



TOM LONGBOAT JUNIOR PUBLIC SCHOOL

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Andrea Chisholm, Principal

April 1, 2020

Dear Tom Longboat Families,

Since yesterday's letter, we have received some more specific direction from the Minister of Education. As you may have heard, schools are now scheduled to be closed until at least **May 4, 2020**. In addition, the Ministry has provided specific direction during this phase of Learning at Home.

The second phase of Learn at Home features a new set of expectations for the education community, including:

- Reconnecting students with teachers and other school staff, including mental health workers
- Re-establishing teacher-led learning by grade groupings as follows:
 - Kindergarten-Grade 3: five hours of work per student/week (focus on literacy and math)
 - Grades 4-6: five hours of work per student/week (focus on literacy, math, science and social studies)
 - Grades 7-8: 10 hours of work per student/week (focus on math, literacy, science and social studies)
 - Grades 9-12: three hours of work per course per week for semestered students; 1.5 hours of work per course per week for non-semestered students (focus on achieving credits/completion/graduation)
- Leveraging digital resources and identifying alternative forms of teacher-student connectivity, such as phone and mail
- Developing a program of training for educators to support them in virtual learning delivery
- Requiring final report cards for all students
- Prioritizing and supporting students on track to graduate
- Distributing laptops and/or devices from schools as needed, while observing public health direction
- Maintaining a responsive posture for health care and community partner requests
- Establishing formal COVID-19 working groups with education sector unions to work together, share ideas and to find solutions in the support of students.

Our teachers have been reaching out all week trying to connect with families. Many have already established an on-line learning environment where students have been able to log in and start communicating. These connections will continue leading into next week.

Holland Bloorview Resources

Along with this email, I am including two attachments from Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital:

- Family Tip Sheet: Explaining COVID-19 and Coronavirus to Children
- Family Tip Sheet: Fun and Budget-Friendly Stay-at-Home Activities

I hope both of these resources may provide some helpful suggestions when talking to your children and planning activities together.

It is a beautiful sunny day today! I hope you are all able to get outside with your family to enjoy some fresh air, while maintaining a safe social distance from others.

Sincerely,
Andrea Chisholm
Principal
Tom Longboat Jr. PS