us are safe. We are thankful to everyone for monitoring symptoms, using the Daily Symptom Checklist each day, and staying home when sick. We have translated copies of the checklist posted on our school website: <https://ng.deltasd.bc.ca/> to make it easier for all family members in our school community to understand.

Now that classes have found their groove, if you have been on the 'wait and see' plan, please ensure classroom teachers know when your child will be returning. We want you to still feel connected and we do hope to see you soon.

Class previews will be coming home next week so that parents know which units will be the focus for Term One. We are also thinking of ways to do our Terry Fox Run and Bike to School Week a little differently this year...so stay tuned for more info from classroom teachers.

\*\* Our PAC is working on getting connected through Zoom for the first PAC meeting, tentatively scheduled for **7PM, October 8<sup>th</sup>** so please Save the Date.



\*\*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 from their classroom door. \*\*The Staff Parking Lot is for Staff Only - please do not block

If you were looking forward to joining our Pottery Club, we are doing it a little differently this year...

**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 5th. Each Monday your family will be emailed a new YouTube pottery project for 8 weeks.

**SUPPLY PICK-UP:** Friday October 2, 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.**



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

#### 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.

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

