



David Livingstone Elementary School

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Phone: 604-713-4985

Friday, April 17, 2020

Dear Families,

The landscape is constantly shifting as we deal with staying healthy in the midst of the COVID-19 Public Health crisis. After spring break in the Vancouver School Board has taken a unified path:

Week 1 was all about Health (physical and mental) and Safety. This included ensuring that students had enough food, appropriate childcare was in place for the children of essential service workers, and that children were feeling safe and connected with trusted adults at school. Health and Safety of all of our students and families will continue to be the number one priority throughout this Public Health crisis. Please feel free to contact me on my direct line 604-713-5005 or email me at cfroese@vsb.bc.ca if you have any concerns or questions about supports available in the community. I am happy to work together to ensure needs are being met during these challenging times and I can assure you that our conversations are confidential.

In Week 2, the focus was on exploring ways to engage students in learning opportunities at home and setting up some possibilities. We are very sensitive about adding a burden to families that are already overwhelmed with demanding job requirements, job insecurity, trying to shift to working at home while dealing with the demands of children at home, family health concerns and a myriad of other pressing issues. This is intended to be a “no guilt” environment where we are supporting one another. The trick is trying to balance this with the desire of other families that are very much concerned with their child falling behind. Conversations with teachers are the only way to determine what works for your family.

By our 3rd Week, many interesting opportunities are emerging for the Livingstone School Community. Teachers are communicating with families via email, phone, texts, My BluePrint,, Teams Classroom, and other online platforms. Teachers are available during the week from 9:00 – 3:00 pm everyday, so please reach out to them to discuss questions, concerns and appreciative feedback. There has also been a shift towards teachers considering how they will incorporate seven months of learning at school with the time spent learning at home to do meaningful assessment and reporting.

Just as students and teachers are working together in different ways, so is the rest of the school community. I am regularly connecting with teachers for Teams meetings online, chats, and using Office 365 forms to collect information for planning purposes. This week I was able to meet with sixteen parents and two teachers on ZOOM for our monthly PAC Meeting. Some of these structures will endure in post-Covid-19 days, but I am sure looking forward to the face to face contact down the road.

Please continue to check the school website, daily video Tweets @LivingstoneVSB and share the attached letter with your child. My latest blog [Inquire2Empower carriefroese.wordpress.com](https://carriefroese.wordpress.com) featured A Dozen Ways to find #Joy at home. Coming up with your unique family list could be a weekend possibility. I welcome any other suggestions about how to help your child feel connected to their school.

Dr. Bonnie Henry seems to have reached rock star status. Perhaps the only B.C. Provincial Health Officer who ever has! John Fluevog is even designing shoes in her name and she has become an amazing role model for all of our students, regardless of gender! I will leave you with her sage advice:

Be Kind.

Be Calm.

Be Safe.

Sincerely,



Carrie Froese

Principal

