CHRIST THE KING SCHOOL

165 Dufferin Avenue, Brantford, ON N3T 4R4

Telephone (519)759-4211

Dear CTK families, 1/24/2020

Occasionally, schools may notice an increase in absenteeism due to illness. Traditionally schools report when absenteeism due to illness reaches 10% of the student population, however if a significant number of students are ill in only one class this should still be reported. For example, if a primary classroom has 3-4 children off with similar symptoms within a day or two, this would be significant and should be reported.

Given the fact that there have been a few reportable incidents of influenza in the Homedale community (not specifically at Christ the King), I wanted our school community to be aware that we are taking every precaution to ensure a safe and healthy learning environment for all staff and students. To date, according to our Brantford Health Unit, currently, we have no reportable cases of influenza. However, we are aware of 2 children who are experiencing symptoms of the flu/influenza in the grade two class.

As recommended by our health unit, to address absenteeism related to illness, follow these general recommendations. Start as soon as you notice the illness.

* **Ensure sick children stay home**. When calling to report your child's absence, please indicate to Mrs. Lockington that your child is away **due to ill** (cough, cold, flu etc). So that we can continue to monitor any health concerns at the school.
* Encourage good handwashing routines at home, especially before meal times.
* Ensure washrooms are supplied with hand soap and (paper) towels and cleaned throughout the day.
*Remove plush toys/items, launder if possible.

Please note that our school is monitoring any increased absentee rates due to illness and we are consulting with our Public Health Nurse regularly.

For further information or concerns regarding influenza, feel free to email or phone the Infectious Disease program at infectioncontrol@bchu.org or call 519-753-4937 ext. 454
Keeping our community informed.

With regards,

Mrs. Hanley
Principal
Christ the King School