

December 17, 2020

Dear Families,

As the final days of our Advent journey lead us to the Christmas Break, we want to acknowledge everything that our students, families, and staff have done to help us keep our schools open and safe. We have learned so much as a community, and worked very well together to protect the health and safety of all. As we move into the Christmas season, it is imperative that we all continue to follow public health and safety advice to protect our families and decrease the spread of COVID-19.

Though we are very hopeful to resume face-to-face classes on January 4, 2021, the Ministry of Education is recommending that students and staff take home any materials that they may require should we need to pivot to a remote learning platform after Christmas. This is a pro-active strategy to ensure that we are ready for all scenarios. Therefore, we are making plans to have all students bring home their personal belongings along with learning resources and materials when they leave school tomorrow on Friday, December 18.

In the event that we must move to a remote learning platform after the holidays, our Principals will work with our families to ensure that students have the technology they need to continue learning online.

Please know that we are doing all of this work just to ensure that we are ready for whatever might come in the new year.

We will do our best over the holidays to keep our families informed using our telephone messenger system and posting updates to the Board website at <u>www.ncdsb.on.ca</u>.

These have been challenging times for all of us. I am so very proud of the collective work that we have done to keep our schools open, and our students and staff safe. We are very happy that we made it to Christmas!

May you be blessed with the gifts of hope, love, and happiness this holiday season. Merry Christmas!

Sincerely,

Tricia Stefanic Weltz Director of Education