



**SIR WILFRID LAURIER**  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Dear Parents,

My name is Ryan Hong and as you know, I will be your child's teacher for their Gr. 7 year. I have been teaching since 2001. I spent a few years teaching English in Japan within the elementary and junior high schools and then I returned to Canada to teach in the Surrey school district and later moved to the Vancouver school district.

I look forward to involving you in your child's learning. For your child to be successful, all stakeholders must be involved. Together, we will keep a clear line of communication open in order to promote your child's learning success. If at any time you have any questions in regards to your child's learning at school, please do not hesitate to contact me via email. I will respond promptly. If needed, we can always setup a virtual meeting via TEAMS or ZOOM.

I have many exciting and engaging learning activities planned for your child this year. My teaching philosophy revolves around research-based teaching which has been proven to work. I focus on the 'LEARNING PROCESS' to help your child become a proficient learner. You will hear much about 'THE BIG 6 LEARNING PRINCIPLES' from your child this year. They will learn a great deal about taking ownership of their learning through their use of learning intentions, success criteria, deep thinking questions, self/peer assessments, and descriptive feedback.

A year plan will be sent home this Friday for you to review with your child. It will also be posted on our class website. Starting Friday, I will be posting daily blog posts on our class website. The address is <http://www.mrhongclass.com> or <http://hillcrestdiv4.weebly.com> I typically post a short paragraph about some of the day's learning that happened at school, important information for parents, homework assignments that may be due for the next day, and a daily written response questions (Post a Response) assignment. This is not only to inform parents, but also to engage students in their learning outside of school. Students will be writing on our class website using their skills of digital citizenship. Please reinforce appropriate online behaviour at all times. These written assignments will begin next week. More information will be posted about it on Friday. Procedures for students will also be taught and practiced in class before they start next week.

I will be using <http://www.freshgrade.com> to communicate student learning to families. All major assignments and evaluations will be posted there. Look for login information to be sent home in the coming weeks. In addition to this, I use [Twitter/Instagram \(@MrHongsClass\)](#) to communicate interesting and exciting things going on in our classroom. Please note, students **are not expected** to create any type of social media account for our Gr. 7 class. However, if

your child has been given permission by you to use social media, please ensure they have locked their accounts and privacy settings so their accounts are not public.

In regards to technology in class, students may bring their mobile devices to class. However, it is expected they keep them in their bags unless given permission to use it for school-based activities. Students are responsible for their own devices and the school will not be held responsible for their devices. Also, if students are using their devices during schooltime for non-school-related activities (IE social media, video games, taking pictures/videos, etc), we will take their device away for the day. If it happens a second time, we will take their devices for the day and ask parents to come to school to pick up their devices.

We are doing assessments of your child's abilities in academic areas this week and next. It will give us a good baseline for where your child is in their learning in all areas. These assessments will not contribute to report card evaluations. They will simply allow us to see where your child is in his or her learning at this time. You will be able to compare these assessments with their abilities at the end of the school year.

I am really looking forward to creating some form of normalcy in your child's education this year. I'm looking forward to creating the best learning environment for all the students in the class! Do not hesitate to contact me with any of your questions/concerns.

#TheLearningNeverStops

Sincerely,

Ryan Hong

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