



# École Crescent Park Elementary School

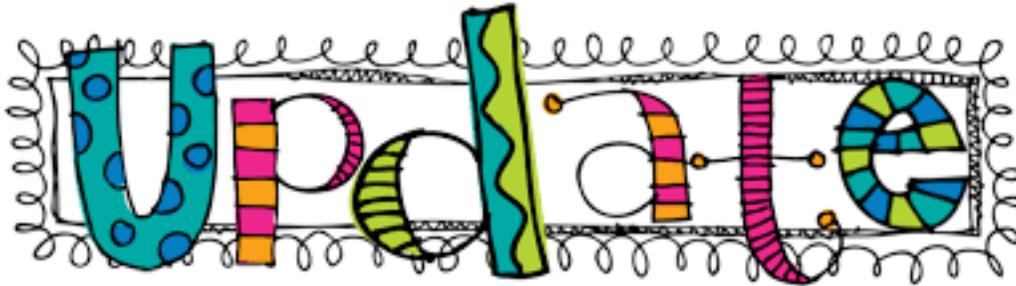
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Principal – Mrs. Kate Colter

March 31, 2020



## Dear Crescent Park Families

I hope this communication finds you all safe and well in this most unusual and challenging time. On the final Friday before Spring Break we were cautiously optimistic that we would return to school on March 30th however the path of the COVID-19 virus has created a time of worldwide change. Currently, we remain uncertain when we will return to school however please know that our teachers are working hard behind the scenes to bring some normalcy to your homes. Hopefully, the virus outbreak will soon decline in numbers and we will once again return to the lives we know and love. And school!

This week has been a busy one and it is only Tuesday! Yesterday, the teachers were afforded 30 minutes each to enter the school building and collect materials, supplies and resources for their upcoming planning. Today, we met as a staff online for our first conference call and discussed our priorities for the week with regards to student learning. Teachers have been granted by the Ministry one week to plan, prepare and shift their program to distance-learning and I couldn't be prouder of their energy and positive outlook as they approach this task. We know that learning will look very different for our students as we move forward however we are dedicated to providing the best program possible.

I anticipate that all parents will have received a communication for their child's classroom teachers very shortly, if not already. This initial email will set the stage for learning in your homes and provide you with a preliminary look at materials, resources and on-line learning platforms. By the end of the week, teachers will have distributed their first assignments for your child to enjoy. As we move forward, teachers will adjust and refine elements of their program to best meet the needs of their students and I encourage parents to offer words of encouragement, praise and support to your child (and teacher) for aspects that are working well. As you are valuable partners in the learning process please connect with your child's teacher at any time should you have any questions or concerns.

A few points for you to keep in mind:

- The school building is closed to all students, staff and parents. If your child forgot an important item within the school (medication, glasses, dental retainer etc.) please connect with me as soon as possible to arrange for a pick up. Please note, entry into the building is for exceptional items only. I cannot allow students or parents to enter the building for school supplies, binders or textbooks.

- Our school website has been updated and all teacher emails, key updates and important information is found on our Crescent Park Elementary website.
- Please let me know if your family doesn't have access to technology within your home as this will be an important aspect to online learning. I am able to supply technology from the school if needed.

We, as a staff, are very conscious of the need to start slowly and not overwhelm our parents with endless communications from classes and the school. While you may have felt a flurry of emails this week we anticipate settling into a predictable routine within the next week and hope this will support you in establishing a learning environment within your home. Moving forward, I will send home a short weekly newsletter to keep our families in the loop and this, combined with your classroom information, should hopefully help our students and parents feel connected.

Parent and families, welcome back to a new learning experience this March, 2020! Please stay safe, wash your hands and practice social distancing. The more we stay apart, the sooner we'll be together. And wouldn't that be a wonderful thing!

Finally, while the office may be empty and the school building closed, please don't hesitate to reach out to myself or our teaching staff should you need any support in the weeks and months ahead.

Warmest regards,

Kate Colter  
Principal  
colter\_k@surreyschools.ca

