



Queen Mary Elementary School

2000 Trimble Street, Vancouver, BC, V6R 3Z4 Tel: (604) 713-5464

April 20th, 2021

Director of Instruction

Mr. R. Zerbe

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Principal

Ms. M. Davies

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Official Trustee

Mr. O. Hanson

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Parent Advisory Council

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We live, work and learn on the traditional and unceded territories of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Coast Salish Nations. Queen Mary Elementary School wishes to acknowledge the history of our community and neighbourhood.

Generosity at Queen Mary

Thank you for contributing to Queen Mary's 2020-2021 DirectDrive Campaign - approximately 45 families donated over \$27 000, exceeding our request by over \$4500! We will now be able to purchase all of the technology from our original campaign request as well as a laptop cart and additional Dell laptops to add to the bundle of Dell laptops that Queen Mary recently received from the VSB. The additional donated funds that exceeded our campaign request will be saved in our QM Technology Account for future technology purchases, replacements and/or repairs.

Thank you for supporting enrichment and innovation in education at Queen Mary. Family donations enable us to provide staff with additional tools and resources to enhance the learning experiences of our students, above and beyond what is funded by the government.



Important Upcoming Dates

April 26	Professional Day – School not in session
May 4	Individual Photo Day (no re-takes!)
May 11	PAC Meeting (7:00pm)
May 24	Victoria Day – School not in session
June 15	PAC Meeting (7:00pm)
June 24 (TBD)	Grade 7 Leaving Assembly (online)
June 29	Last day of school for students Reports go home

Queen Mary's Code of Conduct



We respect everyone's learning by respecting ourselves, others and our surroundings.

Queen Mary's Mission Statement



is to build a respectful community of lifelong learners. We work towards becoming caring, accomplished & cooperative citizens. We aim to provide an enriched environment in which children are encouraged to think, question, create & wonder.

Reminders About Protocols and Health Orders

In efforts to significantly reduce COVID-19 transmission related to social interactions and travel, British Columbians are continuing to follow the order and direction of the Provincial Health Officer (PHO).

Please consider reviewing the current orders here:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/covid-19/info/restrictions>

In accordance with these orders, we request that families:

- Avoid gathering/socializing on our school grounds during drop off and pick up
- Take children home promptly at 3:00pm instead of playing on the playground with others who may not be in the same cohort
- Continue to remind your child(ren) of the importance of maximizing distancing and minimizing/completely avoiding physical contact with classmates or friends whenever possible

Please also:

- Continue to review our Daily Health Assessment every morning
- Keep your child at home if they feel sick or have any sign of illness
- Get tested immediately if anyone in your family feels sick

Thank you for continuing to be extra vigilant of your personal activities and community/club sports. Please take all possible health precautions! The PHO prohibits all in-person indoor gatherings - playdates, sleepovers, dinner guests etc. - as well as non-essential travel outside of Vancouver. For those gathering in groups of up to 10 people outside, please stick to the same 10 people and continue to use COVID layers of protection and maintain physical distancing.



COVID-19 Mouth Rinse/Gargle Test Kits Available Through Vancouver Schools

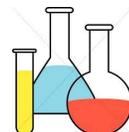
BC Children's Hospital and Vancouver Coastal Health are making COVID-19 Mouth Rinse/Gargle test kits available for students in the VSB who become symptomatic during the school day. This follows a successful four-month field test at ten schools in the District. Kits have been distributed to all elementary and secondary schools in the District.

As is practice, if a student presents with COVID-19 symptoms during the school day families will be contacted to pick their child up as soon as possible. A kit will be offered to the parent/caregiver to take home with them when the child is picked up. Acceptance of a kit is voluntary. Instructions on how to administer the test at home are included in the kit.

IMPORTANT! Parents/Caregivers MUST fill out important information on the **Mouth Rinse/ Gargle Container** before the collection/ specimen is taken – **Full Name, DOB, Date and Time of Collection**. It is also necessary to fill in the two sections outlined in yellow on the **Symptomatic Viral Form (requisition)** – **Full Name, DOB, PHN, Sex** (if possible) prior to dropping of the collection for assessment.

The sample can be dropped off at any LifeLabs location or at BC Children's Hospital for processing.

Results from these tests will be received through the same processes as tests taken at COVID-19 test centres.



The health and safety of students and staff remains the top priority of the Vancouver School District. Families are reminded to continue to monitor their children for symptoms of COVID-19 before sending them to school each day.

May 4th - Individual Student Photos



With protocols in place, we are now able to proceed with individual student photos! Our school photo day is fast approaching! Edge Imaging will be at the school on May 4th capturing everyone's smiles (photos will be taken outside!). Due to the protocols, short turnaround time and photographers available, there will not be time to take class or group photos (a class composite will be provided) – OR – return to the school for a re-takes! For more information, please visit www.edgeimaging.ca for answers to frequently asked questions.

Planning for the 2021-2022 School Year

In the coming weeks, QM staff will be considering school organization, staff assignments and student placements for the 2021-2022 school year. The way in which the divisions and grade levels are determined is directly dependent upon the number of students registered at the school and the contractual rules for class configuration. Student enrollment also determines the allocation of Teaching Staff, Support Staff (such as Speech and Language Pathologists, Counsellors, Psychologists, Indigenous Education Workers, Teacher Librarians etc.) and Student Support Workers. All planning, organization, assignments and placements are tentative until we receive our final and confirmed numbers in September.

QM staff collaborates carefully and works very hard to make the best possible placement for each and every child. There are many factors considered when generating class compositions including academic progress, teaching and learning styles, social and emotional needs, peer dynamics, placement and classroom history, learning support and more! Discussions and decisions around class placement take significant time, consideration and professional understanding. Our staff respectfully and professionally considers the individual needs and nature of every single child.

If you feel it necessary to provide the school with new and/or pertinent information regarding your child's academic, social and/or emotional vulnerabilities, please write an email to our principal, Megan Davies (mdavies@vsb.bc.ca) no later than Friday May 14th. While writing a letter does not guarantee your child's placement, we will consider your input. Please ensure that your request includes an educational rationale. Please do not request specific Teachers or Student Support Workers. Thank you for your support as we strive to create the best possible learning environment for all students at Queen Mary!

