



ORCA NEWS - January 2022

We would like to acknowledge that the lands on which we work, play and learn, are on the shared traditional territory of the Katzie, Kwantlen, Semiahmoo and other Coast Salish Peoples.

Principal's Message to the Pod



Happy New Year to everyone in our Pod! While we are yet at another interesting start, we will get through this together. One of the things that we are certain about is that we are looking forward to seeing our students on Monday in the safest ways possible. Please read through this sway (and attached links). This information will be useful in the coming days.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION - School District Message Re: Back to School (late January 7th)

Please click this letter¹ from the School District to read about:

1. **Contact Tracing Process**
2. **Enhanced Safety Measures**
3. **International Travel - if a student has travelled recently and are partially or unvaccinated, they MUST remain quarantined at home.**
4. **Vaccinations**

Newsletter (January 7th)

Below is a direct link to our school website. Scroll down to "newsletters" to find our letter from Friday January 7th (this was also sent via email to all families). **It is important that families and students have read through this communication as it lays out specific school site details.**

School Website Link²

Some Highlights and Reminders:

Students are expected to **enter from the door closest to their classroom and go directly to their first period class**. Classroom doors will be open by 8:15 AM. Common areas are not available to socialize. Lockers are accessible but we urge students not to access them during transition times.

This week the expectation is that students **return to school face to face with their masks on**. There are helpful links in the newsletter to ensure students know how best to wear a mask. Nose, mouth, and chin must be covered.

Provincial Health Order Re: Masks³

Correct Mask Usage⁴

¹[https://www.surreyschools.ca/covid19/Documents/Back to school letter Jan 7 2022 - FH.pdf](https://www.surreyschools.ca/covid19/Documents/Back%20to%20school%20letter%20Jan%207%202022%20-%20FH.pdf)

²<https://www.surreyschools.ca/schools/elginpark/Pages/default.aspx>

³<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/health/about-bc-s-health-care-system/office-of-the-provincial-health-officer/covid-19/covid-19-pho-order-face-coverings.pdf>

⁴<https://www.canada.ca/content/dam/phac-aspc/documents/services/publications/diseases-conditions/covid-19-mask-fit-properly/covid-19-mask-fit-properly-en.pdf>

Each morning, prior to arriving, please help your child go through a **daily self health check**. Here is an easy link that students can also upload on to their phones as an app. K-12 Health Check (gov.bc.ca)⁵ You will see images in this way that show symptoms to look for **each** morning.


Students with **study blocks** are urged to work from home for their study block as the cafeteria will not be available. The library will have very limited space as well.

There are multiple links above to read through. Each one has important information for you to share with your children. As a parent myself, I am having lots of conversations with my own kids about expectations that have been laid out by the PHO, the district, and their specific school site. Each one of us plays an important role in keeping ourselves and those around us safe so it is important to work through the info items together as a family and as a school. As always, we appreciate you spending the time going through these items at home. We will navigate through these waters together and the hope is that it leads to brighter days.

Take care,

Kavita

Pod Principal

Symptoms

Are you experiencing any of the following?
(check all that apply)

- ☐ Sore throat
- ☐ Loss of appetite
- ☐ Extreme fatigue or tiredness
- ☐ Headache
- ☐ Body aches
- ☐ Nausea or vomiting
- ☐ Diarrhea

⁵<https://www.k12dailycheck.gov.bc.ca/healthcheck?execution=e1s1>



Symptoms

Are you experiencing any of the following?
(check all that apply)

- ☐ Fever higher than 38°C
- ☐ Chills
- ☐ Cough
- ☐ Loss of sense of smell or taste
- ☐ Difficulty breathing

- OR -

- ☐ None of the above

Office Reminders



Visitors are limited at this time (both in the office and the school at large).

Please call or email the school to connect with the teacher or staff that you need to speak with.

If you are **dropping off lunch or other items**, please call the office first.

Attendance - Please call or email the school if your child (grades 8 to 12) is going to be away.

Athletics Department



Currently, there are NO SPECTATORS allowed in the gym. We appreciate your understanding around this mandate as directed by the PHO.



School Cafeteria Update



Canuel Catering will remain open at this time. Students will notice spacers on the floor to help with distancing as they wait in line. **Seating in the cafeteria is limited to <50% capacity at this time.**

A Tour of the Orca App



The Orca App is a free app that we strongly recommend. Often, it is much faster to receive communications on the App compared to the email. Highly recommended for both students and families! (If you don't like the alerts throughout the day, there is a way to mute notifications and then check as you'd like).

CONTACT US!



13484 24th Avenue

Surrey BC V4A 2G5

Phone: 604-538-6678

Email: elginpark@surreyschools.ca⁶

Visit our school website at www.elginpark.net⁷ or on Twitter @ELGINPARKorcas

⁶<mailto:elginpark@surreyschools.ca>

Visit our athletic program at <http://elginparkathletics.weebly.com> or on Twitter @orcaAthletics