



Spul'ukwuks Elementary School
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Ms. Elaine Stapleton
Principal

Mrs. Nichole Kusch
Vice Principal

March 13, 2020

This is the newsletter for the school week of March 9th to 13th.

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We have been receiving increased communication from our families asking about the impact of the coronavirus on the school.

We understand the concerns that parents have and their desire to keep their children safe. It can be difficult to stay on top of accurate information from reputable sources when information is changing constantly and there is an abundance of misinformation readily available.

As mentioned in previous messages from the school and District, the direction to close schools MUST come from Vancouver Coastal Health.

The School District is aware we are scheduled to be open for the next two weeks and there are other schools and other districts that are also scheduled to be open. As mentioned in the Minister of Education's news conference, the risk to children in schools remains low, which is why schools have not been closed at this time. As parents and guardians, it is your decision about whether or not to send your children to school, and the school will support whatever choice you make, as we have already been doing. If you do choose to keep your child home, please call the Early Warning line @ 604-303-5108 and leave a message with your child's name, division, reason and length of absence.

These things are already happening at school and will continue:

- encouraging students and staff to wash their hands frequently
- reminding people to cough and sneeze into their elbows, rather than into their hands
- avoiding touching your face.
- staying home if you are sick (it is also our regular cold and flu season)
- keeping the classrooms clean throughout the day
- having extra custodial time for additional sanitizing

Going forward from today, these are the new actions we are taking:

- We have been informed by the District that we will not hold events in the gym that consist of more than 250 people until further notice. This includes assemblies, concerts, and other gatherings.
- Many of our classrooms dismiss students from their outside doors. Beginning on Monday, March 16th, ALL classrooms will be dismissing students through their outside doors. Parents, please wait for your children outside the school instead of coming in. If you have more than one child to pick up, please make a family plan as to where you will meet. Children should not be waiting for their parents inside the building. Please be on time to pick up your children.
- If you are not able to send a lunch with your child in the morning and must come to drop off a lunch, please leave the lunch on the appropriate trolley by the office. We are asking that you do not go to the classrooms.
- You have received previous information from the School District about travel over spring break. Yesterday, the Province of British Columbia announced a restriction on non-essential travel. Please be aware of and adhere to these new travel restrictions.

We are in constant communication with the School District (and the District is in constant communication with Vancouver Coastal Health) and will provide parents and guardians with updates as soon as we receive them. Please keep an eye on your email for updates and newsletters.

We thank you all for your attention and for your efforts to work with us to keep our community healthy!

UPCOMING DATES

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| March 16 | Track Attack begins for Gr. 4-7 |
| March 19 | PAC @ 6:30pm |
| March 20 | Mid-Year Summary home for students in Div. 8, 9, 11, 12, 14, 15, 17, & 18 |
| March 20, 23, 24 | Report Cards home |
| POSTPONED March 26 | Spring Band Concert @ 11:00am |
| March 27 | Last Day of School before Spring Break |
| April 27 | Return to School |