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We are proud to acknowledge that we live, work, and learn on the traditional and unceded territories of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Coast Salish peoples.

May 8th, 2020

# **Mini-Newsletter**

#### **Admin Team Message**

We wanted to start this newsletter by saying Happy Mother's Day, on behalf of the staff at Lord Tennyson! These warm wishes extend to all caregivers who work to provide care and support to their children. We know how hard you work with your children, and you are appreciated! Thanks to Mme Safi, who shared this beautiful artwork with us!

It has been a busy week of learning for our students — thank you to our families for working with your children and with our teachers and support staff. It has been great to see the different things happening in our classrooms! We appreciate the collaboration of our families as we continue to work through Continuity of Learning. The



school district continues to work through its guiding principles during this time, which are *Health* and *Safety of Students/Staff/Families, Communication, Connections & Community,* and *Continuity of Learning*.

This mini-newsletter is intended to give an update on a few things:

- Continuity of Learning Assessment/Reporting Q&A
- Tennyson e-Library updates
- School Organization for September
- A few other items





Director of Instruction: Richard Zerbe Liaison Trustee: Fraser Ballantyne PAC Chair: Jo Gromadzki



# Not Returning to Tennyson for 2020/2021?

We are currently working on our student enrollment numbers for next school year. If you know that your child currently enrolled in Kindergarten through Grade 6 will NOT be returning to Tennyson for the 2020/2021 school year, please let the office know ASAP. We thank you for your assistance with this.

#### **Mme Paule's Library Resources Corner Update**

\*Please check out the e-library, as Mme Paule has uploaded more great books and publications to check out! The

Tennyson/VSB e-library has many resources, books, and other materials in both French and English. We invite all students to take some time to explore it! Mme Paule has organized a common username and password that all



students can use. It is contained in the body of the email accompanying this newsletter, and is for Tennyson student/family use only.

You can access the e-Library through our new Tennyson Library page here (you may need to cut and paste the link):

https://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/lord-tennyson/Teaching-and-Learning/Learning-Commons-or-Library/Pages/default.aspx

You can also access it by going to:

Tennyson School Website > Teaching and Learning > Library / Learning Commons

#### Continuity of Learning Update – Assessment and Reporting

The VSB website has a Q & A regarding what parents can expect to see for K-7 assessment and what reporting will look like at the end of June. Here is link to the full Q&A. We have included here some of the guestions and answers that we hope will be helpful to our Tennyson Parents.

https://www.vsb.bc.ca/Student Learning/Continuity of Learning/Pages/tips-for-parents.aspx

You can also access the site this way: <a href="www.vsb.bc.ca">www.vsb.bc.ca</a> > Student Learning > Continuity of Learning > Tips for Parents

#### Q: Will students receive reports cards?

A: Yes. Teachers will prepare year-end summative report cards in June using the same format as the January mid-year report.

#### Q: Will each subject area be reported on?

A: Since March break, teachers have been focussing on the area of Literacy (reading and writing) and Numeracy and are assessing students based on available evidence of learning in relation to essential Learning Standards. For subject areas where there could be no instruction and assessment following spring break, the student's final standing will reflect assessment of evidence of learning up to March 13.

Q: Will report cards have a mark or performance indicator for the period before in-class suspension began and for the at-home learning period?

A: Report cards will use the same format as those provided earlier in this school year. Report cards will include results for learning throughout the school year. Marks will not be lower than what they would have been as of March 13, 2020. Higher marks may be provided based on a child's progress and improvements.

Q. How will final marks reflect what they would be if classes continued as normal without the learning-at-home situation with fewer assignments and instruction time from teachers?

A: Teachers will determine a final grade or performance scale indicator for students based on work completed throughout the school year which includes assessment of learning from home. Teachers will also factor in students' learning needs and family circumstances when determining final grades and performance scale indicators.

Q. What are the expectations for students doing homework or completing assignments at home and how will that impact their grade or performance indicator?

A. To the extent possible, students are expected to:

- Participate in learning opportunities provided by teachers.
- Be responsive to communications from teachers.

- Complete assignments and requirements as reasonably set out by their teachers.
- Teachers will determine a final grade for students based on work completed throughout the school year which includes assessment of their learning from home. Teachers will also factor in students' learning needs and family circumstances when determining marks.

### **VSB Covid-19 Situation Updates:**

You can continue to find updates on the VSB website. Recent additions include information about Grade 12 Grad ceremonies, and also about Summer School. Summer school will be happening this year for Grades 10-12. Here's the link:

https://www.vsb.bc.ca/News/Pages/COVID-19-Updates.aspx



## Classroom Organization and Student Placement for 2020-21

It is amazing to think that the spring term is well underway and we already in May! Through to the end of the school year, the district and school works on overall classroom and staffing organizations. These need to remain flexible as they are subject to change, including through the summer due to a variety of factors, such as shifts in student numbers due to moves and new registrations. We will be looking at tentative classroom placements, which are also subject to



change into September. Teachers consider a number of factors when creating classes, as it is a complex task in which they put in a lot of time and effort. If you would like to share specific information/thoughts regarding your child's learning that the school may not already know, please send a note to M Roch and Mme Kateryna, via email, to <a href="tennyson@vsb.bc.ca">tennyson@vsb.bc.ca</a> by June 5, 2020. It is important for you to know that this information will be given to the teams who will work together to develop the classes. Please do not send requests regarding specific teachers, as we will not be able to consider these. Please also refrain from approaching your child's current teacher to discuss other staff members. We are proud to have amazing, child-focussed educators at Tennyson, and we thank you for your continued support of our students and our school staff members.





From our Parent Advisory Council (PAC)

# LORD Tennyson Elementary PAC Home of the TIGERS

Please consider attending the next PAC Meeting! It is the AGM scheduled for May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 7pm, on MS TEAMS.

The Tennyson PAC website: <a href="http://www.lordtennyson.ca">http://www.lordtennyson.ca</a>



Check out the DPAC Newsletter, with lots of relevant information for you! Here is the link:

https://mailchi.mp/a7bfd4a27bc2/may-2020-newsletter?e=5da64f0cbd



#### **IMPORTANT DATES**

\*Please check the school and PAC websites for the ongoing addition of items and events\*

May 15th	District Pro-D: Indigenous Education Focus (non-instructional day)
May 18th	Victoria Day Stat Holiday
May 25 <sup>th</sup>	PAC Annual General Meeting @ 7pm via MS Teams
TBD	Other Spring Activities

