



## CEDAR GROVE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Address: PO Box 1130 - 1196 Chaster, Gibsons, BC V0N 1V0

Direct: (604) 886-7818 | Fax: (604) 886-3715

Web: [www.cedar-grove.sd46.bc.ca](http://www.cedar-grove.sd46.bc.ca) | Email: [cedargrove@sd46.bc.ca](mailto:cedargrove@sd46.bc.ca)

Hello families,

We have just completed our 9<sup>th</sup> day of the official continuation of learning. I wanted to remind you that whatever amount of learning your family is currently capable of doing is exactly the right amount. Our message continues to be that no one is falling behind. We truly believe this message at Cedar Grove. Please contact your child's teacher and/or me if you have any concerns.

When I was young my family found ourselves on a great adventure. Being new to Canada we had a very real Canadian experience of living in an isolated part of Northern Saskatchewan on a weather station. There was a max population of 10 people on that remote weather station, 4 in our family. There were 4 houses, a weather station, and no roads in or out. Provisions were dropped by a small plane every 3 weeks – sometimes 6 weeks depending on the ice coming or going. A real shock for our Irish family. This was also long before the internet too! My parents had no choice but to homeschool their children. Our formal schooling was roughly 45 minutes to 60 minutes a day. The rest of our time was spent engaged in a variety of things: learning how to ski; fishing; picking berries; sewing horrible early 1980s matching track suits; avoiding bears; attempting to tame foxes; reading all the books; listening to and making music and exploring the wild forests and lakes. When we returned to “civilization” and attended a big city school we were far from “behind” academically, but were propelled by wonder, curiosity, and joy that a self-paced learning environment afforded us. Again, whatever you can manage in these new conditions is completely acceptable. Follow the lead of your children.

If you find yourself needing support, please don't hesitate to contact me or any staff member you feel comfortable with. Our district website has plenty of resources and supports listed here: <https://sd46.bc.ca/families-and-students/covid-19-resources-support/>. At Cedar Grove, we also have a variety of supports we can employ to help our community. We are together, but apart.

Wishing you all a happy weekend,

Olwen Cowan  
Principal