



# Dasmesh Punjabi School

Grades K-12 Parent Newsletter April 2020

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## Principal's Message

Good Morning Everyone,

I hope you enjoyed spending time with your loved ones during your well-deserved spring break. The fight to control the spread of COVID-19 has prompted B.C. government officials to close all schools until further notice. This could last until the end of our academic year. This global pandemic is a real case of "getting sick together" or "staying well together". We plan to get well together and learn as a Dasmesh family during this unprecedented time.

By now your child should have been in contact with his or her class/subject teacher. We understand that you did not sign your child up for distance learning. However, the current circumstances have forced all schools to move in this direction. This is not homeschooling, but it is "Crisis Schooling." I want to assure you that our staff is working hard to maintain the quality of education in this unprecedented time.

We can understand your stress level and student anxiety with following the safe distance Provincial Health guidelines. This also comes with new challenges to cope with the continuity of learning using technology. I have researched seven effective ways to support you and your child to cope with this crisis. Please visit our school website [www.dasmeshschool.com](http://www.dasmeshschool.com) for the latest updates and parent resources. It is extremely important to keep the safe mental well being of everyone.

If you need any assistance regarding communication with your child's teacher, we will be happy to provide translation services. I will update our new building project in the upcoming months. We are getting closer towards completion.

Please feel free to call the school office at 604-826-1666 from 9:00 A.M to 2:00 P.M, if you have any questions or concerns. Dasmesh salutes all essential service professionals during this time. Thank you for looking after all of us. Your work is not unnoticed. We are all in this together!

Jaspal S Dhaliwal

Principal



### School Calendar: April 2020

April 10 Good Friday Holiday (no online teaching for students)  
April 13 Easter Monday Holiday (no online teaching for students)  
April 22 Mid Semester Report Grades 9-12 report will be emailed to students/parents emails.  
All other scheduled activities on our school calendar were given in the previous school newsletter, are cancelled at this time for the month of April, 2020.

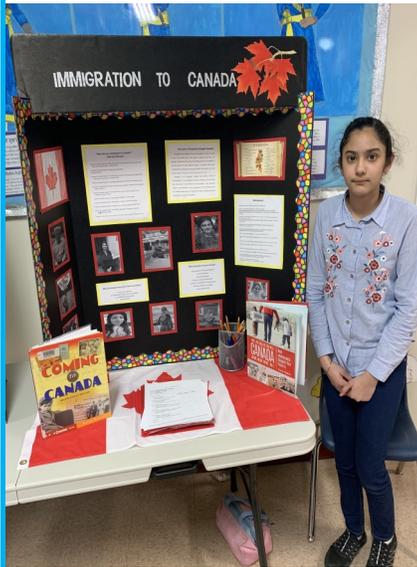
## Science Fair



The Science Fair 2020 at Dasmesh Punjabi School has been an immensely successful event, not only because of the teachers and students who contributed to it, but also due to the support of the school community as a whole into making this event memorable. The energetic and never-ending enthusiasm of the participants reflected their determination and hard-work. They worked as a team and presented their Science projects with great fervor to their audiences, which further allowed them to enhance their learning. Through their presentations and interactions with their peers, students not only gained knowledge, but also acquired certain valuable skills, which can prove beneficial in different subject areas and even throughout their lives. Hence, the School Science Fair has helped to bring forward some extremely positive inner qualities in our students that lie at the core of successful learning. Thank you Mrs Harpreet Kaur and Mrs Avisha Malik for coordinating School Science Fair.

## Heritage Fair

Thank you Ms. Rosen for organizing the school Heritage Fair. Students presented very well and with confidence. Thank you for working with them and teaching them how to do research and work on their source of information. Students used a variety of resources such as books from the library, internet sites, and personal interviews to complete their projects. Thank you staff for exposing our students to the Heritage Fair and judging all the participants.



### FCVIBA - Scholarship Recipient

Congratulations to Jasmine K Brar of grade 12, (2020 Grad) for winning a \$1,000 scholarship sponsored by Fraser Valley Indo-Canadian Business Association.



### Minerva Acceptance

Harnoor Bhatthal (Gr 11) has been accepted in for the Minerva Learning to Lead program. It is a competitive program to get into so she is very proud of her acceptance. However with the pandemic in the world right now, they are offering an online version for a week via Zoom. She is thrilled to be a part of it! Congratulations Harnoor.



### UBC Punjabi Essay Writing competition Winner

Our Grade 10 student Ansh Singh Dhaliwal has won first place (\$200) in the Advanced Category UBC Punjabi Essay Writing competition organized by the UBC Asian Studies Department. Congratulations Ansh.



Value of this month is Service

## Learning from Home

These are exceptional times and while it's important for children to keep learning, there is no expectation that the pace and rigour of a normal school day be duplicated at home. Teachers will continue to provide instruction and parent/caregiver involvement will depend on the age and ability of the child and the time that parents/caregivers are able to give. Every family will determine what works best for them in discussion with their children's teachers. Make use of what you have available and don't worry that your child is missing out if you don't have the latest technology. Simple everyday items and activities offer great learning opportunities.

### Routine

Disruptions in routines can be stressful. A regular schedule helps maintain a sense of normalcy and stability. As a family, it's good to set up a weekday schedule including:

regular bedtime, wake-up and mealtimes

- getting dressed and ready for school (even though they're at home)
- time for learning
- time for breaks
- daily physical activity

### daily communication with friends and family

#### Space to Work

Setting up home learning space to work can help children focus. If possible, the space should include:

- a quiet atmosphere
- good lighting
- a desk or table at a comfortable height for your child
- a storage basket or bin to keep supplies (paper, pens, pencils, markers, books, etc.)

### access to a computer/tablet or other smart device if possible

#### Helping your Child

How much involvement you have will depend on your child's age and needs. Following are suggestions designed for specific age and grade levels. General suggestions for children of all ages include:

- Let your child see you're interested in what they're doing and be positive and cheerful in your approach.
- Encourage positive communication with the child (to give and accept instructions).
- Encourage the development of good work habits and help your child take pride in work well done.

Be patient with your child and yourself. This is a new experience for everyone and will take some time to adjust to. The most important thing is for your child to feel safe, loved and supported.