

Graham Bruce Elementary News

April 17, 2020

Dear Graham Bruce Families,

As we wrap up our third week after Spring Break, I would like to update you on the work we have been doing at the school level to transition into the continuity of learning phase of “school at home”.

We continue to focus on the **Guiding Principles**:

1. Health and Safety for a staff and students
2. Communication with staff, families and community
3. Connections with family
4. Learning

For the first two weeks, our focus was on the first three principles. Now, we have added the fourth, learning. All four principles continue to guide us every day.

We recognize that schooling from home comes with many challenges, and are here to help. Please contact your teacher or support staff if you have any questions or concerns. You can also contact me at knoelbentley@vsb.bc.ca

Please continue to check your email and the school website regularly for updates.

I hope you are staying healthy and safe as we continue to navigate these challenging times.

Sincerely,
Karen Noel-Bentley
Principal

Learning Focus

Now, more than ever, it is important to remember and reflect on the **Core Competencies** outlined in the BC Curriculum:

Communication

- How is your child expressing their understanding, their needs, and their questions?

Thinking

- How is your child thinking **critically** and **creatively** about their learning?
- How can you and your child incorporate their day-to-day activities into their learning?
 - Baking together – math!
 - Bike riding – PE!
 - LEGO – Applied Design, Skills, and Technology!

Personal and Social

- How is your child showing awareness of their own strengths and abilities?
- How is your child expressing their awareness of their own well-being?
- How is your child advocating for their needs?
- How is your child contributing and caring for their environment?
- How does your child show awareness and appreciation for other perspectives?

Student Emails

Now that our students are accessing their Office 365 suite, including Teams and email, please note the following:

- K-7 student emails are restricted to internal VSB communication only. They will not be able to send or receive emails from non-VSB email addresses. This is to protect them from unwanted emails (e.g. spam, phishing, etc.)
- If you have not already done so, please change your child’s password from the default, “student”. You can change it at <https://studentpass.vsb.bc.ca/>
 - NOTE: You will need your child’s 9-digit PEN number (please ask your child’s teacher if you do not have it) and birth date.

School Supplies

- As your child works from home, you will need access to basics supplies, such as pencils, paper, etc. If your family needs support to obtain supplies, please fill in the survey (link in email) and we will let you know how we can provide it to you.
- The VSB is working on safe procedures for families to retrieve students’ personal items from their classrooms and desks. We will let you know when we have safe procedures in place for this to occur.

April Hot Lunch

If you ordered and paid for hot lunch for April, a refund cheque will be mailed to you by the end of May

Communication

- Teachers and support staff will need to communicate with your children at least one time per week. There are many ways they might communicate, including:
 - Email
 - Phone
 - Teams
- If you receive a phone call from a blocked number, it might be your child’s teacher! Please answer the phone so your child can speak to their teacher.

School Code of Conduct

At Graham Bruce School we care for and respect:

- Ourselves
- Others
- Our Community

Superintendent: Ms. Suzanne Hoffman

Director of Instruction: Mr. Aaron Davis

Liaison Trustee: Mr. Allan Wong

Principal: Ms. Karen Noel-Bentley (604-713-4778 or knoelbentley@vsb.bc.ca)

Secretary: Ms. Denise Meyer (604-713-4778 or dmeyer@vsb.bc.ca)