



Royal Heights Elementary

11665 97 Ave.

Surrey, B.C. V3V 2B9

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

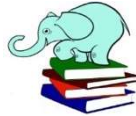
www.surreyschools.ca/schools/royalheights



Reaching great heights by honoring deep roots

March 31st, 2021

Principal's Message

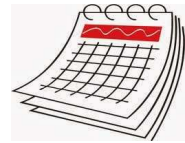


Let me start off by saying that it has been such a pleasure to join the warm and welcoming Royal Heights community! Having spent a month here now - really just over two weeks when you remove Spring Break - I'm already aware of how fortunate I am to be a part of this school, for however long that ends up being.

The month really did seem to fly by, filled with a fire drill, the recognition of International Women's Day by many classes, FreshGrade reporting, Twin Day (which saw a high level of participation from both staff and students), and many other exciting learning experiences. I hope that you and your family members were able to enjoy a safe yet also fun/relaxing two weeks off. The weather did not really cooperate, but I always appreciate the renewed sense of energy and inspiration that students bring back with them when returning from Spring Break. Over the last few days, I've felt this in our halls - a reinvigoration of sorts. After such a challenging year, with many adjustments to regular school routines and the protocols that we've had to put in place to ensure our collective safety, I am in awe of the strength and resilience that our students continue to show each day.

It's odd to think that almost exactly a year ago we had to close our doors to students and

staff, and begin to re-imagine public education while coping with a new pandemic. It's great to see how far we have come in a year, and with more and more people receiving vaccinations each day, my hope is that we will be able to return to some degree of normalcy within our walls in the not-too-distant future. In the meantime, learning continues and we celebrate the small victories - like the fact that we get to see each other's faces on a daily basis, even if it is behind a mask.



Dates to Remember:

- April 2 - Good Friday - No school
- April 5 - Easter Monday - No school
- April 14 - Ready, Set, Learn
- April 14 - PAC Meeting
- April 15 - Earthquake Drill
- April 22 - Earth Day
- April 30 - Crazy Hair Day
- May 7 - Non-Instructional Day



After-School Play

Over Spring Break, the Surrey School District, in collaboration with Public Health,

looked at school Covid-19 exposure data across Surrey schools in order to find ways to limit any potential future spreads. One of the most common threats discovered continues to be after-school play during which students from multiple cohorts interact in close proximity. This has been mentioned before, but we have now been told to close our playgrounds after school and to relay the message that students and their parents must vacate school grounds immediately after pick up. This is difficult for me to request because I believe that there is great value in play, but given our current health situation, I know that it is necessary. Staff will provide gentle reminders as needed, but we ask that you remain mindful of the purpose of this decision and understand that it was not made lightly.

Ready, Set, Learn!



As noted in the "Dates to Remember" above, **Ready, Set, Learn!**, which is an initiative meant to inspire learning in 3- and 4-year old children in our neighbourhood, will be taking place on Wednesday, April 14th. If you have a child or know someone who has a child these ages and would like to participate, please contact the school to register. Our wonderful grade K/1 teachers have prepared a digital presentation and stocked bags with learning goodies to distribute on this date.

Student Learning Surveys

Earlier this month, our grade 4 and 7 students took part in the Student Learning Surveys, which are used by the Ministry of Education to gain a comprehensive picture of the educational experience in B.C. public schools.

The Ministry is also interested in hearing from parents, so if you're willing to take part, the survey can be accessed via the link provided below:

www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat_survey/access.htm

In the past, they have asked for parents to use a logon number, but this year you will just have to scroll down to the "Parents" section, select our district (36 Surrey) and then our school (Royal Heights Elementary). Thank you in advance for giving the time that this will take to complete.

A Few Notes from PAC

Our next PAC meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 14th at 6 p.m. via Zoom. Details on this meeting can be obtained by contacting the PAC executives at rhes.pac@gmail.com.

Also, this is a reminder that the Red Cross Stay Safe and Red Cross Babysitting courses continue to be offered online (see attached PDFs for more information). If you plan to register your child(ren), please be sure to enter the code "rhes".



New App Simplifies Students' Daily Health Check

Thanks to a new app, it's easier than ever for students and parents to complete their daily health check each morning.

Developed in partnership with Public Health and the BC Centre for Disease Control, and a group of students, the [K-12 daily health check website](#) and [mobile app](#) help students and families make the best decisions on whether to attend school, stay home, or take other measures. Questions and answers are easy to understand and are based on current health guidelines. All content is written with the K-12 age group in mind.

As indicated in the [Provincial COVID-19 Health Safety Guidelines for K-12 Settings](#), parents and caregivers should assess their children daily for illness before sending them to school.

A reminder from the Surrey School District Health and Safety Team

All families need to do daily health checks before leaving home for school.

It is very important that all adults continue to **use social distancing (the 2m guideline) and wear masks** during pick-up and drop-off at the school. Please make sure you do not forget your mask at home or in the car.

We also understand that younger children like to be accompanied by their parents/guardians to the school, near their exterior classroom doors. Please always **wear your masks and continue to maintain a social distance of 2 metres**. Please do not approach your child in the line-up.

Lastly, we ask that all families please leave school grounds as soon as possible after drop off and pick up. As much as we like to play on the playground after school, now is not the time to be engaging in such activities – we need to maintain social distancing, so please head home as soon as possible.

Let's keep up our very good COVID practices to ensure Royal Heights remains a safe place to learn and work. **Together we can do it!**

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)