

ÉCOLE RIVERDALE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

14835 108A Avenue, Surrey, BC V3R 1W9 Tel : (604) 588-5978 Fax : (604) 581-6382 www.surreyschools.ca/schools/riverdale

Principal: Mr. Jonathan Vervaet Vice Principal: Mr. Christopher Naylor

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As you know, the Ministry of Education has been shipping rapid tests to schools for distribution to students. Our school has not yet received our shipment.

Last Thursday, <u>Health Canada</u> sent out an advisory about potential risks associated with the misuse or accidental ingestion or spillage of COVID-19 rapid antigen test kit solutions. Health Canada has determined that the kits are safe and effective when used as intended. However, many test kits include liquid solutions with chemical preservatives, such as sodium azide and Proclin that may be poisonous if swallowed or absorbed through the skin, particularly in children and pets.

As a result of this advisory, we will not be sending test kits home with students but will instead require parents/guardians to pick them up at the school. Once our school has received our shipment, we will be communicating more detailed pick-up instructions with you.

Once you have received your test kits, please store these kits out of the reach of children and pets. The <u>BCCDC's</u> <u>website</u> has more information on the test kits and safety.

If you have any questions about the distribution process, please contact the school.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Vervaet Principal