



Dear Cougar Creek Families,

We hope that all of you are well and have had lots of time with loved ones over the break, even if some of it was virtual. We recognize that we are all in uncharted territory and that this is a stressful time for all.

Since the government suspended all in-class instruction on March 17th due to COVID-19, school districts have been working hard, behind the scenes, to plan for a new reality during this unprecedented and unpredictable time.

As we are sure you can appreciate, educators have been working hard over Spring Break to plan for this new reality, while also waiting for further direction from the Ministry of Education. As the school staff returns to work today, Monday, March 30th, we will continue with our team planning process to ensure continuity of learning for students.

Our focus during the first week after Spring Break is for our school staff to be make a connection with each and every one of our students, to assure them that we are here for them, and that we are thinking of, and planning for, them. Before the end of the week, you will hear from your child's teacher on initial learning plans.

If your contact information has changed over Spring Break, please email Mrs. Watts at [watts\\_k@surreyschools.ca](mailto:watts_k@surreyschools.ca). **It is very important that we have a current email and phone number in order for your child's teacher to contact your family.**

Here is a general outline of Week 1.

**Monday**

- District staff provides updates from Ministry of Education
- Planning is undertaken for staff connections
- Secretarial staff update contacts and emails

**Tuesday**

- Staff attend online meeting and training related to continuity of learning
- Teachers begin planning

**Wednesday**

- Parents will receive more detailed communication regarding initial plans
- Teachers will collaborate with learning teams and develop instructional strategies and resources
- Focus will be on having an initial check in with students and/or parents by email or phone
- Teachers begin to contact students / families

**Thursday**

- Families can expect to receive initial/basic materials and resources from teachers
- Contact with students continues

**Friday**

- Staff continue to work on items listed above
- A second email will be sent to families outlining plans for the following week

**Please note the following:**

- Stay tuned for emails and FreshGrade announcements. Email will be our primary communication. We will be following up with a secondary means of communication in the coming week.
- Please continue to be patient as distance teaching and distance learning, in this context, are new to teachers, students, and parents.
- Due to physical distancing and limits to gatherings, please do not come to school to pick up school supplies at this point in time. The school playgrounds are also closed.

**Please watch the following message from our Superintendent, Dr. Jordan Tinney.**

<https://vimeo.com/401370166>

**Links to written translation:** [English](#), and [Punjabi](#)

We appreciate your patience and flexibility as we work through our planning.

Please stay safe and take care...

Sincerely,

Staff of Cougar Creek Elementary