 Harry Hooge Elementary

12280 – 230 Street, Maple Ridge, BC V2X 0P6

Telephone: 604-463-0866 Fax: 604-463-0821

<http://schools.sd42.ca/hhe/>

*Mrs. L. Brandon, Principal*

*Mrs. L. Kania, Vice Principal*

**April 24, 2020**

Dear Families,

I hope this message finds everyone healthy and continuing to manage as well as possible. Thank you for your ongoing flexibility and support as our staff collectively works to keep our students connected with some learning opportunities. Although this has been a very abrupt change to our plans for the school year, there are some very creative virtual learning opportunities occurring. Please use these learning activities and materials in a manner that works best for your family context. ***We really want to be a support during this unique time and not place further pressures onto any family.***

 If you are interested in accessing additional fun reading materials or math games, there are many available on our **Harry Hooge​ school website**​ under the​ “Library” tab. Students can participate in “Story Time with Mrs. Bisset” or review the Online Resources section on the right side of the screen under Literacy and Math tabs. A couple of websites require a password (most do not) and these can be found in the other document attached to the same portal announcement.

 In talking with parents this week, one of the common themes was how to best talk with children about our current situation and manage their stress and anxiety. I’d like to highlight the Ministry of Education website called [Keep Learning BC](https://www.openschool.bc.ca/keeplearning/) that​ has recently been put together for families to help navigate our current challenging context. It has a lot of very useful information about how to talk to your children, manage stress and anxiety within your family, how to organize kids’ daily routines in a healthy manner and many other resources.

 As always, if there is anything that you feel our school may be able to assist with to support your child(ren), please do not hesitate to give me a call or email.

 Sincerely,

Mrs. L. Brandon

**Upcoming dates to remember:**

**Victoria Day: Monday, May 18, 2020**

**Non-Instructional Day: Tuesday, May 19, 2020**

**2020-2021 SCHOOL DISTRICT CALENDAR**

The 2020-2021 District School Calendar has been approved and is now online at:

<https://www.sd42.ca/assets/media/SD42-Calendar-Linear-2020-to-2021.pdf>. We will provide additional details specific to Harry Hooge Elementary by May 29th, 2020.

**PLANNING FOR SEPTEMBER**

Although things are uncertain at this time, schools are still making preparations for September. Students born in 2015 are eligible for Kindergarten in September and should have already registered. If you know that you will be moving and not attending Harry Hooge for the 2020-21 school year, please let us know so that we can plan more accurately. If you know of someone who has not yet registered their child for Kindergarten next year, please remind them to do so as soon as possible.

**CLASS PLACEMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER 2020**

We are beginning to create our classes for next year. Please be assured that staff devote considerable time, care and attention to this process. This very complex and lengthy responsibility occurs over several weeks and continues into September when class placements are finalized.

Throughout the year, there have been many opportunities for parents and teachers to discuss each child. Staff work together to consider the following criteria very carefully:  **social emotional skills and relationships,**as well as**learning styles, strengths and needs.** Our goal is to create safe and engaging inclusive classrooms that balance these factors as equitably as possible.

If you feel there is further information to consider about your child, you may submit input to the principal via email ([laura\_brandon@sd42.ca](mailto:laura_brandon@sd42.ca)) by **May 29th, 2020**. *Please refrain from requesting specific teachers or peers by name.*

**TRANSFER DEADLINE, GRADES 1-6**

If you are seeking to transfer your child(ren) who are currently in grades 1-6, contact our school office for assistance. Details on the transfer process can be found on the school district website at <https://www.sd42.ca/assets/media/Elementary-Transfer-Guidelines-2020_21-WEB.pdf>. Please make sure this is done as early as possible so that the new school can include your children in their enrolment count for September. Please speak to Mrs. Timperio or Mrs. Brandon if you have any questions.

