

Mary Montgomery School Seasonal Flu Prevention Plan

Objective:

It is our objective to educate our school community on infection prevention strategies and general information on the H1N1 virus and other seasonal flu viruses and to implement prevention strategies.

Planning Process

- Information package on the seasonal flu, H1N1 Flu, and FLBSD Pandemic Plan will be provided to and discussed with staff members at the first staff meeting of the school year. (September 8th, 2009)
- Using the information from the staff discussion and the information resources available, the school administrator will create a specific school Seasonal Flu Prevention Plan.
- The Seasonal Flu Prevention Plan will be shared with MMS Parent Advisory Council at the September Executive Meeting.
- The MMS Seasonal Flu Plan will be continually reviewed throughout the school year by the school administrator and school staff at staff meetings.

Educational Component:

- Each classroom teacher will be provided access to resources to teach students proper techniques of hand washing and coughing.
- Each classroom will instruct students and plan lesson/activities on proper technique in hand washing and sneezing / coughing during each day of the first week of school. These lessons should be repeated prior to students consuming food. Age appropriate information on the seasonal flu should also be shared with students during these lessons.
- Each classroom will instruct students on the proper technique to use alcohol based products in the prevention of spreading germs.
- Each student will have the opportunity to experience the Glo Germ Kit activity by the end of September. This learning experience will be repeated prior to the end of November. (Mary Montgomery School will purchase the Glo Germ Kit)
- Staff members are instructed to use any opportunity to remind students of the importance of good prevention strategies.
- An information letter from the Manitoba Government (H1N1 Flu Bulletin) will be sent home with students on their first day of classes.
- A specific letter from the MMS School Administrator will be provided to the school families with information on MMS Flu Prevention Plan. This letter will go home with students prior to the end of the first full week of school in September.
- Periodically an information letter will be sent home during the school year reminding students' families of our Flu Prevention Plan.
- Once a week during the first part of the school year students should receive a lesson reviewing the proper techniques for prevention of the seasonal flu.

Prevention Strategies

- Hand washing – students will be instructed how and provided time to wash their hands properly any time prior to and after consuming food, using the washroom, and using shared equipment. Students will be monitored throughout the school year by the adults within the classroom.
- Increasing the frequency of washing desktops.
 - Each desktop and edges will be washed at the end of the school day by the school cleaning staff.
 - It is important that students make sure their desktops are clear of materials at the end of the school day.
 - The desktops in the grade three and four classrooms will be washed by the cleaning staff after the lunch hour.
 - Lunch Tables will be washed by the cleaning staff after the lunch hour,
 - Each classroom including the resource will be supplied with alcohol wipes to use at the discretion of the adults within that room to use in cleaning the desktops and the keyboards in their classroom.
 - If students are too use these products the educator must teach, model, and supervise the proper use and disposal of these products.
- Prior to using the computers in the lab students will use an alcohol based hand sanitizer. Dispensers will be placed in the computer lab.
- Prior to using the computers in the lab students will use the alcohol wipes to clean the keyboard, the mouse and the power button. *(Please note it is important to not use this product on the computer screens. The best product to clean the screens is a damp cloth.)*
- Prior to students using the gym equipment students will use the alcohol hand sanitizer. After students have completed their gym class they need to wash their hands.
- Prior to students using the library students will use the alcohol hand sanitizer.
- Mary Montgomery School will purchase and place alcohol wipes in each classroom and common rooms.
- Mary Montgomery School will purchase hand sanitizer for each classroom and common room. It is important that this sanitizer has an aloe component to prevent students and staff's skin from drying.
- Information posters will be placed in each washroom and classroom and other high traffic areas in the school.
- Students will be discouraged from sharing materials such as pencils, crayons and erasers.
- The frequency of dish clothes and dish towels being washed will be increased. A dish cloth will only be used for ½ day.
- When students become ill at school staff will phone home directly and families will be strongly encouraged to pick up their student as soon as possible. Students will wait at the school office.
- Students' families will be strongly encouraged to have their children remain at home when they are feeling ill.