



# *From the Raven's Nest...*

for Wednesday, January 5, 2022

Dear Families,

**Happy New Year...** First of all, I hope that you and your family have had a safe and restful holiday. I am sure that your children are enjoying the extended break and appreciate the flexibility that families have shown to accommodate these days of preparation.

As you know the main focus of this week is to ensure that students and staff are able to maintain their access to school both in person, or if necessary, remotely. Our hope is that we will not need to go remote, but also know that we are being told that there will likely be large numbers of people that are sick with the Omicron variant of Covid which will lead to greater absence, isolation, and potentially may result in further school closures.

To ensure that your child is able to maintain their learning if they are required to be away, or if we do need to move to remote learning as a school, we are asking that families complete a task this week.

1. Please have your child log into their Google Classroom using their SD61 Learn account.
  - a. Their account id will be the following pattern: *studentnumber@sd61learn.ca*.
2. Advisory teachers have posted a simple task to ensure that you and your child can access and submit using Google Classroom. Most of your children are very familiar with this process, but we want to ensure all students/families can access this resource.
  - a. If your child has multiple Google Classrooms (i.e. one for each subject area) please have them check their Language Arts classroom for the task.
3. Have your child complete and submit the task.

**We are asking that you please try to complete this today (Wednesday) so that we can confirm that students can access their accounts.** Teachers will be reaching out to families on Thursday to ensure that students are able to complete this task and will also be able to troubleshoot any issues that you may have.

If your child is struggling to log on, please email your child's advisory teacher or feel free to email me directly ([amaxwell@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:amaxwell@sd61.bc.ca)) and I can do a password reset for you.

So on behalf of all of us here at Rockheights Middle School, we want to thank you for your flexibility and patience as we work through these times. We are really looking forward to welcoming your child back on Monday, Jan. 10 at 8:35am (first bell).

***Be safe,***  
Sincerely,  
*Mr. Maxwell*

*A Couple of other time sensitive items....*

## **CHALLENGE PROGRAM INFORMATION FOR GRADE 8's STUDENTS**

Hello everyone,

I know that things have suddenly taken a change and will continue to do so in the near future; however, I wanted to reassure all those interested in the Challenge Program for Mount Douglas and Esquimalt that the Information session will be held as scheduled at 7:00 pm on January 5 for Mount Douglas and 7:00 pm January 6 for Esquimalt as they are being done virtually. The links for each event can be found on each school's website or you can contact the school directly for the link.

*For those interested in the Mount Douglas session, the link is <https://gvsd61.zoom.us/j/61291590855?pwd=K09KOU1MWmRmSHVCQ1g4aIVScDNVUT09>*

For those interested in the Esquimalt High Session:

Topic: Esquimalt Challenge Information Night Time: Jan 6, 2022 07:00 PM

<https://gvsd61.zoom.us/j/3282534048?pwd=Q0d4dWlIWkxsbIpVMmwyOHdSdVJWdz09>

Best,

Jamie Burren

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*and based on the current weather we are experiencing I thought I would resend this...*

### **SD 61 Inclement Weather Communication**

It is a priority for the Greater Victoria School District to communicate effectively to parents, students and community partners during inclement weather. With cooler temperatures in our forecast, the District would like to remind families of its inclement weather protocol and where to find information about the determination of school closures.

The District assesses weather conditions on a daily basis and puts every effort into making a determination by 6:30 a.m. of whether or not schools will remain open. The status of schools and transportation is then provided to local media and communicated to our community.

**Inclement Weather Updates are provided through the following:**

- School District website: [www.sd61.bc.ca](http://www.sd61.bc.ca)
- Local media outlets
- Social media channels
  - Twitter: [@sd61schools](https://twitter.com/sd61schools)
  - Facebook: Greater Victoria School District, [@sd61schools](https://www.facebook.com/sd61schools)
  - Instagram: [@sd61schools](https://www.instagram.com/sd61schools)

The District is regularly monitoring local weather conditions and Environment Canada's forecast, and will continue to do so over the weekend. Please stay connected with us for regular updates.

The Greater Victoria Region is broad and we understand that some areas may be more difficult to travel than others. It's always a parent's decision if you choose to keep your child home due to road conditions.

**For more information about notification of school impacts due to inclement weather:**

<https://www.sd61.bc.ca/news-events/inclement-weather-notifications-2/>

