

Hello Venture Heights families,

Wow!!!

It has been such a busy couple of weeks getting ready for our students ☺. I am very proud of our staff – we have really worked as a great team in figuring out all that we need to do. I am also proud of the way our staff members have gone way above and beyond by taking on tasks well outside of their normal assignments, leading us in various tasks and being ever flexible as we go through this journey together.

Our staff is also very proud of our **Venture Heights families**. As stated in an earlier email, we are so appreciative of the trust and space you have given us during our planning. We have been truly able to focus on the task at hand – without being inundated with emails and phone calls. THANK YOU!!!!

As we look forward to next week, a few of very important points to consider:

1. **Lunch** - All homeroom teachers have been reminding parents that kids should go home for lunch if at all possible. **This is not for us. It is for them.** We want kids to be able to get away from the school, from their masks, and from the “strict” guidelines we need to impose during the day. From a mental health perspective, we think leaving the school at lunch can be a great help.
2. **Bus Lanes** - now, more than ever, it is CRUCIAL that nobody uses the bus lanes. Many classrooms will be assembling at the front of the building. Please park away from the school and have your kids walk the rest of the way.
3. **Next week is our “soft start”**. The half-class format is there to allow teachers to work with smaller groups of students in order to implement and practise the new protocols. It will be a first for all of us. It is like a “dress rehearsal” for a play, but more is at stake. We ask that you recognize that we might make mistakes, or have to change some things. If you feel something is way off - contact me directly, rather than the teacher. This is not typical in our communication protocol, but I want our teachers to be focused and flexible. I will take any heat that is required.
4. **Screening** your child in the morning - parents, we ask that you be vigilant on this one. While we will do it, none of us want to take a child out of their classroom and send them home. We really hope that each family will be deliberate and systematic in doing health/symptom checks of children before sending them to school.

Our staff chooses, year after year, to remain at Venture Heights because we love it here. This year will be a new challenge, but for our staff, our students and our families – **WE GOT THIS!!**

Ron Biberdorf, Principal

Venture Heights School

Martensville, SK

NEVER announce that you are a Knight....simply behave as one

Sir Thomas Lemuel Hawke of Cornwall

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