

February 25, 2022

Dear Roberts Annex Families,

In our final week for our month of Belonging – students have been celebrating through acts of friendship and kindness. This newsletter contains a few pictures of the bulletin boards inside the school for you to enjoy.

It has been a bit muddy on the playground this week. With the overnight frosts, the ground has held onto moisture that is quickly melted in the morning sun. The result has been some soft muddy, slippery areas behind the school and in the back field. Our soccer lovers have been going home a bit dirtier than usual. Changes of clothes are much appreciated in these situations!

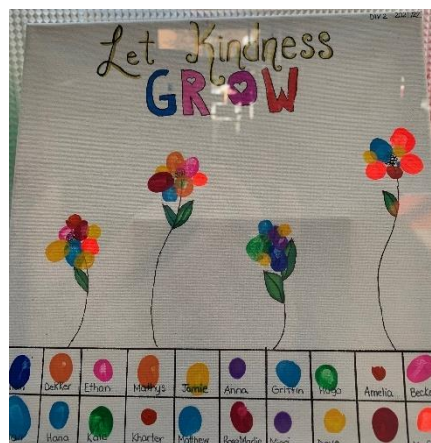


Knowing your community - World News

For many members of our community, the news of military actions on the other side of the world are a source of worry and fear for the family and friends who are or may be impacted. Please know that staff and other community members are thinking about those of you who may be affected. If your child is expressing concern and wants to talk, it is important to help them process information by responding to questions and concerns with truthful but age-appropriate information. They need to know that they are safe and that you are there to help them even if you don't have all the answers. While it is hard to avoid some of the media coverage, please do your best to filter and consider the age-appropriate nature of the information they are exposed to.

Exciting Event Coming up – Family Scavenger Hunt

Make sure you have signed up for [PAC newsletter and emails](#)!! PAC will be hosting an exciting event over Spring Break - with the help of every class at school, we have plans to hide a class rock in student's most beloved locations within walking distance of the school all over the West End and Stanley Park. Just before Spring Break, PAC will send families information about the hunt, the clues and the ways to record their participation. Participants will be entered in a draw for prizes, and each will be given a small something as a participant. Kids are very excited about this – just ask them!



Kindergarten Hearing screening

Just a quick reminder to kindergarten families that the VCH hearing screening team will be at school on Tuesday March 8. Kindergarten families have already received a notice. This has been an annual service offered to kindergarten students which we are happy to be able to host once again.

The Impact of Arriving Late to School

There has been an increase in the number of students arriving late to school and the time of arrival for many has been creeping later into class instruction time. Being late has an impact on many:

- Students are negatively impacted by missing the beginning of the day which often includes an overview of the learning activities and the introduction of new concepts
- Special opportunities such as gym and library, when missed, are difficult to make up later
- late arrivals disrupt the classroom and take additional teacher attention from others
- late students take additional time from our office staff – entering the lates and ensuring students make it to class adds to the many tasks in the morning

If you are finding yourself struggling to make it to school by 9am on a regular basis, please consider making some changes to your routine. If you think you might arrive after 9am – please do not drop your child off outside the gates or help them to find an open door; we need to know they have arrived at school. Please bring them to the office door so they can be marked present – we are always happy they have arrived.

Student Rapid Tests kits

Roberts Annex has received a supply of COVID-19 Rapid Test Kits for students from the BC Government. On **Monday, February 28, 2022** families for each student at Roberts Annex can collect 1 box containing five test kits. At this time, we cannot send kits home with students but instead must give them directly to the child's parent or guardian.

Distribution (to adults only) will occur at your child's classroom door at the end of the day on Monday. Each kit will be labelled with the child's name and adults will need to sign for the kit. We will not be sending them home with after school care. If a child is absent on Monday, February 28 or you are unable to come to school for pick up, please contact the school office to arrange to pick up your child's test kits at another time.

Please note that the instructions for the Rapid Test Kits are in the package. Also the information on how to administer the tests can also be found here: http://www.bccdc.ca/Health-Info-Site/Documents/COVID-19_Tests/POC_screening/RapidTestInstructions_Artron.pdf

Have a safe weekend and enjoy each other!

Elyssa

Dates of Note:

February 28	Rapid test kits for students are available for pick up
March 8	Kindergarten Hearing screening
March 9	PAC meeting (6:30)(Zoom)
March 11	Last day of class before Spring Break – Scavenger Hunt begins
March 28	First day back to school after Spring Break