

MVB Update

"It always seems impossible until it's done" - Nelson Mandela

THE PROCESS



The past few weeks have undoubtedly seemed like a lifetime for all of us. No matter who you are, or where you live, life has changed in ways that none of us could have imagined only a few months ago. However, like you, we have been learning how to adapt - always with the goal of doing our best for our children and families.

Week One: The goal of Week One was to make individual contact with our families and gather information for both our school and the district. Thank you for providing your information and feedback to our staff! The information that the district required was to determine how many families of Tier I (Health Providers) Essential Service Workers each school served within our respective communities. At the same time, plans were being made for "Hub Schools" to provide support to those families. Also, teachers were learning online programs, gathering resources and creating lessons.





Let's keep finding ways to share positive, uplifting messages with our friends, family and community! You never know how people are coping, so a kind word can go a long way!

Week Two: While many preparations have been taking place to address ESW families, at the classroom level, teachers have been collaborating through virtual meetings and beginning to create Microsoft Teams or Google Classrooms in order to provide Home Learning Opportunities. This Thursday (April 9), we will all "attend" a virtual meeting that will seek to make the "Parent Education" of the Microsoft and Google platforms more seamless. A number of teachers and parents have been eager to get started - with varying degrees of success. So, it may be wise to beg some more patience, as you will be receiving instructions and video tutorials soon - which could save you hours of frustration.

EASTER HOLIDAY - Enjoy the weather and do your best to "help flatten the curve" by following Dr. Bonnie Henry's guidelines!

Week Three: Following Easter weekend, you will be receiving information from your child's teacher about how to access the learning activities that are found online. Across the province, the goal is to focus on Numeracy, Literacy and Social Emotional Learning (Well Being). Teachers will likely also point you in the direction of other sites for students to explore Art, Physical Education, Virtual Field Trips and more - but we will leave those up to your discretion as to what you choose to access. We do not want to overwhelm you. Remember, that it will likely take far more time for your child to do the work from home than it would at school - so take time, breathe deeply... and keep encouraging. It is a great time for kids to also explore areas of interest that may not be typical school work. My sons are currently wondering about and researching these topics: How do trees act as "lungs" for the world?" "How are frogs and turtles able to survive underwater all winter - without gills?" "How do I change a tire?" "How do I help my parents out?" - Okay, I made up that last one! I will place that in the "I Wish" category!



BRAVER than you believe STRONGER than you seem SMARTER than you think AND LOVED more than you know



The MVB "HUB" School

We always considered ourselves the centre of the universe



so being named a "hub" school came as no surprise!

Starting April 14th, up to 10 students from MVB (and a few from our neighbouring schools) will attend school in person. There will be strict guidelines for how to drop off and pick up - and all expectations for physical distancing will be followed.

- No more than 5 students per classroom
- One teacher, one CEA and a custodian will be assigned to each classroom. There will be two shifts: 8-12 and 12-4
- Students will have their own class work (sent by their teachers)
 and the district will also be providing a daily schedule of learning
 activities.
- Students will have frequent breaks to go outside.

Final Thoughts...for the moment

As you are aware, the rate of change these days can occur by the hour. We will do our best to keep you updated about any significant changes from the Ministry of Education.

- Please keep an eye on our District Website for the most up to date Covid-19 information/response.
- Take time to breathe. This may seem an odd comment to some, but as stresses mount it will be important for us all to slow down and relax. You may have children whose teachers are using different online learning platforms, which will require you to put this in deep breathing into practice. All of my boys have teachers using different modes of communication and learning platforms...it can be challenging! Take your time.
- Please Follow us on Facebook as we will attempt to keep your spirits up with competitions, videos and we will be announcing the first ever MVB Virtual Talent Show - because "the show must go on!"
 Stay well everyone!