



The Spruce



Dene Tha' Community School's Newsletter

"Learning to Love, Loving to Learn"

The Spruce Volume 2, Issue 8

DTCS Suspends Classes Indefinitely Due To COVID-19

Like other schools in the province and around the world, DTCS closed its door to the public and suspended classes indefinitely, March 16.



Lori A. orients staff about the sudden cancellation of Teacher's Convention and the possible effects of COVID-19 to classes.

Staff who travelled outside the community needed to self isolate for 14 days to ensure that they don't spread the virus if they have. Other employees who did not go continue

to work and created the learning packages for work, and teachers will pick up the accomplished work, and teachers will mark them. This procedure will continue until June.

DTCS administration encourages every one to refer to posters and Facebook Page to keep abreast of the current situation of COVID-19. They prepared lessons until the spring break, and they delivered them to houses. Staff

What's Inside?

Message From The Director / Message From The Principal	2
What is DTCS doing? / ALERT NOT ANXIOUS	3
STOP THE SPREAD	4
The Right Way to Wash Your Hands / What are reliable sources of information?	5
Prevent The Spread of COVID-19 In 7 Easy Steps / Corona Virus 101	6
Happenings @ DTCS / What Can You Say About Your Triage Worker?	7
Classroom Updates	8 to 10



Message From the Director

Due to the covid-19 virus threat, classes for students have been suspended indefinitely.

We understand the great impact this will have on your child's school year. The teachers and educational assistants are working together to make learning packages for your child. It will be similar to homeschooling. The educational assistants have packed up your student's belongings and have labelled them. They will be delivered to your home with the work packages. Your child's teacher will call you to let you know how to proceed and to offer help. The work done will be picked up when the new work is dropped off. The teachers will mark the assignments,

and the grades will be used in their final report cards.

We thank you for your patience during this time, and please do not hesitate to call your child's teacher, or the Principal: Carlito Somera (780-926-1412), or the Director: Lori Aliche (780-926-0500) should you have any questions or concerns or any good ideas of how to improve our process.

Ms. Lori Aliche,
Director of Education

Message from the Principal

Parents, guardians, elders, students, staff and community members,

Our routines have drastically changed due to the pandemic that we are experiencing during this month. It must have been hard for us to face this kind of the challenge; however, we can help by staying at home to stop the spread.

We are writing to provide you with some information about the indefinite suspension of classes and the Novel Corona Virus, a.k.a COVID-19.

Our teachers and Educational Assistants have prepared an educational package for your child to continue their learning. Starting today, March 23, Teachers and Educational Assistants will deliver a learning package for your child. They are wearing protective gloves and mask to ensure that we are observing all precautions to protect both ourselves. They will collect this work every Friday for marking. If the situation does not improve, this procedure will last until June 19, the last day of school. We have a separate sheet of guidelines for you to follow.

The situation around COVID-19 can change

rapidly every day. Our Teachers and Educational Assistants will try their best to answer your question about the virus if you have any questions. They will help you understand some information about it. We have created fact sheets that will give you the necessary information that you need to know about the virus. Please talk to your child about COVID-19 to let them know what is happening around them and the community.

Please contact us if you have any questions at 780 285 2901.

We are going to continue to provide educational support that will involve recommended online learning opportunities during the school closure.

We will continue to update you through our Facebook page and notes as we deliver a learning package.

We appreciate your cooperation and help.

Mr. Carlito N. Somera,
Principal



What is DTCS doing?

For more information and updates visit our Facebook page.

f @dtcsofficial



#StopTheSpread

In-person classes have been cancelled indefinitely but our teachers and staff have been working to provide continuous support in serving our students and to ensure that they will still have the opportunity to learn at home. All DTCS teachers have prepared learning packages for their students. These packages will be delivered to you at home. For grade 7-12, laptops and Chromebooks will be loaned to students to allow them access to Google Classroom and/or other learning management systems preferred by their teachers where lessons will be delivered. We continue to utilize other tools and methods to ensure that all students are receiving their lessons and will not be left behind.

The school itself is being cleaned and sanitized and public access has been limited only to the Culture Room. Only approved staff is allowed to enter other areas of the school building.

Staff who travelled beyond High Level are in self-isolation for the full 14 days to ensure that they have not developed any symptoms. Teachers will be available to support you in helping our students. Please carefully read their messages to parents for further instructions on how to continue your child's learning.



**ALERT
NOT
ANXIOUS**

Keep informed @ alberta.ca/COVID19

A large graphic featuring a 3D model of a COVID-19 virus particle on the left, which is spherical with a grey textured surface and red, crown-like spikes. To the right of the virus, the words 'ALERT', 'NOT', and 'ANXIOUS' are stacked vertically in a large, white, distressed, stencil-style font. Below this, the text 'Keep informed @ alberta.ca/COVID19' is written in a clean, white, sans-serif font.

STOP THE SPREAD!

Here are a few essential pointers on how you can do just that.

- Regularly and thoroughly clean your hands with a 60% alcohol-based hand rub or wash them with soap and water. Washing with soap and water is still the best way to remove the virus.
- Maintain at least a 2-meter (6 feet) distance between yourself and anyone. If the person has the disease, the virus can spread in the small liquid droplets sprayed from their mouth or nose when they sneeze. It can last up to 3 hours in the air.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth. Hands touch many surfaces and can pick up viruses. Once contaminated, hands can transfer the virus to your eyes, nose or mouth. From there, the virus can enter your body and can make you sick. The virus can last up to 72 hours on plastic and stainless steel and up to 24 hours on cardboard.
- Cover your nose and mouth when you sneeze with your bent elbow or a tissue. Dispose of the tissue immediately.
- Keep up to date on the latest COVID-19 hotspots (cities or local areas where COVID-19 is spreading widely). If possible, avoid traveling to places – especially if you are an older person or have diabetes, heart or lung disease. Why? You have a higher chance of catching COVID-19 in one of these areas.
- Self-isolate by staying at home if you begin to feel unwell, even with mild symptoms such as headache, low grade fever (37.3 °C or above) and slight runny nose, until you recover. Avoid contact with anyone else. *DO NOT go to the ER or clinic immediately unless it is an emergency then call 911.* You might unnecessarily endanger other people's lives. We also don't want to overwhelm medical facilities and reserve them for more critical cases.

Instead, take the COVID-19 self assessment check to figure out what to do next:
bit.ly/covid19checkme

You can also call Healthlink 811 for testing and instructions.

If you really need to go to a medical facility, call ahead first.

If your symptoms are severe, please call 911 and mention that you may have COVID-19.
- If it is essential for you to have someone bring you supplies or to go out, e.g. to buy food, then wear a mask to avoid infecting other people.

Sources:

Doremalen, N. V., Bushmaker, T., Morris, D., Holbrook, M., Gamble, A., Williamson, B., ... Munster, V. (2020). Aerosol and surface stability of HCoV-19 (SARS-CoV-2) compared to SARS-CoV-1. *The New England Journal of Medicine*. doi: 10.1056/NEJMc2004973:

World Health Organization. (2020). Coronavirus. Retrieved March 20, 2020, from <https://www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus>

The Right Way to Wash Your Hands



Wet hands under running water



Apply soap and rub palms together



Spread the soap lather over the backs of hands



Make sure soap gets in between fingers



Grip fingers on each hand



Make sure to clean thumbs



Press fingertips into palm of each hand



Dry thoroughly with clean towel or paper towel



What are reliable sources of information?

Be **SMART** and inform yourself about coronavirus.

Follow accurate public health advice from your local health authority.

Follow the news on latest coronavirus updates.

To avoid spreading rumours, always check the source you are getting information from.

Don't spread rumours.

Here are some reliable sources for updates and information:

- Alberta Health (alberta.ca/coronavirus)
- Alberta Health Services (albertahealthservices.ca)
- Alberta Health Services Twitter (@AHS_media)
- Government of Canada (canada.ca/coronavirus)
- World Health Organization (who.int/coronavirus)



Source: World Health Organization

Prevent the spread of COVID-19 in

7 STEPS

- 01 Wash your hands frequently
- 02 Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth
- 03 Cover your cough using the bend of your elbow or a tissue
- 04 Avoid crowded places and close contact with anyone that has fever or cough
- 05 Stay at home if you feel unwell
- 06 If you have a fever, cough and difficulty breathing, seek medical care early — but call first
- 07 Get information from trusted sources



SOURCE: WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

CORONAVIRUS 101



You've heard the news. Panicking people everywhere. It's COVID-19. There are 195 cases in Alberta alone and 846 cases in Canada as of our writing. But what exactly is COVID-19? Should we start hoarding toilet paper like everyone else? Honey, calm down. We're giving you the lowdown on COVID-19.

WHAT IS A CORONAVIRUS?

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses which may cause illness in animals or humans. In humans, several coronaviruses are known to cause respiratory infections ranging from the common cold to more severe diseases such as Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS). The most recently discovered coronavirus causes coronavirus disease COVID-19.



WHAT IS COVID-19?

COVID-19 is the infectious disease caused by the most recently discovered coronavirus. This new virus and disease were unknown before the outbreak began in Wuhan, China, in December 2019.



WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS?

Common signs of infection include respiratory symptoms, fever, cough, shortness of breath and breathing difficulties. In more severe cases, infection can cause pneumonia, severe acute respiratory syndrome, kidney failure and even death.



HOW DOES COVID-19 SPREAD?

COVID-19 is transmitted through person-to-person spread by larger droplets, like from a cough or sneeze, or touching contaminated objects or surfaces, then touching your eyes, nose or mouth. COVID-19 is not airborne and cannot spread through the air over long distances or times, like the measles. Studies suggest that the virus generally only survives for a few hours on a surface, though it may be possible for it to survive several days under ideal conditions.



WHO IS MOST AT RISK?

Adults 65 and older, people with conditions such as high blood pressure, heart disease, lung disease, cancer or diabetes have a higher risk of developing a serious case of the disease. Younger and healthier people can still develop a serious case of the disease but less so than older adults. Everyone, regardless of age, can still act unknowingly as superspreaders of the virus.

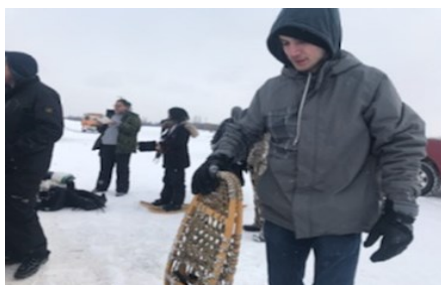


**MORE INFO ON
ALBERTA.CA/COVID19**

Happenings @ DTCS



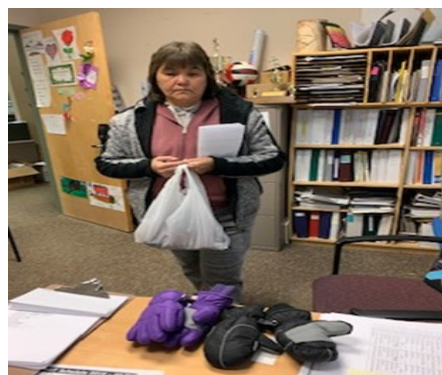
Children have snack breaks during their Habay Ice Fishing Trip, March 6.



Mr. Watts checks on his snowshoes during the Ice Fishing Trip in Habay, March 6.



Maryann proudly showed her crafts done with her Art teacher.



Wanda B. brings the donated mittens from Moral B. Thank you, Moral, for your donation.



Terrel B, Gr. 6, displays his art-work before going to Habay Ice Fishing Trip, March 6.



Mildred T. poses with the stuff toys that Amber T. donated. Thank you, Amber.



Economic Development conducts Safety Courses for Twenty Members. Safety Courses enable workers to qualify to work in Industrial Field.

What Can You Say About Your Triage Worker?

March 5, 2020.

“So, Hailey helped me to sleep faster she gave me some tips before I use to be tired and sometimes fall asleep in my class but since I started using the thing what Hailey gave me I'm not tired anymore she's a calming person and that are time we did a anger box, like I put all the things what makes me angry we put it in a box and I stomped on it

and that made me feel better. I like going to Hailey's class it's a good place to get my mind off everything, sometimes when I'm feeling down I want to go to Hailey but I only go to her on Thursdays, in Hailey's room it smells good its fun in there I like making bracelets and sometimes coloring stuff.”

Delayna

Classroom Updates

Kindergarten

Ms. Y. Manghi

My Dearest Kindergarten Students,

As we are helping each other with COVID -19 crisis, I want you to know that it is a joy to have you in my class. I am so proud of you for coping and catching up on what was expected each day from you. We may not have some perfect days, but you managed those days. My heart is beaming with pride as I look at your pictures, videos, and paperwork since your first day of school. You came so far, did so much, and you pulled through with your hard work. I may have put the bar a little high for you that may have led you to your frustrations, disappointments, and tantrums. You did it because I believed in your potential, and I will

always believe in you. I am happy to say you all deserved it in one way or the other. I saw pride in your eyes every time you were ready to go home. You would always ask, "Did I do good today?" "Was I good today?" and "Can I have a prize? I did good today." I knew you asked these questions because you want to tell your parents, and you want them to be proud of you. Yes! I am proud of you all!

I have learning packages for you to do every day, so you will continue learning at home. Your parents will be your teachers. If you have questions, you can tell your parents to

call me or send an email. I would be happy to talk and listen to you too. I cannot wait to hear what you will share. Don't forget to start your day as we did in our classroom. First, tap your shoulders then say, "I am good.", I will listen." and "I will make good choices." I know you can do all these as these helped you in school.

Enjoy being a kid and your parents, and I loved you.!

Love,

Ms. Yhong H.

Grade 2

In grade 2, the students frequently work together in pairs or small groups to consolidate their learning in numeracy and literacy. The students have been demonstrating fantastic progress in learning alphabet names and sounds through games and song,

sight words: especially by route of the Confident Learners Blast Off! Roll and write a game. They have also shown proof of mastery in adding single-digit numbers, and are working hard at mastering skip counting by 2's. Here, they are assuming leader-

ship roles and in a friendly, self-directed, non-threatening approach while reinforcing their learning in subtracting single-digit numbers as they quiz each other.

Ms. J. Salmon-Brissett

Grade 3

Mr. M. Watts

Dear parents,

Thank you for your patience during this time. I have delivered work packages, books, and supplies to every student, and I will continue doing this weekly. I have included login information

for Mathletics and Essential Skills, as well as a list of useful online resources to explore. Over the coming weeks, I will develop more online resources to share (including recorded lessons). For those without devices or the internet, rest assured that my

weekly packages will contain a wide variety of written work as well as free books to keep. I have gathered your child's belongings and will deliver them with the work packages. Take care.

Grade 5

Mr. R. Adeniyi

Dear Members of the Chateh Community,

I am a grade 5 teacher, and like all of you, I have been intently following reports of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID -19) and considering the many ways in which I can still help my students achieve academic success while they are away from Dene Tha' School.

I can reach out to my students and find meaningful ways to work with them. With the protective gear, I will visit homes on top of sending work home for students to do on their own. Finally, I will provide an opportunity for students to get feedback from me and send some notes home too.

I cannot thank the parent(s)/ guardian enough for their understanding of the sudden change of direction. But, I am optimistic we are all going to pull through this together.

Thank you very much!

Grade 6

Ms. E. Paracuelles

Dear Parents/Guardians/ Students,

At the Dene Tha' Community School, student learning remains a priority. Students are expected to continue receiving and completing work assigned to them.

The following are information on how to continue your child's learning while being away from home:

Delivery of Schoolwork

Student schoolwork will be delivered at your doorsteps by a DTCS school staff. Before anything, please check for the Instructions Manual inside to know where to start.

Supplementary Learning Resources

Aside from the physical package that will be sent to you, there will also be supplementary learning resources available on our Google Classroom based on your child's learning goals for the week. Please check each subject classroom to access these.

There are also assigned work on the following online programs: Essential Skills and Athletics. I have sent you the logins for these in the first package. Additional copies of these can be requested.

Submission of Completed Schoolwork

Please use the Return-to-Teacher envelope to return any completed work done by your child. For everyone's safety, these will be marked approximately 5 days or more after receiving them and so please be patient with our times for marking these.

Communicating with your Teacher

Here are the ways that you can reach me:

Email: edel.paraculles@chateh-education.net

Remind: Join my class at www.remind.com/join/eparac Google Classroom commenting or personal messaging

(Use your child's username and password)

Google Hangouts (videoconferencing) using my email above

School Phone: (780) 321-3940

During Miss Edel's Student Check-ins via parent phone calls

Handwritten note given to DTCS staff who delivers the packages (NOTE: Please don't include your note in the Return-to-Teacher envelope as I might not read it for 5+ days.)

We can't wait to have our students back in our classrooms. Thank you for your support and understanding during this time. Stay safe out there!

Sincerely,

Miss Edel Paracuelles

Grade 6 Teacher

Dene Tha' Community School

Dear Parents/Guardians/Students:

Due to the Corona Virus or COVID-19, our DTA closes indefinitely. However, students still need to complete their Science and Math courses for Semester 2 and English and Social Courses from Semester 1. Students will have packages for CALM Module 1, 2 and 3 to complete and some Foods materials too.

I have created individual and separate Google Classroom for senior high students so that we can have one-on-one communication.

From my understanding, the administration will loan high school students who have regular attend-

ance and who do not have computers at home with the Chrome Books. The Dene Tha School administration expects students and parents/guardians to work effectively with the technology to further learning and complete the required courses to receive high school credits by June 2020. There is an equipment care agreement that parents/guardians will need to sign.

Please note that for students who worked on and completed assignments and submitted them, they will have marks in their individual Google Classroom and on Power School.

In addition, on the learning platform Google Classroom, I have prepared packages for students and parents/guardians. Staff will deliver these packages to your houses.

If you have any questions, please email me at evvy.jenoure@chateh-education.net. Also, whenever possible, I will work with students over the phone.

Yes, we can do this! Let us all work together.

Thank you,

Evvv Jenoure

