



Holly Elementary February Newsletter

Principal/Vice Principal Message

Dear Parents,

We welcome 2021 with hope and optimism. Let us make sure that family, love, health and compassion pervades our thoughts so much that we have no time for fear, impatience, negativity or unkindness. 2021 is already looking like the change we have been hoping for. We can watch the news with optimism and a little confidence looking ahead. We must continue to be safe and encourage our kids to be safe. Our actions matter very much "it is not in the stars to hold our destiny but in ourselves" -Shakespeare.

Recently, there was a government announcement of 'enhanced safety measures.' Our Holly safety protocols are in line with these measures. We will continue to wear masks, hand sanitize, consistently clean touchpoint surfaces, social distance and maintain our cohorts. Our staff and learners have been working together to limit and prevent COVID exposures. We appreciate that at home our families continue to work against the spread of this virus by wearing a mask when you come to drop off and pick up your child from school.

Thank you for being safe and being diligent.

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School Grounds

We kindly ask parents not to bring their non-school aged children to play on the playground during instructional hours.

If there is something that your child needs to have during the school day, please wait at the front doors, where the office staff can assist you and not go directly to your child's class. Please do not enter the school.

We would like to thank you for wearing your masks when on school grounds, please remember to follow social distancing rules when picking up and dropping off your children. We kindly ask that during pick up and drop off you avoid lingering or gathering with friends and other parents. Please leave the school grounds promptly in order to keep our school and community safe as we work together to maintain strict Health and Safety guidelines. We appreciate your support with this matter.

Black Shirt Day

Anti-Racism Coalition of Vancouver (ARC) On Friday, January 15, many Holly learners and staff recognized the Anti-Racism Coalition of Vancouver in their petition to include more mandatory education about the civil rights struggle of Black Canadians into our curriculum. Learners were encouraged to wear black in support to show solidarity with Black and other racialized students and others in the community on behalf of the Anti-Racism Coalition (ARC).

The following link pertains to a joint statement on Black Shirt Day from Rachna Singh, Parliamentary Secretary for Anti-Racism Initiatives, and Jennifer Whiteside, Minister of Education.

<https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021AG0002-000051>

February is Black History Month. Everyday we have been learning a little bit more about Black History.

Spirit Days

Holly Staff and Learners participated in our most recent spirit day; Twin Day. Our next spirit day is on Friday, February 12, 2021. Encourage your child to wear red, purple or a heart!









Please keep us current!

Please keep us informed regarding any new updates to the information below.

- *Change of address*
- *Permanent Resident status*
- *New phone numbers*
- *Medical Concerns*
- *Canadian Citizenship*
- *Custody Issues*
- *BC Care Card*

MOVING OVER SPRING BREAK? Please let us know so we make a smooth transition for your child. Thank you.

Grade Seven Transitions

ALL grade 7 students will automatically be registered at Guildford Park Secondary School for Grade 8 unless you have registered and been accepted at another high school.

Upcoming Dates

February 12

- *Spirit Day- Wear Purple, Red or a Heart Day*
-

February 15

- *Family Day - School Closed*
-

February 19

- *Non-Instructional Day - School Closed*
-

March 12

- *Second Formal Report Cards (CSL)*
 - *Last Day of Classes before Spring Break*
-

March 15 - March 26

- *Spring Break - School Closed*
-

March 29

- *School Reopens after Spring Break*
-

April 2

-
- *Good Friday - School Closed*
-

April 5

- *Easter Monday - School Closed*
-

May 5

- *Early Dismissal @ 1:35 pm - Assessment, evaluation, and program planning*
-

May 7

- *Non-Instructional Day - School Closed*
-

May 24

- *Victoria Day - School Closed*
-

May 31

- *Non-Instructional Day - School Closed*
-

June 24

- *Final Formal Report Cards and Last Day of Classes*

- *Early Dismissal @ 1:35 pm*
