

Welcome back and Happy New Year to you all! We have had a successful return of classes after Winter Break, and we hope all our families had a restful holiday.

Please see the following information and important reminders as we head into 2021!

### **Saleema Noon Body Science Workshops - Feb 3, 4, and 5th**

We welcomed the [Saleema Noon Educators](#) to our school last year to deliver Body Science Workshops to all of our Kindergarten to Grade 4 students. Prior to the student sessions we held a parent info session with Dr Brandy Wiebe in our gymnasium to give parents an opportunity to learn more about how the grade specific content is delivered to staff and students and ask any questions they may have.

We will be providing these workshops again this year – virtually! On Feb 4th and 5th classroom teachers will show students prerecorded video sessions created by Saleema Noon. We will again provide a parent info session via ZOOM on February 3rd at 6:30 PM. A parent letter will come home in the coming days with further information, and the ZOOM link for all those that wish to attend.

Following the virtual student sessions teachers and students will then have an opportunity to connect with Dr Brandy Wiebe through a live ZOOM link to ask any questions they may have. Stay tuned for further information.

### **Covered Outdoor Learning Space - [Picture](#)**

Progress continues on our covered outdoor learning space located in the back gravel field area, adjacent to the intermediate playground. The roof structure was installed this week and we anticipate classes will be able to access the space very soon. Our plan is to further outfit this space with enough picnic bench seating for one class and a storage shed with outdoor learning supplies, including portable mud kitchens!

### **Winter Weather**

I'm sure we are all anxious to see an end to the rain we have had in recent days, weeks, months ... A big thank you to all our families for preparing your children so well to be warm and dry during outside play times.

A reminder please to ensure your child comes to school with proper footwear (waterproof boots), rain jackets and umbrellas each day. It is also helpful to have an extra set of clothing if needed (socks, pants) in backpacks. While we do occasionally have “inside days” when the weather is excessively wet, cold or windy, we do not do this often. Daily fresh air and exercise is vital for children and It is important students are well prepared for the inclement weather we so often get. The warm sunny weather will return soon – we hope.

### **Programs of Choice**

A reminder of the info sessions that are being offered for our District Programs of Choice this week. More information can be found on the district website – [Programs of Choice](#).

### **Arrival and Dismissal**

More recognition to our parent community for observing our current arrival and dismissal protocols. Completing a daily health check for both you and your child, wearing a mask and maintaining your distance from classroom lineups and one another is very important. In addition, we truly appreciate the communication from home when your child is not feeling well and families following the health check guidelines to ensure children stay home until symptom free. We thank you for your efforts and continued diligence to ensure the health and safety of our whole community at these times.

### **Absences and Late Arrivals**

Please do your very best to arrive to school on time. We understand lateness happens occasionally, but we ask that you have your child in their lineup at the 8:50 AM warning bell. Teachers will be out shortly after this bell to bring lineups inside and begin instruction at or before the 8:55 AM bell. Teachers complete attendance as soon as students enter the classroom. If your child is late, they must come to the front of the school to gain access to the building and be properly accounted for.

Absences, unless communicated as long term, must be communicated to the office before the start of each school day. If your child's absence is not communicated, then the office is required to make a follow up phone call to verify your child's absence. This is a time-consuming task for the office to complete each day and is unnecessary when the absence is communicated before 9 AM. Many thanks for helping us to manage absences as efficiently as possible.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me directly at [pmanville@sd40.bc.ca](mailto:pmanville@sd40.bc.ca) should you have any questions or concerns.