

Dear Grafton PS Families,

Thank-you for your support with the programs that each teacher has offered this week. You are valued partners in supporting your child(ren) during this time. We recognize that Rural Internet and sharing devices is happening in many homes.

I should have our "technology request" list on Monday for anyone that completed the Google Form. On Tuesday, Jan. 12th, we will have our first Grafton Weekly WebEx Announcements from home. The invite will get sent to you on Monday as we are just finalizing the time with all teachers. Our grade 8s hosts will lead the announcements which includes January birthdays and our school Tik Tok Tuesday will get led by a grade 7 student. Our students are familiar with seeing our daily announcements this way.

Kudos to our teaching staff that were given the outline from the board during holidays for what this week would look like virtually. They have been able to continue with what we were doing in the school as we near the end of this term. Please reach out to your child's teacher if you have any questions. This year report cards for Term 1 will get sent to you through your parent Edsby login in February.

Welcome to our new staff that are beginning virtually with us. Ms. Wells is our new primary Science/Social Studies/Dance and Gr. 4/5 Drama teacher replacing Mrs. Bangs while she is at the Virtual School. Ms. Ratchford is our K-8 Drama teacher for the rest of the year. Ms. Tourloukis covered both positions and is now full time with a grade 1 class in our board.

I have had questions this week from families considering staying virtual after the 25th and timelines to transfer are coming up:

Transfers to Virtual Elementary School The next opportunity to transfer students from in-school learning to KPR's Virtual Elementary School (VES) will be the start of February. This will allow teachers to finish student assessments before students transfer to the VES. This program has mandatory minutes for Virtual teaching for each grade. More specifically:

- an Opt Out portal will be open on kprschoools.ca from January 13-22 at 4 p.m., for families to complete if they wish to transfer their children to the VES
- the first day of class for new VES students will be Tuesday, February 2 (February 1 is a PA Day)
- VES teachers will contact families of new VES students beginning January 28.

Until February 2, students will continue to attend their home school; parents can discuss with me continuing online with your current class if you wish, until their children start the VES classes February 2.

I hope you have a well-deserved break this weekend!

Sincerely,

Renee
Renee Cameron, Principal

Grafton Public School

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