

Dear Queen Elizabeth School Community,

Welcome Back! We hope you had a restful Spring Break. Please take a moment to read the following important information, reminders and updates.

Safety Reminders

It has certainly been a challenging year for all of us. While we have done well as a school community and continue to do the best we can to ensure the safety of all staff, students and families, COVID concerns persist and I urge everyone to continue to be diligent as we enter the final months of the school year. While vaccines are becoming more and more available, case numbers remain high in our province, and we must double our efforts going forward.

Please continue to remain Distanced at Drop Off and Pick Up times and Please Wear Masks. As the warm weather returns, we ask that you do not encourage your children to play on school playgrounds before and after school. While we appreciate that the playgrounds are popular and positive places for children and families, it is important to avoid gathering at these busy times. We assure you that teachers make considerable effort to provide students with greater opportunities to learn and play outdoors every day during school hours.

May Day

May Day will continue in New Westminster as a community organized event. This year's event is scheduled for Saturday, May 29th, with specifics about the format to come. In the meantime, organizers are looking for Grade 3, 4 and 5 students that are interested in participating in the traditional May Day dances. Please follow this link to the [May Day Community Association Website](#) for further information and how you can be involved.

School Supplies

We will send out School Supply information for the 2021-2022 school year soon that will include the lists of needed supplies at each grade level. As in past years we will again offer parents the opportunity to purchase supplies directly through our partner company SchoolStart. While we believe they provide quality and convenience, delivering supplies directly to your homes, please do not feel obligated to purchase your supplies from SchoolStart. Families are welcome to use the supplied lists and do your own school supply shopping.

Outdoor Learning

Outdoor Learning has been a focus for our school this year and staff and students are embracing all our local environment has to offer. Our Covered Outdoor Learning Space is complete and has been outfitted with seating to accommodate our largest classrooms. Gardening initiatives will begin in earnest in the coming weeks, and you will see the introduction of two Mud Kitchens to our outdoor learning resources. A reminder that we have an account at Return-It recycling center, off Boyne Street, and all the proceeds raised support our gardening initiatives. Simply bag your returnable bottles and cans in a clear plastic bag, enter our school phone number at the kiosk (604 517 6080) and stick the label to the bag. The money is deposited directly to our account. This year we will use the funds to purchase soil, plants, seeds and additional cedar beds. We appreciate the support!

Moving?

We now turn our attention towards organization for the 2021 – 2022 school year. Registration at our Central Registration Center at the New Westminster Secondary School site has remained steady and we expect a large group of incoming Kindergarten students next year.

Please inform the office as soon as possible if you are planning on moving to a new school for the 2021-2022 school year.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have questions or concerns. I can be reached directly at pmanville@sd40.bc.ca

Thank you
P. Manville