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## Morrish Public School

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Arif Nathoo, Principal  
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April 2, 2020

Dear Morrish Public School Families,

I hope you are all well and staying healthy. I would greatly appreciate it if you would share with your children the video message from me. Please click on the link below:

<https://youtu.be/4fPzOBL4XKk>

Below is an update of the information that I would like to share with you:

- **School Closure Period** – The Education Minister announced that the earliest that students will return to school is May 4, 2020. The government also said that as we approach this date, the decision will be reevaluated and that the closure may be extended based on public health advice.
- **Remote Learning** - Beginning on Monday April 6, teachers will be posting activities and assignments for their students to complete. Please know that our priority over the next two weeks is for our teachers and students to become comfortable in this new learning environment.
- **Staying Connected** -To help students stay connected and to support remote learning, the TDSB is lending internet-enabled devices to families who **do not** have access to devices. As a result, the need to collect additional information from our families is required. We would kindly ask that you click the link below and fill out the following form as soon as possible:

[Device and Internet Availability Form](#)

- **Pizza Day – April Refund** – For those families who paid online, a refund for the April Pizza Lunch has been applied to your credit card.
- **Pink Day T-Shirts** – The t-shirts will be ready soon and when the school re-opens, we will hand out the shirts to those students who ordered them.
- **Students with Special Education Needs** - Our staff is working on learning plans that include strategies to support students with specialized learning needs. The school cannot provide in person support during this period of social distancing. We are exploring opportunities for connection with students with special education needs.

- **Access to Schools and Playgrounds** - Access to all school buildings is completely restricted at this time. I know that our school yard is an important green space for our community, however, I ask that each of you practice social distancing in this area. Play structures have been closed and basketball nets have been removed.
- **Toronto Public Health Website for COVID-19 Updates-**  
<https://www.toronto.ca/home/covid-19/>
- **Mental Health and Well-being** – I understand that this is a stressful time for everyone. There are a variety of Mental Health and Well-Being Resources for students and families available on the TDSB website. The TDSB has compiled a [list of online resources](#) that provide information and tips to support mental health and well-being during the COVID-19 pandemic. Moreover, please take time to engage in physical movement with your children as it is critical to well-being, reduce screen time, and promote family communication/conversation. Board games, cooking/baking, crafts, and other "unplugged" family activities also engage children and stimulate learning. Maintaining regular sleeping, waking, meal time routines are also critical to sustaining living and working from home times for both children and adults, as everyone learns to accomplish tasks and re-organize time and space in these temporary "new normal" times.

Take care of yourselves and each other. Please continue to practice safe social distancing. I hope you and your family stay safe and healthy.

Be well.



Arif Nathoo  
*Principal*