



LOCHSIDE ELEMENTARY PARENT/GUARDIAN WEEKLY

Tom Vickers - Principal
Joan O'Leary – Vice Principal

September 4, 2020

Parents/Guardians,

With the announcement on July 29th from the provincial government that we will be entering Stage 2 of the BC Education Re-start Plan, the coordination of a new school year took on a whole new focus at Lochside. As we prepare to welcome our students next week we want to assure you that we have worked closely with our district and school based Health & Safety committees to develop a plan for our staff, our students and our community. It has not been easy but it has been rewarding. And while we do not know how the year will unfold, you can be assured that our plans will be responsive and flexible.

This past spring re-emphasized to us how essential schools are to our community – how they provide that space for our students to grow intellectually, emotionally and socially. We are fortunate to have such a dedicated and passionate staff that truly care about the social, emotional and physical well being of our Lochside community.

With appreciation,

Tom Vickers and Joan O'Leary

Information Items:

Q&A from our Superintendent	<p>Many people are working hard to ensure a safe return to school. This includes public health guidance, careful planning and support from school leaders and all staff. Superintendent Eberwein and our executive team have put together an informative Q&A about the return to school - please check it out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ https://www.sd63.bc.ca/Stage-2-QA
Welcome and Welcome Back	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Tara McIntyre Gr. 2, partner with Cheryl Miller● Chelsea Howells Gr. 4/5● Joanne Frappell EA● Anne Turner EA● Christine Houston EA● Katie Liebault FSL● Tracy Bartman School Secretary (Mon-Wed)
School Supplies for 2020-2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Families who ordered school supplies through Monk's: orders will arrive Sep. 16th. Stay tuned for pick-up times.● Families who shopped and put together supplies, please keep supplies at home and wait for instructions from your child's classroom teacher.

- Kindergarten families: school supplies will be managed through your child's classroom teacher. Stay tuned for instructions directly from your child's new teacher.

September 10 & 11

- Students will be welcomed to meet their new teacher and class and to have an orientation to routines, as follows:
 - Thursday Sep 10
 - 8:40-10:10 Grade 1
 - 12:30-2:00 Grades 2 & 3
 - Friday Sep. 11
 - 8:40-10:10 Grades 4&5
 - 9:00-10:30 Kindergarten Group A
 - 11:00-12:30 Kindergarten Group B
 - 1:00-2:30 Kindergarten Group C

When you arrive, remember to look for the welcome table with the first initial of your last name.

Health Checklist

Daily Health Check		
Symptoms of illness	Does your child have any of the following symptoms?	CIRCLE ONE
	Fever	YES NO
	Chills	YES NO
	Cough or worsening chronic cough	YES NO
	Shortness of breath	YES NO
	Sore throat	YES NO
	Runny nose/Stuff nose	YES NO
	Headache	YES NO
	Fatigue	YES NO
	Diarrhea	YES NO
	Loss of appetite	YES NO
	Nausea and vomiting	YES NO
	Muscle aches	YES NO
	Conjunctivitis (pink eye)	YES NO
	Dizziness, confusion	YES NO
	Abdominal pain	YES NO
	Skin rashes or discoloration of fingers and toes	YES NO
International Travel	Have you or anyone in your household returned from travel outside Canada in the last 14 days?	YES NO
Confirmed Contact	Are you or is anyone in your household a confirmed contact of a person confirmed to have COVID-19?	YES NO

Parents are required to do a **daily** health check with their children before coming to school. We will provide a copy on our website and for each family to keep at home.

Helpful Tips:

- If the student has symptoms that are stable and reflect what is normal for a pre-existing condition (e.g. for allergies) then the student can come to school.
- If the student has new/novel symptoms (e.g. you have answered yes to any of the items on the checklist), keep the child home.

Families can also use the BCCDC digital checklist: [Thrive BC digital self-assessment tool](#)

Illness Protocols to Follow

If you keep your child home:

- Consult your primary physician or call 8-1-1 for consultation.
- Please let us know what medical advice you were given, and/or the result of any testing (inform the classroom teacher, Mr. Vickers or Mrs.O'Leary).

If Symptoms Arise at School:

- Staff will promptly go home
- Student will be kept safely separated from others and cared for; parents/caregivers will be asked to promptly pick up their child
- Students and Staff may return once:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The individual consults with family doctor or with 8-1-1 and follows the advice given; such advice to be shared with Mr. Vickers and/or Mrs. O’Leary ○ If applicable, a negative COVID-19 test is shared with the Principal ● Note: the school is directed by public health to not share information about absences with the class or the community. Public Health is the only agency who can communicate to the community in this regard.
Arrival & Dismissal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All elementary schools in Saanich will be maintaining our start and end times. Students and parents, please remember to physically distance as you arrive and depart each day. Supervisors will assist, however this is a personal responsibility. ● Students will enter and exit from an assigned classroom door. To avoid crowding, some classes will gather at an alternate location on the playground and proceed to the classroom/ be dismissed under the teacher’s direction. ● Some students, parents and teachers may wear a mask; we will be teaching students to treat everyone wearing PPE with respect. ● Students are required to leave school property/proceed to after-school care or home immediately after school.
Student pick-up/drop-off during school hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parents, please pre-arrange pick up/drop off by calling the office: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ We will have the student ready for pick in the front hall ○ Late-arriving students will enter by the front office and sign in, with support from office staff
Outdoor play	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Students will play within their cohort in an assigned area during outdoor play. Each cohort will have a variety of spaces to play in throughout the week. ● Because this is outdoor play, students from other cohorts <i>may</i> interact together <i>with</i> close supervision to maintain physical distance/minimize contact. Such play will be planned and closely monitored.
Hallway Flow	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● When teachers travel with their whole class - i.e. to the gym or to the library, all traffic will flow counterclockwise. This will help to avoid large groups crossing paths.
Office Protocols	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Please call the office to make an appointment. We are limiting the number of people in the school.
Class Building Process	<p>We would like to re-share the Goals and Guiding Principles we follow when building our 2020 - 21 classrooms.</p> <p>Overall Goals</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>To create safe, purposeful and powerful learning environments in order that all students can think critically, create, collaborate, contribute and learn. For teachers - to create:</p> </div>

- Workable instructional groups
- Positive social groups
- Balanced classes/equitable workload

Guiding Principles for Placement

- Honour diversity - each class will reflect the diversity of our school and society; e.g. individuals with unique needs along with individuals who are leaders
- Collaborative decision making involving classroom teacher, ELL, IST, Counsellor, Admin
- Strengths-based language
- Groupings of 2-3 students
- After first draft complete, consult and honour the sending teacher before making any changes
- Parent requests: we acknowledge and honour that each teacher has unique strengths. It is not ethically sound to prefer one teacher over another based solely on a parental request for Mrs. X.

Friday Joke of the Day

What do you get when you throw a lot of books in the ocean?
A title wave!

When do astronauts eat?
At launch time!

How do bees get to school?
By school buzz!

Parent/Guardian Resources

- When setting out on a new experience or journey, our own mindset and modelling makes a big difference to how our kids approach and experience new activities and challenges. Our school counsellor, Ms. Fedrigo, has provided this resource for parents, to support the transition back to school. Have a look: <https://parents.cmionline.com/>

Transportation

- The Saanich district can ONLY support school bus transportation for students to and from their homes. For Health and Safety reasons, students will **not** be able to ride the bus to after school activities or friend's houses.

