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<https://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/emily-carr>

VSB Trustee School Liaison	Ms. Janet Fraser
Director of Instruction	Ms. Alison Ogden
Principal	Mrs. Erin Gibbs
Office Administrative Assistant	Ms. Liz Perry
PAC Chair	Roy Quinones email: emilycarrpac@gmail.com

Upcoming Dates		
Monday, Jan. 17	Pro-D	No school for students
Thursday, Jan. 20	PAC virtual meeting	6:30 p.m.
Monday, Jan. 31	CSL progress reports sent home	3:00 p.m.

January 14, 2022

Dear Emily Carr Community,

Thank you for your resilience and continued understanding as we set off on a somewhat bumpy start to Term 2. Staff spent the first week back making sure our health and safety protocols were all in place and that adequate supplies of masks, sanitizing spray, etcetera were stocked in each classroom. The snow day was a surprise and then came the deluge of rain; it's very rare we have an "inside" day, but this week certainly warranted it!

Staff updates: We have been fortunate to have Ms Akeemi Eddy in as our guest Teacher Librarian while the posting remains open. Ms Campbell remains on staff as the job share partner with Ms Greening in Div. 14 until Spring Break. Supervision aide Miss Bessie has not been replaced yet, but we have been fortunate to have a sub in for most days.

We have been told that the COVID 19 pandemic has now moved into an endemic phase – meaning it is here to stay and that eventually, everybody will be exposed to the virus, irrespective of school attendance. With higher levels of

community transmission in an endemic state, contact tracing and notification are less effective interventions. Contact tracing in school like in the earlier days of the pandemic will no longer occur due to many factors, including short incubation times, data on transmissibility and a high percentage of the population vaccinated, to name a few.

Please note that close contacts are now defined as someone living in the same household and/or romantic partners or persons with whom there has been intimate contact. Those who have tested positive for COVID-19 will need to directly notify their own close contacts – members of their household and/or romantic partners or those with whom there has been intimate contact. In conjunction with the guidelines provided by [VCH](#) and the [BC Centre for Disease Control \(BCCDC\)](#), please use your own best judgement, knowledge of your own health and the health of your child(ren) to determine whether they should stay home.

Please continue to complete a Daily Health Check every morning before sending your child to school. There are many questions about being a close contact and whether to self-monitor, self-isolate and if students can attend school. The [VCH](#) and [BCCDC](#) are helpful websites.

In a letter sent home January 7th, you were given information about the preparation for a functional closure. You will be notified via email through MyEdBC if a functional closure is necessary. Please ensure that you receive emails from "sysadmin@myeducation.gov.bc.ca".

Preparations for Functional Closure – what you need to know

- Ensure you are checking emails
- Please let Principal Erin or Office Admin Asst. Liz know if you need access to the internet
- Please let your classroom teacher know if your child requires a device to use

What it may look like

- Notice for a functional closure can come early in the morning or later in the afternoon. Parents will be notified via email from MyEdBC. It will be posted on the school website and will be posted to each Teams classroom. Expect regular communication from the school via MyEdBC emails.
- Students who are children of essential service workers, students with special needs, vulnerable students can continue to come to school
- Instruction may not be according to the regular schedule. There are no minimum minutes or sessions per week
- Instruction may be delivered by someone other than regular staff

Reminder that school is closed for students on Monday, January 17 for a Professional Day

Reminder that Kindergarten registration for 2022-2023 closes January 31st. If you have any questions, please call Ms Perry in the Office.

Kindergarten Choice Program Online Application process opened on Monday, January 10th. <https://kchoice.vsb.bc.ca/> and closes on February 3 at 4:00 p.m. To apply you must have completed your child's registration at their English Catchment school by the end of January. You can apply for up to three choice programs through the [online application process](#).

By mid February, families that applied for District choice programs and identified full schools will be notified of their child's enrolment status. By the end of April, all families with children registered for kindergarten will know which school they are attending in September 2022.

If you have not heard back by the end of April, please contact the school principal of your neighbourhood catchment school and they will help you find out about your child's status.

Students in the Vancouver School District are allowed to register at a school outside of their catchment area as a cross boundary applicant. Cross boundary applications will only be considered after all in-catchment students have been accommodated.

Step 1: You must register at your [English Catchment School](#) BEFORE submitting a cross boundary application.

Step 2: [Complete an online Cross Boundary Application form](#) available in Feb. 2022

Step 3: The school will inform you of the status of your application by March 31, 2022

Communicating Student Learning

CSL on a regular and ongoing basis allows both learners and parents to gauge where the student is in their learning, what they are working towards, and the ways in which learning is supported. By participating in this process, students are provided with meaningful information or feedback about their learning so that they can monitor their progress towards the learning goals they have set.

The reporting practice includes five required communications with parents within a calendar year. A minimum of **three** ongoing communications with families (timing at the teacher's discretion). These can occur in different ways, eg.: three way conferences, parent-teacher meetings, reflections on student work, telephone conversations, interim written reports.

Two formal written reports:

- A Progress Report that will be sent home to families by the end of January
- A Summative Report that will be sent home to families by the end of June

The formal written CSL report includes:

Descriptive Written Comments addressing:

- Student learning strengths
- Areas for Growth
- Ways to Support Learning

Student Competency Scale (in relation to grade level expectations)

- BEGINNING to acquire knowledge, skills, strategies and processes
- DEVELOPING the ability to apply knowledge, skills, strategies and processes
- APPLYING knowledge, skills, strategies and processes consistently
- EXTENDING knowledge, skills, strategies and processes creatively

Thank you for reading this newsletter. I look forward to connecting with parents and guardians at PAC, out in the school yard, and by email or phone. Please continue to take good care of yourselves and have a wonderful weekend.

Erin Gibbs

Principal, Emily Carr Elementary

As a member of the VSB, I would like to acknowledge that we live, work and play on the unceded and traditional territories of the Coast Salish peoples – sḵw̓wú7mesh (Squamish), selílw itulh (Tseil-Waututh), and xʷməθkʷəṅəm (Musqueam) nations