

Uncas Update



Principal's Message

Greetings Uncas Community! We are now underway with alternative learning. We have entered uncharted territory. There are so many different factors with age levels, abilities of everyone involved, consistencies and expectations that it is difficult to comprehend. I think the most valuable item I can emphasize right now is to remain flexible. The alternative learning will require time to take shape.

I am proud of our staff and how they have adapted to their new roles and I encourage all students to value your learning and do your very best. Please know that our school classrooms and hallways are very lonely places without students and the entire Uncas Elementary staff would certainly sooner have you here at school.

Mr. TJ Kennerd

Alternative Learning During In-school Class Cancellations

Thank you to all EIPS families and students for your patience while the Division worked out the details of how learning will take place while in-school classes are cancelled. Over the last few weeks, teachers and staff have worked hard at developing alternative learning plans at all grade levels. Students enrolled in diploma courses began working with their teachers in late March. And, on April 6, the Division officially launched its alternative instruction for all other students.

Delivering learning in this way is new for students, family members and teachers. They'll no doubt be obstacles to overcome along the way, and there will be successes that will bring surprise. Over the coming weeks, students will start to adjust to a different format, and teachers will learn what works best for those in their classes. It will take time. Know that teachers care deeply about students, about their achievement and are committed to ensuring all learners have the resources needed to successfully transition to the next year.

To help make the shift in learning as smooth as possible, EIPS has developed an online toolkit for families: Alternative Learning During In-School Class Cancellations. The toolkit offers information about learning resources, supplemental lessons, navigating Google Classroom, how-to tips on supporting students, and more. In addition to learning supports, the toolkit also lists various mental health resources families can access to help navigate the unprecedented challenges everyone is facing as a result of the global COVID-19 pandemic.

Given the circumstances, it's important no one feel undue pressure to get it all right from the very beginning. There are many supports available to help along the way, and your child's education remains top of mind for every EIPS teacher and administrator. Using the resources available, teachers will do their best to help guide both you and your child until everyone is back at school, and face to face.

For more information, and questions about alternative instruction, contact the school at 780-922-4025.

Watch for Thin Ice

Remember, be aware of thin ice this time of year. Depending on changing temperatures, ice can form and melt to varying degrees on outdoor bodies of water. Please remind your child about the dangers of thin ice, obey all posted signs, take the proper care and remain a safe distance from the ice.

For more information about ice safety, visit the Canadian Red Cross.
Did you know?



The colour of ice may be an indication of its strength. Clear blue ice is the strongest. White opaque is half as strong as blue ice. And, grey ice is unsafe—the greyness indicates the presence of water.