

GOLDSTONE PARK ELEMENTARY

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March 30, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians and Students;

As Spring Break has come to an end, we want to thank all students and their families for their patience as we develop plans for the continuity of learning. We know this has been a difficult time for all of us, coping with and adjusting to changes to daily life, due to the evolving public health crisis. We want to reassure you that the School District will be here to support families in the coming weeks and months, with health and safety being our priority. At this point, our school will remain closed to students, teachers and the community.

As you know, the province has suspended all in-class instruction until further notice as of March 17th and has moved to an online system of learning. We know you are anxious as to what this will look like and what this means for your child. School Districts have been working hard behind the scenes to plan for a new reality during this unprecedented and unpredictable time, while also waiting for further direction from the Ministry of Education. As the school staff returns to work remotely, on Monday, March 30th, we will continue in a more in-depth fashion with our team planning process to ensure continuity of learning for students.

As this is new ground for all of us, this week the teacher's will be working remotely in grade groups to develop a thoughtful, responsive and flexible approach as we transition to this new educational reality. To help families prepare for the delivery of at-home learning, teachers will begin contacting families by phone and email this week to make a connection with each and every one of our students, to assure them that we are here for them, and that we are thinking of and planning for them. The purpose is to connect, make sure we have proper emails and contact information and gather information as to what supports may be needed. If you have not heard from your teacher via email or phone by Friday, please contact the school at 604-595-2767.

Here is a general outline of week 1.

Monday

- District staff and administration will continue to work on the framework for the new reality of "Learning from Home"
- Secretarial staff updates contacts and emails- please ensure we have the most updated email and phone numbers
- Staff attend online meeting and training related to Continuity of Learning

Tuesday

- Teachers will begin contacting parents and students via different forms of online communication or by phone with the focus on touching base with each family.
- Teachers will meet remotely in grade groups to plan for the next two weeks
- IST/ Administration /EA's/ABA's and support staff will meet remotely to discuss next steps

Wednesday

- Staff will continue sharing resources and collaboratively planning activities with a specific focus on Numeracy and Literacy.
- Teachers will continue to connecting with students and families

Thursday

• Teachers will distribute the first set of instructional materials/activities for instruction to their students, and provide guidance on how parent/guardians can support their learning

Friday

- Teachers will continue on-line instruction for learners and plan for next week
- A second email will be sent outlining plans for WEEK # 2 from your child's teacher
- Teacher's and Administration will all meet remotely to discuss concerns, issues, and next steps for Week two.

We ask that families to note the following:

- Stay tuned for emails. This will be our primary communication. We will be following up with a secondary means of communication in the coming week. Please continue to check the School Webpage for newsletters and District updates.
- Please continue being patient as distance teaching and distance learning in this context is new to teachers, students and parents.
- Due to physical distancing and limits to gatherings, please do not come to school to pick up school supplies at this point in time. The school playgrounds and basketball courts remain closed.
- If your contact information has changed over Spring Break, please email Mrs. Ostrinski at <u>ostrinski s@surreyschools.ca</u> or call the school at 595-2767

Please watch the following message from our Superintendent, Dr. Jordan Tinney. https://vimeo.com/401370166

Links to written translation: English, Punjabi, Simplified Chinese and Traditional Chinese

We appreciate your patience and flexibility as we work through our planning. We kindly ask for you to be mindful that administrators, teachers, and staff may not have all the answers in the first few weeks. As we all know, this is an unprecedented time, and we will strive to do our best to support our students and families.

Please stay safe and take care...

Sincerely, Goldstone Park Staff