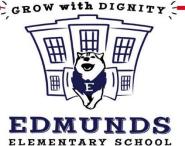
FRIDAY





299 Main St, Burlington, VT 05401 • 864-1791 From the Principal's Desk

Greetings all,

I know that this is a trying time for all. While I know that many are nervous, I would encourage everyone to remember that we have the power and control to be proactive. We can follow the advice of the scientists and the medical community, washing hands, maintaining social distance and self-isolating as necessary. We can support the health care system by calling our provider rather than showing up at the ER or doctor's office with symptoms. We can protect our more vulnerable relatives and friends and we can encourage those who are skeptical to do the same. We have some power to help control the spread of this virus.

Letting our children know that we do have some power over this situation will help relieve their anxiety. Let them know the choices we make are important. Just as, in so many other situations, making good choices is always in our control.

I want to encourage all of you to reach out to each other using available technology - telephone, text, FaceTime and Google Hangout are all good methods to keep in touch with friends and family. Please stay in touch with your older relatives and friends who may get very lonely. Mental health is equally as important as physical health.

Creating routines for your children will be really calming for everyone. Having a schedule that they can get used to, including doing the school work that has been sent home in packets, or has been communicated through email by their teacher, should be part of that routine. Include time outside, reading books, and imaginative play. If you have distant relatives who are alone, include them with calls or Facetime as part of the routine.

The district website has a great deal of information at the <u>COVID-19</u> page. Scroll down and you will see links to information concerning food, curriculum and much more. Those pages will be updated regularly as needed. I remain available via email at <u>smathias@bsdvt.org</u> and your child's teacher will also be in contact. If you have any questions or concerns, let us know. If there are school wide updates, I will share them through our school messenger system.

Above all, be safe, be well and look forward to the time when we can celebrate the end of this together.

Date and Volume Number

March 17, 2020

Up Coming Events:

March 26 - Parent/Teacher Conferences 11:30 AM March 27 - Parent/Teacher Conferences <u>NO</u> SCHOOL

Whole School Assembly
Suspended Until Further Notice

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

We have not received determination from the district regarding moving forward with conferences, however, we would appreciate your continuing to schedule, so that if teleconferencing is approved, we can go forward with that. Should teleconference be approved, your child's teacher will be in touch with you to confirm the best number to reach you. For our new families, our district uses an online scheduling system called PTC Fast, which allows you to select the teacher(s) with whom you would like to conference with by registering your email address. You are able to view and select an available conference time that works for you! The web link for EES Parent Teacher Conference scheduling is

https://ptcfast.com/schools/Edmunds Elementary School and is also available on the EES home page. If you need assistance, please call the office at 864-8473.

