

Alex Hope News



Sept. 17, 2020

Newsletter #1

Principal's Message:

Week one is in the books. It was quite the week, with a lot of learning, and getting familiar with new procedures and protocols. We would like to thank you for your support and patience, as we continue to work towards creating a school setting where our students and community feel comfortable and safe. It has been wonderful having children back in their building. Even with the worry and expected anxiousness, both students and staff were smiling and excited to be back. We are looking forward to an amazing year and are so grateful to work and learn within this amazing community.



Message to Parents/Guardians and Students:

Health and Safety continues to be our top priority. Thank you for completing daily health checks with your child and doing your part to ensure our school community is healthy and safe. If you have not submitted your form to the school, please do so as soon as possible.

The BCCDC and BC Ministry of Health has changed guidelines around daily health check procedures. Notably, they have reduced the number of symptoms and included recommendations on what families should be doing in the event of an illness. Please read the new daily health check form and use it as a reference when completing the daily health check with your child. **You are not required to complete or submit a new daily health check form to the school.** If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the school.

Twitter:

Follow our NEW Twitter account for updates —@AHE_Gators



Terry Fox Run:

In spite of the unusual circumstances, we will once again take part in the Terry Fox Run. Students will participate in the run on Friday, September 18th. The run will be divided into our cohort groups, have a staging area for the waiting cohort and have clearly labelled start and finish lines which will prevent the crossing of cohorts. We will, once again, take inspiration from Terry Fox, and persevere during these strange times. If Terry Fox is unfamiliar to your child, please try to take a moment to discuss the significance of this Canadian Hero. If you, or someone you know, is interested in donating to the Terry Fox Foundation – please do so through Cash Online which can be found on our school website. Use the drop-down menu “our school” and click on pay school fees. Thank you in advance, and we appreciate your support. Or click [here](#).



Prepare for Outside Days:

Under the current circumstances, our goal will be to have 'outside' days for all recess and lunch hours. This will mean that students will be outside in the cold, wind, rain, and sun. Please be sure to send them with appropriate clothing. Or be sure to send them with a change of clothes. As we are discouraging parents/guardians from dropping items off at school, packing an extra set of clothes could be necessary on those wet and muddy days. In addition, the current line up process will not change during the rainy seasons. We understand the time to get into the classroom has increased, however we will continue the process of handwashing as we enter. This may mean that students spend a little longer outside to start the day. We would strongly recommend umbrellas, or rain jackets.

Closed Campus:

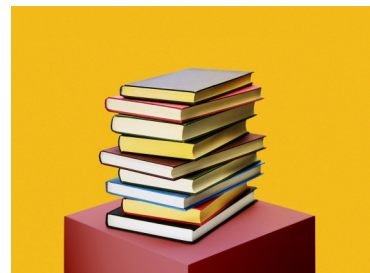
Alex Hope is a closed campus both before and after school. We understand that a school often serves as a gathering place within the community for parents and children to meet and play. However, we must ask that as soon as you have dropped off or picked up, that you please leave the school grounds. As well, you will notice that our front door is locked after the start of the day. Please use the school number listed at the front of the school to access the office. As well, if your child is late to start the day, please hurry them to their exterior door and knock for access.

Verification Forms:

A number of forms/documents that need to be completed and returned will be coming home in the week or so. Please be sure to keep an eye out for these forms that will be sent home in a labelled envelop with your child.

Overdue books:

Prior to Spring Break, a number of students had taken books home. With the significant gap between Spring Break and school restart, we have a large number of books that have not been returned. If you happen to have a book that was signed out from the Alex Hope library, please return them as soon as possible. We appreciate your help, as it is a considerable number of books that have not been returned.





Meet the Teacher:

Meet the Teacher will take place again this year, however the form will change. Unfortunately, we are unable to welcome our community into our building to walk through the classes, and to have those face to face conversations with our staff. With that said, we feel it is still valuable for Alex Hope to communicate a welcome, class procedures, and ways to best communicate with us. ***You will receive a communication from your child's classroom teacher by October 2nd. The communication could come in a number of ways: detailed email, virtual TEAMS meeting, phone calls, or video messages. The form of the communication will be teacher dependent.*** Though we regret the need to make this change, we will adhere to the closed campus. We will also continue to work to find new ways to 'invite' you into the school so that we keep the community feel that has been established. Thank you for your understanding.

Transition Model Students:

Information will be shared with you as soon as we have finalized the details.