

# Gibson Elementary

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Principal: Ms. Potter  
Vice Principal: Mr. Penny  
Admin Assistants: Ms. Shields  
Ms. Dusanj

## NEWSLETTER

April 2021

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### Principal's Message



Welcome back after Spring Break! We hope you all had a restful break! It's sure wonderful to have everyone back in the building for our final term of learning together. We held a virtual assembly this last Tuesday, welcoming back all staff and students. We also introduced new staff members: Ms. Byrne (division 2 grade 6/7), and Mme Hoffman (division 18 French K/1)! Please join me in welcoming them to this wonderful community. I'm sure you have also heard from your child(ren) about an exciting contest supported by our wonderful PAC, called the Kindness Passport. For the month of April, we are promoting acts of kindness by recognizing students for their kind gestures, no matter how big or small. Teachers and other adults in the building will be able to sign students' Kindness Passports, and at the end of the month, all those who completed their passport will have an opportunity to enter a draw for a prize: An intermediate student will win an electric scooter, and a primary student will win a manual scooter. We would like to thank the PAC for this fun idea and providing the school with the prizes. More importantly, we are excited to witness or hear the many stories and the impact these small acts will make!

The other exciting news I have the pleasure to share is about our District's Giving Tree Project. As a part of our collective commitment to reconciliation, a cedar tree provided by the City of Delta will be planted on our property as a way to show appreciation and respect for the local First Nations culture. The cultural significance of the cedar tree to many First Nation people along coastal and central BC is indisputable and reaches back through time immemorial. We will have a safe celebration of the planting so stay tuned for more information this month. Happy April, everyone!



### **Amended K-12 Health and Safety Guidelines**

Earlier today, you should have received an update from Superintendent Doug Sheppard regarding the amendments to the K-12 health and safety guidelines relating to the wearing of masks in schools.

We recognize that some elementary school students are not used to wearing masks indoors. Teachers will help students adjust to this change. In addition, students will be able to remove their masks while outside, including at recess, lunchtime and while learning outside. As the weather improves, teachers will continue to look for opportunities to move their classes outdoors.

We would ask for your support in the following ways:

- Please send your child to school with a clean mask that they are used to wearing, and a spare mask. Schools will have disposable masks available if students forget their masks.
- Please watch this Health Canada [video](#) with your child or view this [poster](#) for guidance on mask wearing.
- Please remind your child(ren) that they should not remove their masks to eat or drink **while walking through common areas of the school**. Masks should only be removed for the purposes of eating and drinking where a person is relatively stationary (e.g. sitting or standing still).
- Please ensure that you maintain physical distance and avoid crowding while on school grounds, including outside. We encourage you to leave the school grounds promptly and to avoid interacting with others outside your household, including letting your children play with others from outside their cohort in the playground.

Many thanks for your support in helping to keep our schools safe.



### **Student Learning Survey 2020/2021**

The Provincial Student Learning Survey is unique in its scope, size and usefulness to schools. It gathers information from parents/guardians/caregivers, teachers and students on topics related to school environment, safety, and achievement. The information is used for planning in individual schools and provides a district and provincial perspective.

This month, the Student Learning Survey will be administered to students in grades 4 and 7,. We encourage parents/guardians/caregivers to also participate in this survey, as the results are important in identifying and celebrating current strengths, as well as determining where the school needs to focus improvement. The surveys contain standard questions for the Province – in addition, questions from the school and/or district that focus on local conditions or issues may be included.

The survey can be completed electronically and can be accessed on the Internet at [http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat\\_survey](http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat_survey). Any computer with an Internet connection can be used, and access to the e-survey is simple and secure. The survey can be accessed through the link with or without an anonymous logon code by selecting the school district and school name where your child attends school. Provincial, District and School Reports for previous years can be viewed at the same site under the Results section.

The e-survey site will be open until April 30<sup>th</sup>.

### IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

April 5	Easter Monday - No School
April 13	First day of Ramadan
April 15	PAC Meeting 6:30pm (Zoom link to be sent)
April 22	Earth Day