

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We hope you and your families are faring well as we all adjust to the new reality of the global health pandemic. Thanks for your patience and support as we have been figuring out what learning@home looks like. We have been hard at work planning for student work during this time, and want to share with you the plans we have made to ensure that students can continue to learn at home. Since teachers are busy teaching in their classrooms this week, we have a two-pronged approach. The first “prong” is for students who are not at school this week, and the second is for the two weeks of school suspension.

One guiding principle we are using to plan for the school suspension dates is *connection*. We want our students to stay connected to school, to their teacher, and to their learning. That’s why we hope to have our students connect via the internet, and why we want to be in touch with them each day during the school suspension.

Homework packages for those choosing to keep children home this week:

- Teachers will be in touch with you via email regarding the work packages for this week.

Work packages for March 23-27 and April 6-9:

- We anticipate that MOST of the learning will be online learning through Google Classroom and email.
- If your child does not have a laptop or computer at home, please email us at www.hsd.ca to let us know and we will make arrangements to have a Chromebook available for your child to use. Students who have no way of connecting to the internet will be provided with paper work packages.
- We anticipate that teachers will be in touch with your child regularly (perhaps daily) through email, Google Classroom and telephone to stay connected with them and keep helping them with their learning. Students may contact the school to talk with their teachers at any time.
- We expect that students will be working on the assignments and forwarding those assignments to teachers for feedback on their learning.

What can parents do to help?

1. If your child needs work packages sent home this week, please contact their teacher(s).
2. If at all possible, arrange for a WiFi connection for the weeks of school suspension.
3. If needed, we will provide a Chromebook on loan during the weeks of school suspension. Please call or email the school to make those arrangements.
4. Encourage your child(ren) to give a full effort while doing their learning@home. We think this could be an excellent opportunity for learning in new ways, and we want to watch for silver linings.

Thanks,

Ed Neufeld
Principal
Clearspring Middle School