

## Ellendale Elementary School Update

Dear Ellendale Families,

We hope that you and your family are doing well. We would like to extend our appreciation for the support and understanding that members of our school community have shown as we transitioned to remote learning following Spring Break. Your efforts have helped to ensure that student learning has continued over the last two months.

Thank you also to those who have responded to our survey. The information you provided has helped to assist in our planning for the weeks ahead. We have been busy preparing to welcome back those students who will be returning to the classroom for face to face learning. We look forward to seeing staff and students at Ellendale tomorrow on June 1st.

As we have been planning for the return of students, we have been guided by our shared commitment to ensuring the safety of all members of our school community. We will be reminding our students of the importance of following the guidelines around frequent hand washing, physical distancing and staying home if they are feeling sick.

Access to our building will be limited to students and staff, unless prior arrangements have been made through the principal. This includes picking up or dropping off children, coming into the school to discuss issues with the administration or teachers, or to drop off lunches. Please ensure that your child has their lunch and a filled water bottle. Should you need to pick up your child early, or need to contact the school, please call the office at 604-584-4754.

We have put in place plans to help with physical distancing and minimizing physical contact. Physical distancing can be challenging in a school setting, particularly with younger students. As such, it is reasonable to establish different expectations for varying age levels and activities. For example, younger students should be supported to have minimized physical contact with one another, while older students and adults should seek to maintain a safe physical distance of at least 2 metres from others whenever possible.

Please be reminded that parents and caregivers are responsible to assess their child(ren) **each day** before going to school. If your child is experiencing symptoms of common cold, influenza, COVID-19 or other infectious respiratory disease please keep your child home until there has been an assessment by a health care provider AND the symptoms have resolved.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming students back into the building. We are in this together and appreciate your patience as we all get used to the changes in practice.

Sincerely,

Caroline Matthews, Principal, Ellendale Elementary