



Royal Heights Elementary

11665 97 Ave.

Surrey, B.C. V3V 2B9

Telephone: (604) 581-7622 Fax: (604) 581-5946

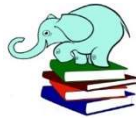
www.surreyschools.ca/schools/royalheights



Reaching great heights by honoring deep roots

April 30th, 2021

Principal's Message



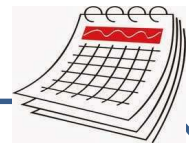
And just like that, another month has come and gone at Royal Heights. We are so lucky to have such beautiful school grounds, and whether watching the cherry blossoms bloom in the front or the snow slowly creep back up the mountains at the back, it's apparent that spring is hitting its stride and summer is not too far away.

For those interested in an update on Mrs. Mrak, she is healing slowly but surely, doing her best to stay off of her feet. Anyone who knows Mrs. Mrak knows that she does not do well sitting still, but she really wants to be back to finish the last month with our wonderful community and has set June 1st as her goal return date.

April really was an action-packed month filled with rich learning experiences and, as always, a lot of fun. We began with an Easter-inspired estimation activity in which Primary and Intermediate students had a chance to guess the number of chocolate eggs inside their own large egg container/jar. This was followed by our school recognizing the beginning of Ramadan and Vaisakhi, along with our Muslim, Sikh and Hindu families. We had our annual "Ready, Set, Learn" event (with a Covid twist this year), sending home a virtual presentation to families with 3- and 4-year-old children who had registered, along with the gift of a book. We also prepared for the

possibility of a future Earthquake by having an Earthquake drill, celebrated Earth Day in our classrooms, and finished off the month today with "Crazy Hair Day".

On a different note, Covid-19 cases in Surrey remain high and our school has had a couple of exposures, but I want to assure all families that we are taking the necessary precautions and continue to review our protocols to lessen the likelihood of a spread within our building. We are committed to ensuring the safety of all staff and students, and I want to thank you for doing your parts by keeping your children home when they are not feeling well, sending them with masks, and reminding them to practice social distancing when in public and, to the best of their abilities, at school. We're in this together, even if we're apart!



Dates to Remember:

- May 7 - Non-Instructional Day
- May 9 - Happy Mother's Day!
- May 14 - Early Dismissal at 1:30 p.m.
- May 18 - Early Dismissal at 1:30 p.m. (Teacher Conferences)
- May 24 - Victoria Day
- May 22 - PAC Meeting (exact date TBA)
- May 27 - "Welcome to K" (Digital Event)
- May 31 - Non-Instructional Day
- June 7 - Early Dismissal at 1:30 p.m.

Reading Program Update

We had our first primary and intermediate students reach 200 days of reading this month! Each received their choice of a book from Mrs. Khakh's new collection to recognize their efforts.



We encourage everyone to continue to read and record their books each night.

Welcome to K!



As noted in the "Dates to Remember" above, **Welcome to K**, which is an event meant to welcome the future students who will be making up our Kindergarten classes next year, will take place on Thursday, May 27th. This will be a virtual event and, as such, a link to a presentation will be sent to all families. It is important to note that children **will not** be coming into the school with their families this year. Typically, participants receive goodie bags with books, a magazine, magnetic letters and other learning supplies in it, but we are still awaiting direction from our school district on how to distribute these bags since we have been told to limit the number of people on our property. For those families who have registered their children entering Kindergarten next year with our school, please stay tuned for updates.

Dogs on School Property



We are certainly a dog-loving community, which is wonderful; however, there is a district policy that excludes dogs from being allowed on school property. When you pick up and drop off your children, please consider either leaving your dog at home or remaining on the edge of school property to avoid potentially frightening any students/parents. We appreciate your understanding.

A Few Notes from our PAC



The date of our next PAC meeting is still uncertain, but it will be offered via Zoom on an evening in mid- to late-May. When the date is solidified, it will be sent out to parents. As usual, details on attending this meeting can be obtained by contacting the PAC executives at rhes.pac@gmail.com.

Covid-19 Resources



I've attached a poster below titled "Let's Keep our School Safe", which includes information on how we can all work together to achieve this goal. The district has also created a short video on safety procedures, which can be viewed at the following web address: <https://vimeo.com/535966178>

Supporting Youth in Distress

The Semiahmoo PAC is hosting an online event for all Surrey parents related to supporting youth in distress during these challenging times. Please see the poster below for more information.

LET'S KEEP OUR SCHOOLS SAFE

The Surrey School District recognizes the importance of face-to-face learning and is committed to ensuring our students can continue to learn as safely as possible by following all appropriate measures to limit the spread of illness.

With the final quarter of the school year beginning and cases increasing in our community, it is so important that we continue to remain vigilant.

Staff and students should continue to follow health and safety protocols, including:



Check up

Do a daily health check and stay home if you are unwell. And if you have symptoms get tested.



Back up

Maintain physical distance where possible, including within your cohort.



Wash up

Wash or sanitize your hands regularly.



Mask up

All K-12 staff and students in grades 4-12 must wear a mask in all indoor areas.

Students in Kindergarten and grades 1-3 are encouraged to wear a mask.

Wear your mask safely – ensure it is clean and dry, is a good fit, covers your nose and mouth fully. And remember, don't touch your face or play with your mask.

Thank you for everything that you are doing to keep our schools safe

Our schools have remained open through the pandemic. Keeping schools open keeps children and youth active and connected to their peers, which is vital to their well-being.

Our ability to remain open is a testament to the fact that our staff and students are protecting each other and following protocols consistent with public health guidelines and recommendations.

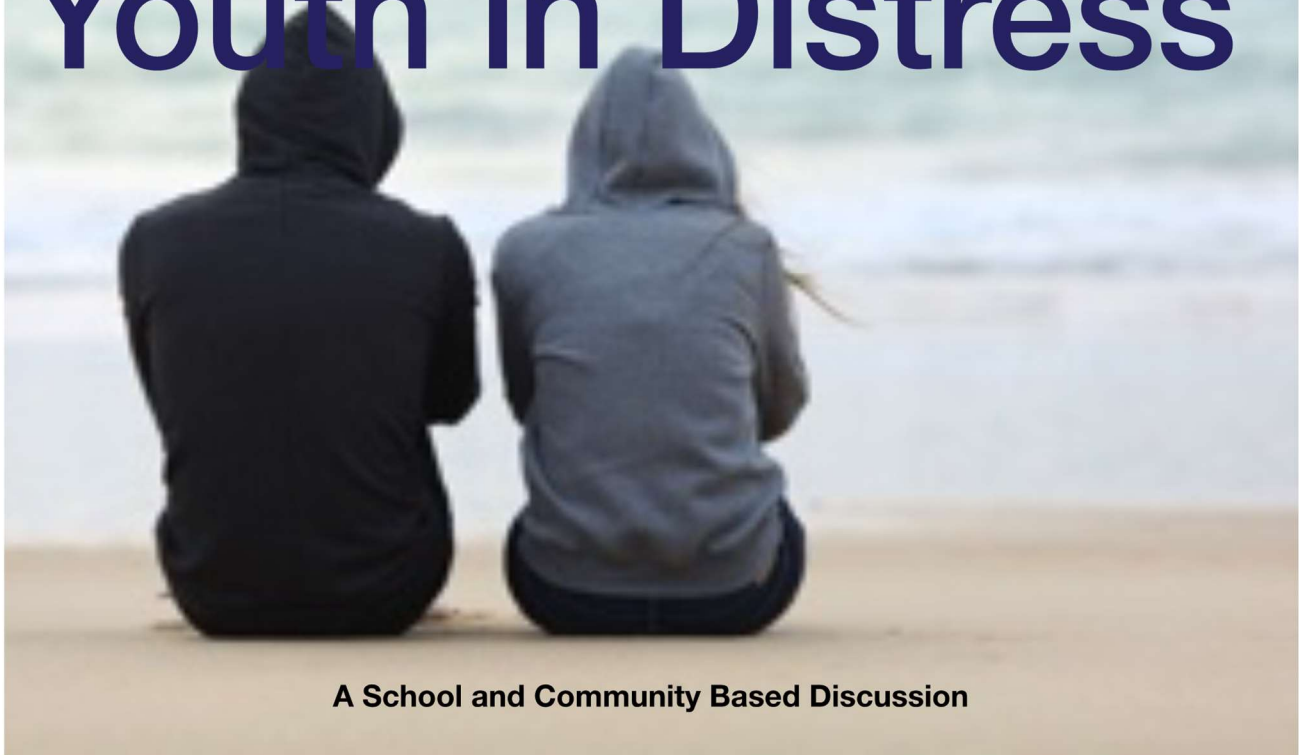
Thank you for all you do to keep our schools safe.



Over 90% of our school-based staff have received their first dose of vaccine.

Semiahmoo Pac Presents

Supporting our Youth in Distress



A School and Community Based Discussion

Are you a parent or young person struggling during this challenging time? Join us

May 4, 2021

6:30-8:30pm

ZOOM

<https://ca01web.zoom.us/j/61000145867?pwd=TzMzYVpvNFAzcWhBaGICYTZyQUJJZz09>

SPEAKERS:

Sonia Stewart - Youth with lived experience

Hear stories first hand from youth who have struggled.

Emma Carlson - SPEAC
(Suicide Prevention Education & Counselling)

Receive helpful takeaways

Asli Kucukbumin - START
(Short term assessment response treatment)

Have your questions answered by a Professional

Dr. Jennifer Mervyn - Registered Psychologist

SUPPORTING LEARNING AT HOME

CORE COMPETENCIES TO TALK ABOUT



COMMUNICATION

- Speaking & Listening
- Reading & Writing
- Presenting
- Collaborating



THINKING

- Creative and Critical
- Generating and developing ideas
- Pursuing ideas over time
- Designing, analyzing, evaluating



PERSONAL & SOCIAL

- Personal identity, values, and choices
- Perseverance & ownership
- Sustaining balance
- Caring of self, others, & environment

NOTICE → NAME → NURTURE

WHEN YOUR CHILD ASKS FOR ASSISTANCE, ASK:

What were you supposed to learn? What is the criteria for this assignment?

SUGGESTED CONVERSATION STARTERS

- *I notice how you ... (be specific, focusing more on perseverance and less on "ability", avoiding phrases such as "you are so smart" or "you are such a talented artist")*
- *What were you supposed to learn by doing this work?*
- *How does your work compare to the criteria?*
- *What are you most proud of? Why?*
- *I can see you tried really hard to....*
- *I can see evidence of growth. You used to... but now you...*
- *When I compare what you used to do with what you do now, I notice...*
- *What do you notice when you compare these two pieces of work?*
- *Can you explain your thinking about this...?*
- *What I like about this work is...*
- *What do you like most about this work?*
- *Do you think you need some help with...?*
- *What do you think you could do differently next time?*
- *How could you have done that differently?*
- *What would you like to get better at? Why?*
- *What do you think you will try next time?*
- *Tell me (more) about ...*

DIGITAL RESOURCES YOU CAN ACCESS AT HOME

ALL RESOURCES: www.surreyschools.ca/digitalresources

USER ID & PASSWORD: sd36bc

DISCOVERY EDUCATION: surreyschools.discoveryeducation.ca

USER ID & PASSWORD: sd36bc (or ask your child or your child's teacher for a personalized USER ID & PASSWORD)