

Sept. 24, 2021

Dear Parents, Guardians and Students,

Thank you for supporting your child in the first month back to school. Many of you have already made connections with teachers and some were able to visit Claremont on Meet the Teacher night last Thursday. It was nice to see parents/guardians in the building and we were grateful for this opportunity. It has been awhile.

Congratulations to Mrs. Kelly de Klerk on her new appointment as Principal of the Individual Learning Center for both the Broadmead and Saanichton sites! This is very exciting news for the staff and students at ILC. In her three short years at Claremont she has made a very impressive impact with students and staff, we will miss her dearly and wish her continued success. This transition for her will begin next week, October 1st, and a new vp for CLaremont will be announced later in October.

This next week will be both busy and a bit broken up as students will be in session three of the five days, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday.

**Reimagining Schools as Places of Healing - Professional Development Day - Mon. Sept. 27 at CMONT:**

This is a very important school based day that is required for all teachers and support staff in the Saanich District. We are excited to (virtually) welcome our keynote speaker, Kevin Lamoureux, who is a faculty member at the University of Winnipeg and a well known speaker committed to reconciliation and making Canada a better place for children. Staff we will use this day to engage in meaningful conversation about Truth and Reconciliation and share/reflect on what important work is still ahead for all of us. Students will not be in session this day.

**Remind Senior Students:** Canadian University Event (C.U.E.) Sept 27/28/29 and Oct 2/4/5/6. To register please use the following link, [CUE](#).

**Truth and Reconciliation Day, Thursday** - This will be the Nations first Truth and Reconciliation Day. The day is to honour the lost children & survivors of residential schools, their families and communities. It will be an emotional day as feelings of grief, anger and confusion will be part of the many questions students may have. This day should be about reflection and recognizing efforts towards reconciliation. As staff and parents/guardians it is important we set the tone for this National Day of Reconciliation. Like Remembrance Day, somber acknowledgment of the loss, but also hope towards a future free of discrimination and inequality. Students will not be in session on Thursday. At Claremont we honour the Indigenous children who were sent away to residential schools by **wearing orange on Wednesday, Sept. 29.**

Sincerely,

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