



Ecole Inman Newsletter

Newsletter #1

November, 2020

It's a Matter of "Principal"





1 - Assessment and Reporting

Dear Parents,

In the last few years, the Ministry of Education has worked with BC educators to develop meaningful reporting options, allowing teachers the flexibility to communicate student progress with parents. Schools in Burnaby, and across the province, have been participating in various way in which we communicate student learning. Over the last two years at Inman, I have led parent information sessions to help Parents understand the changes to assessment and reporting in Burnaby which include:

- more timely and flexible communication
- descriptive four-point provincial proficiency scale for K-9
- end-of-year student self-assessment of Core Competencies, as well as additional student selected evidence-based reflection during the school year

This year schools in Burnaby, and across the province, are participating in a pilot for communicating student learning in the first term of the 2020-2021 school year. The pilot meets the BC Ministry of Education reporting guidelines, achieves the goal of communicating learning so that parents are well informed of their child's progress, and addresses the challenges of this school year. Considering many of our students were learning at home from March to September and many students have missed a fair bit of school, either from doing the right thing and staying home when feeling unwell, or from transitioning back to school from other learning options on a biweekly basis. It has also taken longer to settle into the routines of school with the new health and safety protocols in place. Term 1 will be considered an informal point of progress. The first report card parents receive will be an informal report in mid-December, focusing on student engagement and behavior. It will also contain individualized next steps or areas of improvement required to move forward in the school year. This report will be tailored to reflect student progress; however, for the first term, it will not contain Proficiency Scales for individual subject areas. Individual subject assessment will be included in the following 2 formal reporting periods in **March** and in **June** once enough time has passed for authentic assessment to be established in all areas of the curriculum.

So, what should parents expect from teachers. Some teachers may choose to use FreshGrade, Digital Portfolios, a Three-Way Virtual Teacher conference, or an interim report. No matter what format a teacher chooses to use, all teachers will focus on student engagement and behavior. It will also contain

individualized next steps or areas of improvement required to move forward in the school year. **Please know, students who are currently participating in "At Home Learning" information in regards to assessment and reporting should be addressed by the "At Home Learning" teacher.**

Should a teacher have concerns with how your child is progressing academically, they will reach out to speak with you directly. Alternatively, parents always have the option of contacting their child's teacher with questions or to discuss concerns.

As always, thank you for your continued support as we navigate this new landscape. Please feel free to reach out, should you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

Kelly Chow

Principal, Ecole Inman

Did you know?

DID YOU KNOW OCTOBER WAS LEARNING DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH

A parent once told me that when her child's teacher suggested that they test for the possibility of a learning disability, she felt like she had been punched in the stomach. Maybe the stigma of learning disabilities (LD's) is so strong because of the unfortunate name itself. If a person is physically disabled, it generally means that there is something that they simply can't do, such as walk. So, does that mean if you have a learning disability, you can't learn? ***Of course not!*** A better name would have been learning *difference*. There are many different kinds of learners. A student with a learning disability means that there is some kind of challenge that is causing a gap between achievement and capability. *LDs do not include problems with intelligence.*

There are many varied types of LD's that can affect a person's ability to read, write or do math; they can effect memory (working or long-term), social skills and executive functioning, (the ability to organize and see patterns). Some children have great difficulty with handwriting. They have clear thoughts in their heads, but have to concentrate so hard on making the letters that it is difficult to hold onto those thoughts). Some can't pay attention to anything, others hyper-focus on everything making it difficult to focus on the right thing, (like a teacher speaking). All of these challenges are incredibly frustrating because they often prevent a person from being able to *show what they know*, no matter how hard they work. Add to this that even though they are trying to do their best, they are often labeled unfairly as lazy or uncooperative.

Understanding the gaps is the first step to helping fill them in! There are as many ways to assist people with learning disabilities, however, testing and conversation are critical so that the nature of the challenges can be understood.

Finding out that your child may have a LD is not the end of your hopes and dreams for them! Albert Einstein, Richard Branson, Daniel Radcliff, Orlando Bloom, Walt Disney, Thomas Edison, George

Washington and countless others were diagnosed with LDs, which shows that although LDs provide challenges, they almost always also allow for incredible gifts!

Here are some helpful websites: LD Online: (www.ldonline.org) and Learning Disabilities Association of Canada: (www.ldac-taac.ca)

Kelly Chow

Principal

School Reminders



Absent From School

- *if your child(ren) will be absent from school, please call the school to leave a message on the absence line*
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School Start-Up Froms Package

- *Start Up packages / Student Verification Forms have been sent home with your child(ren) in the middle of September. If you have not already completed and returned the forms, please complete all forms for each of your child(ren) and return to back to the school ASAP. Thank you to those who have already completed and returned.*
 - *Student Verification Form - parents should look over all the information and correct any information that is incorrect, so that the office can make the necessary corrections*
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Community News



**SPRING & FALL
SOCCER PROGRAMS**

Our passion for the game lives on.

- BOYS, GIRLS & CO-ED TEAMS
- HOUSE LEAGUE U5-U10
- DIVISIONAL LEAGUE U11-U19

FOLLOWING THE 'RETURN-TO-PLAY' GUIDELINES
wesburnsoccer.com
604-298-5958
ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR JUMPSTART & KIDSPORT

Age-focused • Training • Sportsmanship • Fun & Fitness • Teamwork • Respect

The logo for Wesburn Football Club, featuring a shield with a yellow and black design, a soccer ball, and the text "WESBURN FOOTBALL CLUB" and "EST. 1949".

2 - LOVE THE WATER? CHECK OUT WATER POLO

Burnaby Water Polo Club is now accepting registration for our Boys and Girls Beginners Water Polo (6-13 years of age). Now we have reopened normal practices at Bonsor Recreation Complex, 6550 Bonsor Avenue, Burnaby on Saturdays from 4PM – 6PM, and Sunday 8-10am.

Do you enjoy swimming? Do you like team sports? Try water polo! It's a great way to develop your water skills and it is a lot of fun as well!

Not sure if you would like it? Come and give it a try for free. Boys and girls are invited to join us for one free tryout at Bonsor Pool on Saturday or Sunday. Please feel free to reserve a spot, as space is limited.

Please check our website at: burnabywaterpolo.com, [register online](#), email to registration@burnabywaterpolo.com, or call us at 778-328-2657 for more information.

Halloween at Inman



Classes participated in a virtual Halloween assembly, which included listening to a spooky story, listening to a couple of classes sharing their Halloween song and dancing to the Monster Mash



3 - Virtual Assembly



4 - Dancing to the Monster Mash



5 - Students showing their dancing moves



6 - Trick or treating is so much fun at school



7 - love seeing those costumes



8 - watching from a safe distance