

Sir Matthew Begbie Elementary School

1430 Lillooet Street, Vancouver B.C. V5K 4H6

tel. 604.713.4686

[Begbie School Website](#)

Important Information – Please Translate

這是一份重要資訊 — 請找人為您翻譯 這是一份重要信息 — 請找人為您翻譯

Mahalagang Impormasyon - Paki salin sa sariling wika

Thông tin quan trọng - Xin tìm phiên dịch

ਮਹੱਤਵਪੂਰਨ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ-ਮਿਹਰਬਾਨੀ ਕਰਕੇ ਅਨੁਵਾਦ ਕਰੋ/ਕਰਵਾਓ

महत्वपूर्ण जानकारी - कृपया अनुवाद करें

Información importante - Por favor traducir 重要な情報-翻訳してください

중요한 정보 - 번역 부탁드립니다

Principal Update April 9, 2020

SAFE ARRIVAL LINE; 604-713-5159 ext 12

Principal:	Mr. John Cortens	604-713-4686
OAA:	Ms. Cheryl Betteridge	604-713-4686
Director of Instruction:	Ms. Alison Ogden	604-713-5000
Education Coordinator:	Ms. Jessie Fogel	604-713-5000

PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE EXECUTIVE

Chair:	Mr. Bryan Yu
Treasurer:	Ms. Elise Wong
Secretary:	Ms. Jocelan Thiessen
Members-at-Large:	Ms. Elisa Gutiérrez, Ms. Ina Huang, Ms. Helen Sinclair, Ms. Queenie Wong
Email:	begbieschoolpac@gmail.com
Website:	www.begbiepac.weebly.com
Facebook:	“Sir Matthew Begbie PAC”

MOST CURRENT SCHOOL INFORMATION

For current information please check VSB Website and SMB School Website

Dear Begbie Parents/Guardians,

Welcome

Let me start by saying I hope you and your loved ones are safe and sound as we move through these unprecedented times. I want you to know the SMB Staff have been working together over the last few weeks with our students and families at the front of our minds. We miss you, we care for you and we hope you are well. We have been working hard for the last two weeks getting ready for the continuation of learning. As we build the foundation for a new way of teaching and learning we will be sure to plan our work through the lenses of the four principles given us by the leadership of the Vancouver School Board.

The Four Guiding Principles

Health & Safety

The same as you, we have been working together to learn how to manage ourselves and those we are responsible for as individuals in a safe manner in compliance with the directives from the PHO. As we move forward this will always be our first and most important starting place.

Health and Safety is a shared responsibility. All members of our school community are responsible. Please make sure you and your children are aware of the required safety protocols regarding hand-washing, social distancing and respiratory hygiene.

If you have any concerns about health and safety as it pertains to our school community, please be sure to communicate promptly and directing to the office.

Connection

We are close to being 100% connected to all members of our school community! This is wonderful news. This means we have a current email and phone number for almost everyone. You should have heard from your child's classroom teacher who has confirmed your contact information. You can be very helpful to us by making sure you let us know if there is anyone you are aware is having trouble connecting with the school. Having a connection with us is fundamental and foundational. As your contact info changes please be sure to send updates to your child's teacher or to BegbieStudentRecords email.

Communication

We are now entering the phase of ongoing, relevant and transparent communication between your child's teacher and between SMB school and you. Our virtual door is open and as we learn to learn together in this new space, please know you can expect to hear from us regularly and we are hoping to hear from you.

Continuation of Learning

This week you can expect your child's teacher to communicate in order to begin providing your child with learning opportunities so they may continue to progress in their learning in these new circumstances.

Let me be very clear. It is not our intention to replicate the typical school day nor to expect you to become a home schoolteacher. School going forward will be fundamentally different. Once we know we are safe and secure, we can begin to explore the exciting opportunities to learn together.

This is not a one-size fits all approach. Please know that each classroom, teacher and school will look different. Know that children with different teachers may have different experiences or opportunities. In the same manner, one school's approach may look and feel different from another's. This is okay and expected.

Everything our teachers prepare and offer your child is meant to enhance and improve their day. We know our families are going through great challenges that shift and change daily. We are here to assist you and help connect you up with resources. Please let us know if you require our support. We are here to help as best we can. This will be going on for the foreseeable future.

If for any reason you are unable to meet the demands on your child, you are not to feel bad. Again, we are not intending to add to the stress your family is managing right now. Whenever things become too much please just let us know.

Going Forward

We are at the beginning of an exciting journey. As partners we will work closely together guided by our four principles to focus on what is most important. I trust the SMB School Community remains as important to you and your family as it does to us.

As we learn and grow, we are going to make mistakes. This is to be expected and is entirely understandable. We need to be kind, compassionate and patient with each other. This is our school code as it has always been and will remain. We endeavour always to be safe, to be kind and to be fair. When we fail to meet this ideal we will be patient with each other and learn a better way.

I have attached a reminder of the protocol for dealing with concerns. Even though we are in a distributed learning model, please know we are here to address your concerns. We simply ask you are aware of the process and follow the outlined steps.

Until you hear from us again, I wish you all the very best. You can expect to hear from us in various ways as we learn to build SMB school community in this new environment.

Take care. Be kind. Know we miss you. Know we love you.

On behalf of our teachers and staff with sincere affection

Mr. John Cortens
Principal
SMB Elementary School

Resolving Problems at School

Parents, teachers, staff and administration work closely to ensure positive, productive working relationships that benefit our students. Once in a while we may run in to difficulties or need support solving problems. These problems are not unexpected and can be resolved quickly if we work together.

Please be reminded we have a process in place for positively dealing with the challenges we face. Help us solve problems by following these steps.

Using social media to share your concerns or attempt to resolve your problem is not recommended.

Thank you in advance for your support. Please feel free to contact the office if you have any questions.

Type of Problem	Your Response
Questions or concerns about your child's experience in the classroom	<p>Level One: Must be brought to the attention of your child's teacher.</p> <p>Level Two: If unresolved, it may be brought to the attention of the Principal once you have spoken to the teacher.</p> <p>If you have not talked to your child's teacher you will be re-directed to the teacher before going further.</p>
Concerns about things that happen on the playground at recess or lunch	<p>Level One: It is always good to check with your child's teacher so he or she is aware if there are problems outside the classroom.</p> <p>Level Two: Please make sure the OAA (school secretary) and the Principal are aware of any difficulties your child may be having on the playground.</p>
Concerns about events that take place off school grounds, on out of school events, before or after school or on the weekend	<p>If there is a problem that happens off site during school hours please start with the classroom teacher.</p> <p>While we are not responsible for events that happen before or after school or on the weekend it may become necessary to let us know if these events impact your child at school.</p>
Concerns regarding health and safety	We take the health and safety of our staff and students very seriously. Please communicate

	<p>any concerns promptly and directly to the OAA and the Principal.</p> <p>Emergency situations should immediately be brought to the attention of the front office, the OAA, the Principal or the Head Teacher.</p> <p>Non-emergency situations need to be brought to the attention of the front office, the OAA and the Principal in a timely manner.</p> <p>Unresolved health and safety concerns may be communicated to the district once we are aware at the school level and have had a chance to try to resolve the issue.</p>
Unresolved Problems	<p>If, after having followed the suggestions above, the problem remains unresolved and you remain unsatisfied you may want to communicate with an administrator at the Vancouver School Board.</p> <p>Level Three: Once you have communicated your concerns at Level One and Level Two you may want to contact our Education Coordinator and our Director of Instruction. Contact information is included in this update and on the school website.</p>