

March Newsletter

Newsletter #4 March 2021





On the first anniversary of a worldwide pandemic, I was looking back on this toughest of years in education through my firsthand experience. It can be hard to draw lessons from a crisis when you are still in the crisis. While hope is on the horizon, we are definitely still living with the COVID-19 pandemic and its ongoing impact on education. Here are some thoughts I have drawn from a year of pandemic disruption.

Inman school and staff are very creative and adaptable

When the pandemic struck and schools were shuttered, Inman teachers had to reinvent their classrooms in record time. Teachers had to master Microsoft TEAMS or ZOOM and all of the other learning platforms in a matter of days.

Creativity and improvisation were on display in every facet of schooling during the early months last spring. Teachers held virtual lessons, parent teacher conferences, and virtual sports day that involved "Popcorn" and virtual Grade 7 Leaving ceremonies.

In September when students came back to school, fast thinking and ingenuity were needed once again. Staggered entry schedules had to be drafted and discussed. New health protocols needed to be implemented and taught to our students. Teachers needed to find ways to manage music, library, PE and all the other schedules when certain health restrictions were limiting our traditional ways. Physical education was often moved outdoors. Plexiglass dividers were used in some small group settings, and the frequency of hand washing routines became the norm.

Not every new idea and change was successful — there were many technology issues that popped up when trying to navigate the virtual world. Whether it was figuring out how to invite

people to their virtual meetings, learning to unmute yourself or simply knowing the proper virtual etiquette when meeting online were all new issues teachers needed to manage, and they did.

Will these changes reshape Inman for years to come? It's too soon to say. But the effects will still be with us in the next school year.

Inman provide so much more to students then academic learning

During the pandemic I was reminded about the depth and breadth teachers and schools have played in the lives of children and families. Relationships are critical. When Inman closed last spring, students suddenly lost access to a world of interactions with peers and adults. The resulting isolation has been hard on students and mental health struggles were being highlighted. The lack of face time has made it harder to spot students who need help, worrying educators. We know students need opportunities to connect to other children to support their overall social emotional development. They learn how to share, play, face conflict, resolve conflict, be kind, show empathy and persevere. Coming back in the fall meant teachers needed to adapt and add more ways to support students who were less connected to other peers than in years past. To add to their challenges, teachers need to develop, enforce and supervise the Covid safety protocols in their classrooms, which was not an easy thing to do, and yet Inman teachers and Educational Assistants were able to manage this.

Teachers and Education Assistants are teaching in the most challenging environment they could have imagined. I'm glad more and more people are recognizing what educators do and it extends beyond the academic learning. I am so blessed and thankful to be the Principal at Ecole Inman as the staff here have been nothing short of amazing. If ever there was a year to make Staff Appreciation day/week the biggest celebration ever, this is the year. I don't even know where to begin to say my words of gratitude to my own children's teachers, my friends and colleagues, and all teachers, educational assistants, clerical and custodial staff across the country. Thank you. Thank you!!

As you enter Spring break, I encourage each of you to continue doing your part in following the Provincial Health Orders, and with your help and support, we hope that our "old normal" will return sooner than later.

Warm Regards, Kelly Chow Principal, Ecole Inman

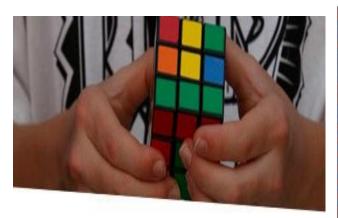
School Communication

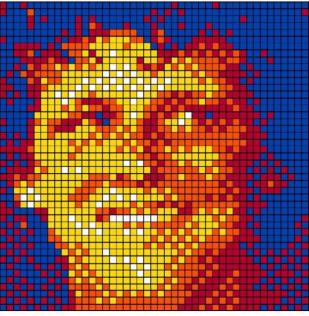


Div. 3 - Ms. Sutton's Class Rubiks Cube Project

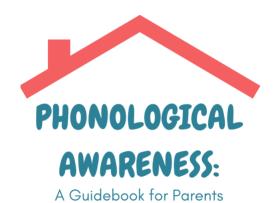
Rubik's Cube

Ms. Sutton's class is participating in the *You Can Do the Rubik's Cube* project. Earlier this month, 600 Rubik's Cubes arrived from the *Rubik's Cube* lending program. Since then, the students have been learning about the *Cube* and developing and using algorithms to find solutions. They are also learning that by using their passion and perseverance to work through failures, they can develop the "grit" needed to succeed, an essential lifelong learning attribute. After solving the *Cube*, Division 3 will explore how the *Cube* squares relate to computer pixels as they solve multiple Rubik's *Cubes* to collaboratively create mosaics of famous people and works of art.





Phonological Awareness: Guidebook for Parents



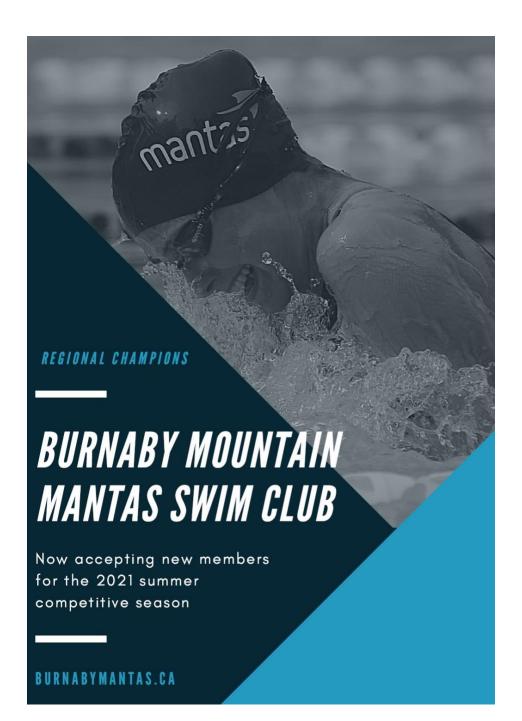
This guide contains explanations regarding what phonological awareness is and why it is important for your child's reading success. It also covers the different components of phonological awareness and is filled with multiple activity ideas as well as printable and external resources for you and your child to work with. To access the full guide click this link: Phonological Awarness: Guidebook for Parents

Special thank you to our Parent community. Our recent PAC Purdy's Easter fundraiser brought in \$508 to the school (selling over \$2000 worth of chocolates). Thank you to the parent community.



Community News









PARENTING LEARNING EVENT 2021

EMBRACING CHALLENGES

THURSDAYS, MARCH 4, 11, 18 and 25, 2021 6:30 - 8 P.M. * FREE facebook.org/BurnabyFamilyLife

Adjusting to the rapid changes imposed by the pandemic has left many of us exhausted and anxious about what will come next. PLE2021 explores topics that will help families stay connected and resilient.

Working in collaboration with the Burnaby Public Library, and others in the community, Burnaby Family Life is hosting FREE online sessions to bring families creative solutions and emerging research findings to help families thrive and sustain their resiliency during and beyond the pandemic.

Parents, teachers, guardians, social workers:

Join experts who will share knowledge during this special four-part series for this year's Parenting Learning Event. Sessions will be livestreamed on BFL's public Facebook page (no need for a Facebook account). Presentations will be followed by questions from participants. Join us!

- 1. THE POWER OF SELF COMPASSION The importance of parent/caregiver self-compassion
- 2. SHIFTING SCREEN HABITS The need for parent flexibility in a rapidly changing world with the increased use of screens
- 3. NATURE... A PLAYGROUND FOR ALL CHILDREN - The long-lasting benefits of play and the outdoors for the physical and mental wellbeing of children
- 4. BELONGING TO THE VILLAGE We need connections to thrive and grow. Discussion with a parent, a parenting program facilitator and a community school coordinator.

bflgrowscommunity.org/ple2021



MARCH 4 @ 6:30 p.m. Georgianna Lee THE POWER OF SELF-COMPASSION



MARCH 11 @ 6:30 p.m. Michele Maurer SHIFTING SCREEN HABITS



MARCH 18 @ 6:30 p.m. Jarrett Krentzel NATURE... A PLAYGROUND FOR ALL CHILDREN



MARCH 25 @ 6:30 p.m. Gayle Beavil **BELONGING TO** THE VILLAGE

Thank you to you media sponsor What's On! Burnaby and to MCFD for supporting this event! COLUMBIA



Ministry of Children and Family Development

2021 Spring Programs

SPRING PROGRAMS

Starting Soon!

Be active, be creative or learn something new with our spring programs. We have programs for all ages and a wide variety of interests.

Priority Registration for Burnaby Residents | Starts March 1

General Registration | Starts March 4

For full listing of programs, visit burnaby.ca/active



604-297-4422

FINE ARTS HIGHLIGHTS

Kids can get creative with our arts programs. Dance, create a story, play with clay and more. Here's just a few program

The Art of Stories

8-11 years | Starts April 17

Нір Нор

6-12 years | Starts April 17

Word Play

6-9 years | Starts April 17

Stretch & Flex for Dancers 9-16 years | Starts April 18

Like the Masters: Drawing & Painting

7-12 years | Starts April 24

For more art programs, visit

» Edmonds » Bonsor

» Shadbolt Centre » Burnaby Art Gallery

For all children programs, visit burnaby.ca/children

New! FAMILY FUN IN THE GYM.

Play, run, and jump with your kids. We provide ride-on toys, climbers, soccer, basketball or floor hockey equipment, and half the gym just for your household. Children (1-10 years) must be accompanied by at least one participating adult.

All for just \$2 per person

Check out the gymnasium schedules and phone centre to book:

» Cameron

» Edmonds

» Willingdon

Starting Soon!

FAMILY WORKSHOPS IN THE PARK

Spend a beautiful Saturday with your child in the park. Create your very own birdhouse from scratch, help your local bees by putting a bee hotel in your garden or participate in an exciting family orienteering adventure.

All ages | Starts February 27, March 6 & 13

» bumaby.ca/webreg

BENEFITS OF GETTING **OUTDOORS**

Getting outside builds confidence, promotes creativity and imagination, teaches responsibility, and gets kids moving. Here are just a few of the cool outdoor programs available this spring.

Heighten Your Hiking Skills

10-14 years | Starts April 16

Family Kayaking

10 years & up | Starts May 16

Family Canoeing

8 years & up with adult | Starts May 22

For more outdoor programs, visit burnaby.ca/OutdoorRec

PRESCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

Learn to swim, have fun with crafts, or go on a hike. Here's just a few highlights.

Holiday Specials (Easter, Spring & Mother's Day) 3-5 years | Starts March 30

Parent & Preschooler Sports

4-5 years | Starts April 7

Parent & Child Discoveries

3-5 years | Starts April 11

Get Ready for Kindergarten 9-16 years | Starts April 18

Hike Hike Baby!

1 month-2 years with adult | Starts May 5

For more art programs, visit burnaby.ca/preschool

frecreationburnaby





burnaby.ca/active





BURNABY RECREATION **CENTRES** ARE

Head down to one of our centres to enjoy a game of badminton, pickleball, or table tennis. Stretch, and release stress by signing up for a yoga or fitness class. Improve your strength or cardio by signing up for a session in our weight room.

For everyone's safety, all programs and activities require advance reservation.

Find a facility near you. burnaby.ca/centres





SPRING FAMILY FUN IN THE PARK

If you love a great day at the park with your family, this is the program for you. Take your family adventures to a whole new level by joining us for a day at the park with activities like life-size ochess, pick-up sticks, giant jenga, and more. Each getting competitive, being a team, and ultimately winning the prize of a great fun-filled family day!

3 years & up | Starts March 15

» More info » burnaby.ca/webreg

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 ☐ burnabyrecreation
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for more details.

Spring League Mini

Apr 10 - June 12, 2021

Join us for 8 weeks session filled with fun activities that gear towards soccer for ages 3 – 6 years old (born 2014 - 2017)

- . Only \$90 for the whole
- · One practice on weeknight
- Games/Soccer Activities on Saturdays (between 9 -12 am, depending on health authority guidelines)
- Games and practices at Byrne Creek Secondary School turf

Register now at





Spring Academy

Apr 12 - June 21, 2021

Want to improve your soccer skills? Join us for 10 weeks of fun and learning how to play soccer

- . Only \$120 for the whole
- For kids 4 17 years old
- Monday night sessions ONLY (6-7 pm for 7 years and younger) and (7:05 8:05 pm for 8 years and older)

Register now at

Cascadia 2020

April 10, 2021 -June 12, 2021

Join us for 8 weeks session for kids ages 7 years and older (born 2003 - 2013).

- Only \$120 for the whole program
- At least 1 practice on weeknights
- Games/Soccer Activities on Saturdays (depending on health authority guidelines)
- Practices at Byrne Creek Secondary School turf

Register now at



