

25 February 2021

Good evening,

We made it through February – which is also my way of reminding you that tomorrow (Friday) is a district-wide professional development day. We'll see you all on Monday!

### **Some COVID-19 Reminders**

With better days on the horizon, it is important that we don't give up yet on the safety precautions and protocols we're continuing to follow to keep everyone safe. To that end, please remember:

- We love having them here...but not too early! We're seeing an increasing number of students playing before school with kids not always in their own learning group or class. Of course, we want kids to be active but keeping kids in their learning groups throughout the day isn't going to keep them protected if large groups of kids are playing on the playground together before and after school. As difficult as it is, please try to limit students from different learning groups spending time before and after school on the playgrounds, and families congregating face to face, closer than two metres, without masks, etc.
- The updated *Student Daily Health Check* is attached again this week, and is now available in multiple language translations on the [school district website](#).
- We'll be reminding students this week about the importance of *keeping hands to themselves*. It's so important right now that we limit opportunities for tag, wrestling, activities that bring students into physical contact. Your help in reinforcing that message is much appreciated.

We're getting closer now to putting this pandemic era behind us – let's make sure we all stay the course, so we continue to move forward...not back to tighter restrictions.

### **Kindness Kick-off**

In celebration of our focus on kindness and caring this month, today we held our Kindness Kickoff afternoon, starting with our *live by remote* assembly. It was so great to see the students all together, even if we were in our separate classrooms.

Our students have demonstrated yet again how caring and kind they are, and we celebrated with art activities, including our kindness chains, now hung in the foyer, and our kindness gardens growing along the hallways. We wish you could all be here to share them but for now, pictures will have to do!



### **Cross Catchment Information...Coming Soon**

The district office staff has been busy coordinating applications for cross-catchment applications both to Coquitlam River Elementary for our incoming kindergartners and for our grade 5's heading off to middle school (I know – *we* can't believe it either!). Information about student placements will come directly from the school district office – I expect within the next week or so.

### **Way to go, Grade 4's**

As those of you with grade four students know, our students have been busy writing the Foundations Skills Assessments – FSA's – during this past week and a half. These are annual assessments for students in grades 4 and 7, required by the Ministry of Education for students across the province. We have now completed the *written* booklet portions of the assessment and aim to complete the *online* components next week. They have done a stellar job getting through these required assessments – ice cream celebrations are likely called for!

It's worth noting that our grade 5's – who share classes with their grade 4 colleagues – have shown real leadership in working independently and helpfully, providing ideal writing conditions they know from experience are needed.



### **Brrr...it's cold....Hey, where's my jacket?**

There's a reasonable chance it's on the lost and found table or rack in the main foyer. If you haven't seen that cherished article of clothing for a while, please encourage your children to swing by the lost and found. Sometimes, it takes a few days for things to make their way there, occasionally having made trips to a couple of classrooms along the way. If you're looking for something, feel free to say hello to me or another staff member at drop off or pick up and we can bring you in to have a look.

As soon as we've got a stretch of dry weather ahead of us, we'll bring the tables outside in the morning and afternoon for a couple of days to hopefully have these *vêtements* find their way home.

One of the things we've noticed as we haul clothing in from the playgrounds, is how many kids' clothes manufacturers have sewn in special labels for kids' names to be written on....and how many of those labels are blank! Hmmm....I wonder....



### **Join us for PAC**

Next Tuesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, is the first Tuesday of the month. The PAC meets electronically via Zoom, beginning at 7:00 pm. Please consider joining us to find out what's happening in the community and share ideas of how to continue to support our school.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3631963770?pwd=Rzh6bFo4SE1SaE1aSUxxK2RQN1U0QT09>

Meeting ID: 363 196 3770

Passcode: 7vhdm

Have a wonderful weekend!

David