



Port Kells Elementary

19076 - 88th Avenue Surrey, BC,
V4N 5T2

Phone : (604) 882-2021

September 30, 2020

Dear Port Kells' Families,

I cannot believe that we are at the end of September. It has been a different start up for sure this year and we thank everyone for their patience and support. Thank you to our amazing staff and students for understanding and following our new health and safety procedures that have been implemented to keep us all safe during this pandemic.

The biggest highlight of the month for me was seeing students back in our halls, in classrooms, and outside. Our schools are meant to be a buzz of excitement. We truly missed all of you!

As the school year continues, we will continue to adjust and improve our health and safety measures and procedures. We are pleased with how well the students are adjusting to these new norms. Staff are all wearing their masks in the common areas and we had many students come to school wearing their own masks. We have noticed that many are still struggling with social distancing at school, we know and understand that the students were excited to be back to see their teachers and friends, but we have noticed that they are getting closer to friend, walking arm in arm, shoulder to shoulder as well as hugging and high-fiving each other. We are asking our families to have a discussion about this with your child(ren) to understand the importance of this new rule. Our rule of thumb at the school is arms stretch away from our friends – even when outside. We need to limit physical contact as much as we can.

Your child's safety and well-being are our top priorities at school. We thank you in advance of your support as we adjust to these new norms.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Stubbings

Staffing for the 2020-21 School Year

| | | |
|--------|------------------|----------------------------|
| Div. 1 | Grade 7 | Ms. St. Jean |
| Div. 2 | Grade 5/6 | Mrs. Fox |
| Div. 3 | Grade 4/5 | Ms. McMahon |
| Div. 4 | Grade 2/3 | Ms. Peters-Singh |
| Div. 5 | Grade K/1 | Ms. Fraser |
| | LST | Ms. MacWilliams |
| | IST | Tia McNeil |
| | Library | Ms. Cheema |
| | Music | Ms. Ratcliffe |
| | Band | Mr. Melnyk |
| | French | Ms. Zielke |
| | SLP | Ms. Reich |
| | Counselor | Ms. Henry |
| | CCW | Ms. Naji |
| | EA/ABA | Ms. Frick |
| | EA/ABA | Ms. Dinnell |
| | EA/ABA | Ms. Clarkson-Thomas |
| | EA/ABA | Ms. Moore |
| | EA/ABA | Ms. Packer |
| | EA/ABA | Ms. Derooy |
| | EA/ABA | Ms. Iseli |
| | EA/ABA | Ms. Hilton |
| | EA/ABA | Ms. Withers |
| | Head Clerk | Ms. Cocar |
| | Custodians | Mr. Lukashyk/Mr Hawley |
| | Noon Supervisors | Ms. Michelle/Ms. Catherine |

2020-21 Bell Schedule

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|----------------------|---------------|
| Welcome Bell | 8:35 |
| Recess | 10:15 |
| Recess ends | 10:30 |
| Lunch (outside time) | 11:50 -12:10 |
| Lunch (eating time) | 12:10 – 12:30 |
| Afternoon session | 12:35 |
| Dismissal | 2:35 |



Things to Remember: “Staying Safe” at Port Kells:

- Regular handwashing/sanitizing throughout the day for staff and students.
- Students are limited to interacting within their learning cohorts only during the day.
- Markings/ arrows are on our walls, stairs to encourage safe distancing and directional routes.
- Daily custodial cleaning of all high touch surfaces through the day.
- Whole class/school cleaning twice a day. Once during the day and once in the evening.
- Constant reinforcement of physical distancing and physical contact expectations.
- Students will line up in their designated areas outside with safe distancing.
- Parent and Family Daily Health Check/screening of children.
- Strict illness protocol involving isolating staff or students and reporting to public health when necessary.
- Rotational playground use to ensure social distancing and safety.
- Occupancy limit and signs on washrooms and smaller rooms
- Students have the option of wearing masks and can be provided with 2 disposable masks and 1 re-useable mask (please ask for these at the office if needed).
- No large gatherings such as assemblies or school events.
- It is important that parents also following the guidelines and protocols with regards to social distancing and maintaining physical distancing on our school grounds.
- Parents are not permitted inside the building at this time (please call the office if you need assistance)
- Please do not ask your child to high five or hug their friends when leaving at the end of the day.
- Please maintain a safe distance when speaking with staff outside or other students.



West Coast Recess and Lunch

Please remember that as the weather changes we will have a “West Coast” or as our kiddos say a “Wet Coast” recess and lunch. Students do need a break from their classroom environment each day and will be expected to go outside at both recess and lunch regardless of weather. We will make exceptions to this rule on days with heavy rainfall and/or extreme weather conditions. Please ensure that your child comes to school prepared for the weather in proper clothing – boots, jackets, umbrellas, hats, etc. It would also be a good idea for students to keep a change of clothes at schools in case they need to change as well as an extra pair of runners or inside shoes.

Phoning in Late or Absence

If your child is going to be away for any reason, please remember to contact the school at 604-882-2021. Our answering machine is available 24 hours a day for your convenience. As a safety precaution, we have the phone home program and we will contact all emergency numbers you have provided until we can be sure that your child is safe. Please be sure to update all numbers. If your child is going to be late, we also ask that you please let us know so that we can make note and not make that unnecessary call to you. Please have your child check in at the office when he/she arrives so we can make sure he/she arrives safely.

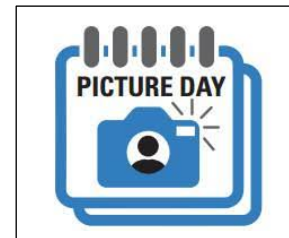
Terry Fox Run

This year is the 40th Anniversary of Terry Fox's Marathon of Hope. While our annual Terry Fox Fundraiser and Run will look different this year we are proud to continue Terry's legacy. We have set a fundraising goal of \$200 for our students to reach. Donations can be made through our School Cash on Line program. We have set up the donations in denominations of \$2/\$5/\$10/\$20. There is no pre-set donation and any amount makes a difference. Our run will be held on our school grounds on either Thursday or Friday and classes will run with their cohorts. Unfortunately we will not be able to have our parents join us on our run this year.

Picture Day

Picture Day is coming **Tuesday, October 20.**

Following Picture Day, you will be able to order pictures through mylifetouch.ca using your Portrait ID and Access Code which can be found on your Picture Day order form. Our photographers will be following the safety guidelines as outlined by the Provincial Health Organization as well as our school district. If your child is absent for photo day, our retakes will take place November 20th.



Litter less lunch and Water bottles

New to our school this year, please send a pre-packaged lunch that is self-contained. To help ensure safety and minimize touching of shared surfaces, compost and recycling will not be available at school at this time. Your child will need to bring the item(s) home to be recycled/composted. For example, if your child has a yogurt container, this will need to be put in their lunch bag and brought home. Please ensure that your child has a water bottle. It is best to send it to school filled each day. While our bottle filling station is operational, our drinking fountains are not to be used. Please ensure that your child's name is on all containers and water bottles. We often get quite the collection of containers in our lost and found bin.

Allergy Awareness

At Port Kells we have students who have severe anaphylactic reactions to peanuts, nuts, and their by-products. Please help us in committing to do everything we can to protect these students. Ways to help include: not sending foods that contain peanuts or other nuts (almonds, pecans, walnuts, hazelnuts, etc.), remind your child to not share his/her snack or lunch, and do not use products that may contain these items as well (hand creams/lotions, hand sanitizers, etc.). If your child has a severe or life-threatening food allergy, please notify the office to ensure that proper medical forms are completed. If your child requires an epi-pen, Fraser Health does recommend that it is worn or kept on the child, but if this is not possible, we ask that it be stored in the school office for safe keepings should we need to administer.



Important Dates:

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|--------------------------|--|
| October 8 th | Early Dismissal @ 1:35 |
| October 9 th | Panther Wear Spirit Day |
| October 12 th | Thanksgiving – No School |
| October 15 th | Earthquake Drill |
| October 20 th | Photo Day |
| October 23 rd | Professional Development Day – No School |
| October 30 th | Halloween – Costume Day |

Daily Health Checks

We are asking our families to complete the daily health check at home prior to coming to school each day. The form does not need to be completed and returned to school, but is rather a tool for you to check. By sending your child to school, you are verifying that your child does not have any of the symptoms listed and is well enough to be at school. If your child becomes ill at school or exhibits any of the symptoms on the form, we will be calling home as procedure.

When you call in to let us know that your child will not be at school, we may ask you your symptoms. This is not to pass judgement, but rather for us to keep track for cleaning and tracking purposes should it be required. Confidentiality is our utmost importance. There may be occasions where we as a school are required to report symptoms to our Health and Safety Department and/or Fraser Health.

Please see the updated Daily Health Check for your records.



| Key Symptoms of Illness* | Does your child have any of the following key symptoms? | Circle one | |
|--------------------------|---|------------|----|
| | | YES | NO |
| | Fever | YES | NO |
| | Chills | YES | NO |
| | Cough or worsening of chronic cough | YES | NO |
| | Shortness of breath | YES | NO |
| | Loss of sense of smell or taste | YES | NO |
| | Diarrhea | YES | NO |
| | Nausea and vomiting | YES | NO |
| International Travel | Have you returned from travel outside Canada in the last 14 days? | YES | NO |
| Confirmed Contact | Are you a confirmed contact of a person confirmed to have COVID-19? | YES | NO |

*Check BCCDC's [Symptoms of COVID-19](#) regularly to ensure the list is up to date.

If you answered “YES” to one of the questions included under ‘Key Symptoms of Illness’ (excluding fever), you should stay home for 24 hours from when the symptom started. If the symptom improves, you may return to school when you feel well enough. If the symptom persists or worsens, seek a health assessment.

If you answered “YES” to two or more of the questions included under ‘Symptoms of Illness’ or you have a fever, seek a health assessment. A health assessment includes calling 8-1-1, or a primary care provider like a physician or nurse practitioner. If a health assessment is required, you should not return to school until COVID-19 has been excluded and your symptoms have improved.

When a COVID-19 test is recommended by the health assessment:

- If the COVID-19 test is **positive**, you should stay home until you are told by public health to end self-isolation. In most cases this is 10 days after the onset of symptoms. Public health will contact everyone with a positive test.
- If the COVID-19 test is **negative**, you can return to school once symptoms have improved and you feel well enough. Symptoms of common respiratory illnesses can persist for a week or more. Re-testing is not needed unless you develop a new illness.
- If a COVID-19 test is recommended but is not done because you choose not to have the test, or you do not seek a health assessment when recommended, and your symptoms are not related to a previously diagnosed health condition, you should stay home from school until 10 days after the onset of symptoms, and then you may return if you are feeling well enough.

If a COVID-19 test is not recommended by the health assessment, you can return to school when symptoms improve and you feel well enough. Testing may not be recommended if the assessment determines that the symptoms are due to another cause (i.e. not COVID-19).

If you answered “YES” to questions 2 or 3, use the [COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool](#) to determine if you should seek testing for COVID-19.

A health-care provider note (i.e. a doctor’s note) should not be required to confirm the health status of any individual.

Prepared by Health and Safety Department. Sep 16th, 2020