



# St. Elias Community School

Box 5494, Haines Junction, YT Y0B 1L0  
Tel: (867) 634-2231 Fax: (867) 634-2921  
[www.yesnet.yk.ca/schools/stelias](http://www.yesnet.yk.ca/schools/stelias)

April 20, 2020

Dear St. Elias Parents / Families:

Happy Monday! I trust that this letter finds you healthy and well, enjoying the warm spring weather and time spent outdoors in the sunshine.

Thank you to all of our families who stopped by the school last Thursday (April 16<sup>th</sup>) to pick up student learning packages and materials. It was wonderful to connect with all of you and to hear how things are going for you and your families. We really miss our students!

Our students and families have had a few days to explore and work with the learning packages that were sent home last week. We thank you for your patience and understanding as we move through this new way of remote instruction and learning. We are grateful for the support and appreciation we have received from our families over the past few days. Staff are enjoying the contact with their students / families and we want you to know that we are here to help support in any way possible. Teachers will be in close communication with you and your children/youth each week to help support the learning opportunities being sent home.

This letter is the second in a series of letters, outlining our school's Learning Continuity Plan and more specifically, information regarding how we will provide weekly information and learning resources to our families in this unique time. Classroom teachers and subject teachers will be in touch regularly with you to best determine if new learning resources are needed. We want to be supportive and not overwhelm families during this time.

**Every Thursday from 8:30 - 4:30** St. Elias School families are invited to drop by the school to pick up new learning packages and drop off any completed assignments / work from students. St. Elias Staff will be at each station throughout the day to meet and provide you with new learning packages for your children.

- Families are asked to come to the same designated station that was used last Thursday, April 16<sup>th</sup>:
  - Front of School Entrance for Families with 3 or more children
  - Servery / Gym Foyer Entrance for Families with 2 children
  - Grade 3/4 Boot room Entrance for Families with 1 child
- Families will find collection bins at each station where completed assignments and student work can be dropped off. The bins will be labelled:
  - K4 – Grade 3/4
  - Grade 4/5 – Grade 6/7
  - High School – Grade -12

Over...

- When returning learning resources to the school, we ask all families to please put completed assignments / student work in a sealed, plastic bag, clearly labelled with your child(ren)'s name and grade on it. For high school work, please identify the subject name. If you need extra bags, just let us know!
- When accessing the bins or the tables at your designated entrance, please remember to maintain social distancing and wait for an opening to approach the bins or tables. Thank you!
- We anticipate that Thursday will have higher volumes of traffic around the school. For the safety of all, we ask that families park only on the school side of the St. Elias Street (where the widened pull out area is). For families accessing the station by the servery / Gym Foyer area, please access the staff parking lot from St. Elias Street and exit on to Karmen Street.

Over the weeks, teachers will be working closely with you and your student, gathering information and evidence of student learning through a variety of means. Ways of collecting learning may include returning completed work or learning activities to the bins at the school, or submitting photos that capture a creation or project completed at home, or telephone conversations with students about their thinking and learning around a specific topic. We are committed to working closely with each student and family to determine the best method for sending and receiving learning resources on an individual basis. Teachers will be in communication each week with each family and as often as needed. Please reach out to us whenever you have questions or concerns.

We are gathering lost and found items from around the school, the gym change rooms, boot stands etc. Once we have more information about safely returning these items to you, we will communicate how these items can be viewed and collected.

All staff continue to work with our families to help identify additional support, resources that may be needed to support learning at home. If parents require access to loaned resources, materials or technology to support learning needs at home, please contact your classroom teacher, Eleanor Charlton our Learning Assistance teacher ([Eleanor.Charlton@yesnet.yk.ca](mailto:Eleanor.Charlton@yesnet.yk.ca)) or myself at the school (634-2231). We are also exploring best methods to help students who need additional support, especially those who were used to being supported by our Educational Assistants.

A reminder that parents can reach all SECS staff by emailing them at [firstname.lastname@yesnet.yk.ca](mailto:firstname.lastname@yesnet.yk.ca). Ms. Shawn Allen, Mr. Eleniak and I are working from the school and can be reached by calling 634-2231. Our school counsellor, Ms. Buck, can be reached by email at [rosemary.buck@yesnet.yk.ca](mailto:rosemary.buck@yesnet.yk.ca) or calling the school and leaving a message. Ms. Buck can provide resources for parents to use in supporting their children through this time of uncertainty.

We are here to help and support you in this journey. Please don't hesitate to contact us with your questions and concerns.

Sincerely,

*Maggie Mann*

Maggie Mann and all St. Elias Staff