

W.E. Kinvig Elementary School

We're on the Web!

Newsletter 12/01/21
Volume 1, Issue 4

www.surreyschools.com/schools/wekinvig

Principal: Jas Atwal
Vice-Principal: Shane Reader



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Upcoming Events

- ◆ Report Cards
- ◆ Early Dismissal (15th)
1:35 pm
- ◆ Spirit Days
- ◆ Winter Break

December News...

The Winter Break is just around the corner. The students have been working hard in classes and report card comments will be handed out or be available on Freshgrade soon for the first term. We thank you for your ongoing support of the school and hope you and your families have a great Winter Break. Our last day of school is December 17 and we are back at school on Monday, January 3th.

Jas Atwal

Flood Victim Donations...

Thank you to everyone for donating to the Flood Relief cause. Our school raised over \$700 through cash online and school donations. Your donation went to the Red Cross which is directly helping the flood victims. The government of BC and Government of Canada are matching our donation as well to help those in need. If anyone missed the deadline and still wishes to donate, we will extend the deadline and continue collecting until Wednesday, December 8. We also raised over \$940 earlier in the year for the Terry Fox Foundation to help with cancer research. We congratulate the WE Kinvig community for being so generous towards these great causes.

Upcoming Dates...

December

- 1st Decorating Begins (Deck the Halls)
- 1st Food Drive Collection
- 3rd Last Day for Canada-thon Money Collection
- 10th Virtual Author Visit (Jensen Brown-Phoenix)
- 10th Report Cards (Freshgrade Ongoing Comments)
- 13th Winter Wear Spirit Day
- 14th Christmas Hat Day
- 15th Red and Green Day
- 15th Early Dismissal 1:35 pm (Face to Face/Email/Virtual)
- 16th Ugly Sweater Day
- 17th Pajama Day



January 3rd First Day Back From Winter Break

Report Cards and Early Dismissal...

At W. E. Kinvig, all of our teachers have moved to Communicating Student Learning through Freshgrade or through a paper CSL template.

Teachers have gone live with Freshgrade and we have heard very positive feedback from parents. Parents are getting updates and a good insight into what is happening in their child's class in a timely basis.

In the Freshgrade platform, you will not receive a paper template until the end of the school year. Letter grades are optional, and most teachers will not be including letter grades in the CSL template or Freshgrade.

An Early Dismissal will be held on December 15th at 1:35 pm for Parent Conferences. Please do not hesitate to make an appointment to talk to your child's teacher if you have any questions or concerns with your child's progress or where they stand in relation to meeting grade level expectations.

Meetings may be done virtually due to COVID protocols. If you approach a teacher at a door, please wear a mask and use 6 foot distancing guidelines. If you enter into a classroom, please ensure you sign in with the teacher for Covid protocols.

Canada-thon



We would like to thank the many students, parents and family members that supported our Canada-thon. The money raised will go directly back to your child's classroom to support their educational programs, supplies and field trips. We have extended the collection dates until Friday, December 3. You may make a contribution through cash online or sending cash amounts to your child's teacher.

PAC Meeting

Thank you to the many parents that were able to attend the last PAC Meeting through the Zoom link. We were able to vote for our classroom budgets and information was shared on the school plans moving forward. Our next PAC Meeting will take place on Thursday, December 9 at 6:30 pm. If you would like to find out more about the PAC or how you can help the school as a parent, please join the meeting. A Zoom link will be sent out closer to the date of the meeting.

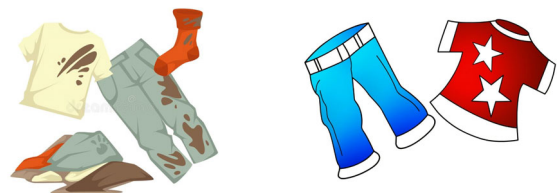
Inclement Weather...



The weather can be unpredictable in December. Please check the weather in the morning and ensure that your child is dressed appropriately. Please be careful when walking to school as the ground may be icy and slippery. If you are dropping off or picking up your child, please follow Safe Drop Off guidelines. Have a waiting spot for picking up your child.

Change of Clothes

Some students have had to call home to get a change of clothes after Recess or Lunch as they have slipped and fallen. It is not a bad idea to have a change of clothes at the school or in their backpack, particularly the primary students.



Safety Protocols / Mask Rules / Parent Expectations...

We had our first Covid exposure notice from Fraser Health last week. Students and staff in one of the classes were asked to self monitor only. No isolation letters were handed out in large part due to all students and staff wearing masks and following safety guidelines. Students and staff have many protocols in place to make sure we can keep everyone safe. Routine handwashing, sanitizing, custodial cleaning of high touch surfaces, distancing and cohort development at Recess and Lunch are daily procedures.

We want to thank our parent community for your cooperation in following safety protocols and doing your daily health checks of your children. Not sending your child when they show symptoms of illness or Covid symptoms are important for everyone's safety. **Please ensure your child comes to school with a few masks. Many students are coming to the office daily to ask for disposable masks. We are unable to provide enough masks for every child daily due to supply and funding restrictions.**

We are happy to have parents pick up and drop off their children. Please remember to wear a mask for your own safety and if you need to speak to the teacher. Please keep your 6 feet social distancing while waiting for your child to enter or exit the building.



School Closures...

Sometimes extreme weather conditions or other circumstances can cause class cancellations at a school, or district wide on short notice. In the event of class cancellations, the Surrey School District will post information on its web site at www.surreyschools.ca and provide updates to the following radio stations:

CKNW - 980 AM or www.cknw.com
 News 1130 AM or www.news1130.com
 CBC Radio - 690 AM or www.cbc.ca/bc

The District will do its best to communicate the status of schools by 7:00 am.

If the school is without power, we will not have internet access to e-mail parents. Sometimes the decision to send students home if they have care can come to us close to the entry bell. We will always keep all students who are without parents and contact you by phone for safe pick up. All students should check in to the office and should never return home on their own without contact made by the school staff. **Please discuss this safety protocol with your children.**

Pick up / Drop off Safety...

- ALWAYS HAVE YOUR CHILDREN EXIT TO THE SIDEWALK SIDE OF THE VEHICLE
- Never open the door to the interior of the street to exit out as cars may be passing
- Please drive slowly in front of the school.
- Look both ways before exiting the drop off area to go back in the passing lane
- Do not double park on the street as it creates unnecessary congestion
- Do not overpass a stopped car as they may be stopped for students to cross
- Park one block down the street and walk to pick up your children
- Do not park or drive in the parking lot during pick up or drop off times.



Guest Author Virtual Visit...

Creating safe, caring and inclusive schools is a top priority of the Surrey School District. All Surrey Schools are SOGI (sexual orientation and gender identity) inclusive and all the members of our LGBTQ+ community have the right to feel free from discrimination. To promote SOGI inclusion, the WE Kinvig library will be hosting a Drag Queen Story Hour on December 10. The guest speaker, Jensen Brown, is a Grade 1/2 teacher in Alberta and also a drag performer who goes by the name, "Phoenix." This will be a virtual story hour shared by Phoenix with our school and a few others in Surrey. Phoenix's story hour has been well received by other schools in Surrey. Libraries are about sharing ideas and providing equitable access to information. This is an excellent opportunity for our students to learn about gender identity through story. Gender is performative and drag is an example of that. We welcome the opportunity to learn from people who represent different communities, cultures, and gender identities. Everybody has the right and freedom to their own belief. The library hopes to represent all beliefs and provide that information for our students to create a more just and inclusive society. We will continue to be open to the opinions and viewpoints of our entire community and celebrate inclusivity.

Bring Water Bottles...

Please ensure your child has a water bottle daily. The school has several water bottle filling stations but the water spouts for drinking water are closed for Covid safety. We have been providing plastic cups but will no longer be purchasing them as we are putting funds towards resources for classes.

Food Drive Donations...

From December 1-December 15, the Leaders for Change group at our school are hosting a food drive for the Surrey Food Bank. Please encourage your students to bring some non-perishable food items to the class. The items can be brought to the classrooms initially but will be collected and boxed up in the Library throughout the week. Some donation examples are:

General Donations

Canned fish & meat
 Healthy & high fibre cereal
 Meals in a tin
 Canned fruit & vegetables
 Wholegrain pasta & rice
 Pasta sauce
 Canned & dry soup
 Mac & cheese
 Peanut butter
 Meal supplements
 Low sodium items

Tiny Bundles Donations

Formula
 Diapers
 Cereal
 Baby jar food
 Pajamas
 Bottles
 Baby toiletries
 Small toddler toys & books
 Toddler dishes & spoons
 Toothbrushes & toothpaste
 All new items please

Spirit Days for December...

We will be having several Spirit Days in the last week of December. Show your school spirit.

Monday, December 13

Winter Wear Spirit Day
 Gloves, toques, scarves



Tuesday, December 14

Christmas Hat Day
 Christmas hats or toques



Wednesday, December 15

Red and Green Day
 Wear Red or Green or Both



Thursday, December 16

Christmas Sweater or Shirts



Friday, December 17

Pajama Day (No Stuffies)



DAILY HEALTH CHECK

KEY SYMPTOMS OF ILLNESS	WHAT TO DO
Fever (above 38°C)	If yes to 1 or more of these symptoms: Stay home. Contact a health care provider or call 8-1-1 about your symptoms and next steps.
Chills	
Cough	
Difficulty breathing	
Loss of sense of smell or taste	
OTHER SYMPTOMS	WHAT TO DO
Sore throat	If yes to 1 symptom: Stay home until you feel better.
Loss of appetite	
Headache	If yes to 2 or more of these symptoms: Stay home for 24 hours. If symptoms don't get better or get worse, contact a health care provider or call 8-1-1 about your symptoms and next steps.
Body aches	
Extreme fatigue or tiredness	
Nausea or vomiting	
Diarrhea	
INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL:	WHAT TO DO
Have you returned from travel outside Canada in the last 14 days?	If yes: Fully vaccinated students, staff and other adults who have travelled outside of Canada may qualify for the fully vaccinated traveller exemption . Students, staff and other adults who are not fully vaccinated and have travelled outside of Canada CANNOT attend school for 14 days after arrival , as part of federal requirements .
CLOSE CONTACT	WHAT TO DO
Have you been notified by public health that you are a close contact of a person confirmed to have COVID-19?	If yes: Follow the instructions provided by Public Health.

You can also check your symptoms with the [K-12 Health Check](#) or the [BC Self-Assessment Tool](#).

Call 8-1-1 with any questions about symptoms of illness. If you have severe symptoms, like difficulty breathing (struggling to breathe or you can only speak single words) or chest pain, call 9-1-1 or go to the nearest Emergency Department.

Visit the [BC Centre for Disease Control website](#) for more information on COVID-19.

Although this is a list of the most common symptoms, less common symptoms are tiredness, sore throat, headaches, discolouration of fingers or toes, red irritated eyes and rash on skin.

The District has asked us to share the following information about 5-11 year old vaccination. Covid vaccinations will not be done at our school. Each family will need to make an appointment if they wish to have their children vaccinated.

COVID-19

Vaccination for children

5-11 years old



What are the benefits to getting children vaccinated against COVID-19?

While most children who get COVID-19 have a minor illness, a small number get very sick. Some children may continue to have health issues for long periods of time after the initial illness. Children are also able to pass on COVID-19 to other people in their families and communities.

Vaccinating children helps keep them safe as well as others around them – especially older adults, younger children and infants, and those with illnesses .

COVID-19 vaccine approval process for children

There is a very **strict process** to test and approve vaccines in Canada. These vaccines work and are safe for children aged 5-11.

Who is eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine for children?

This vaccine is for any child between 5 and 11 years. If your child is 4 years old, you will not be able to get them vaccinated until after their 5th birthday. The vaccines are free and your children do not need BC Care Cards to receive them.



How can I explain how the COVID-19 vaccination works to my children?

Explain that the vaccine helps make sure they don't get sick by quickly fighting off the virus that causes COVID-19. The vaccine is so powerful that it even helps to protect the people around them, including their family and friends. **Kids Boost Immunity** has videos that explain more.

Who can provide consent for children to be vaccinated?

Parents/guardians, (including foster parents and prospective adoptive parents) and other custodial caregivers (for example, a grandparent who is raising the child).

Only one parent or legal guardian is required to give consent. The process for collecting consent may be different depending on the immunization clinic you attend.

Can children get the COVID-19 vaccine at the same time as other vaccinations?

Yes. The COVID-19 vaccine can be given at the same time as other childhood vaccinations, including the flu shot.

These support techniques apply to other childhood vaccinations. Check if your child is up-to-date with their vaccines at children's immunizations schedules. Arrange with your healthcare provider to have any missed vaccinations given as soon as possible.

Before the appointment

- Children should be told about the injection close to the actual day of the vaccine. For school-age children, one day before may be appropriate.
- Encourage your child to ask questions. It's important they understand what will happen at the appointment and feel comfortable. HealthLink BC has more information on preparing children for vaccines: <https://www.healthlinkbc.ca/healthlinkbc-files/immunization-experience-child>



- Try the **CARD system** to help your child find their preferred way to prepare for the vaccine:
 - Comfort
 - Ask
 - Relax
 - Distract
- There are simple breathing techniques that young children can learn to keep calm. Children can practise **breathing exercises** by pretending they are blowing bubbles. A team from BC Children's Hospital has developed a game to help children practise belly breathing which is proven to manage anxiety. Access it at respiire.com/COVID-19.html

COVID-19

Vaccination for children

5-11 years old



BC Centre for Disease Control
Provincial Health Services Authority

On the day of the appointment

- Some people find **numbing creams or patches** help. You can buy these without a prescription at most pharmacies. Apply them an hour before the appointment.
- Do not focus your child's attention on the needle with comments like "It'll be over soon, and you'll be okay," as this can increase stress. Instead, try distracting them with puzzles or chatting, and breathing techniques.
- Healthcare providers at immunization clinics are trained to work with children and can help you to support your child.



For more information on COVID-19 vaccination for children, including how to register your child, visit <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/covid-19-vaccine/vaccines-children>

After the appointment

- There are some common side effects such as pain, redness and itchiness at the injection site. These will pass quickly. Serious side effects are very rare, but if you notice any health changes contact 811 or your healthcare provider.
 - One very rare side effect is myocarditis, or inflammation of the heart muscle. Most cases are mild and treated with rest and improve quickly. COVID-19 disease can also cause myocarditis and the risk of it from the disease is much higher than the risk from vaccination.
 - Symptoms to look out for:
 - Chest pain
 - Shortness of breath
 - Feeling of a rapid or abnormal heart rhythm
- If your child experiences these symptoms, seek medical help right away. Inform the healthcare provider that your child received a COVID-19 vaccine recently.
- COVID-19 vaccination has no impact on future fertility. There is no biological way for this to occur.

