

RWTO Owen Sound and Area

Here's how I think requiring masks would work in kindergarten. I'm sure I would say all of these things.

- By Leilani Capelo Alger, Teacher

Please don't snap (insert name)'s mask in their face.

You should not be using your mask as a sling shot. Please put it on your face.

Your mask should be on your face not on the back of your head

Your mask is not a necklace, bracelet, or any other form of jewellery.

Please do not chew on your mask. (This one!!!)

I'm sorry your mask is wet but that is what happens when you lick the inside of your mask.

I'm sorry you sneezed but wipe out the snot as good as you can.

No, you cannot blow your nose in your mask.

Why is your mask soaking wet? You just came back from the bathroom? And you put it back on your face after you dropped it?

I'm sorry you broke the elastic on your mask by seeing how far the band would stretch but now you will have to hold the mask

on your face or use this duct tape.

Please take the mask off your eyes and watch where you are walking. I don't care if you can see through it.

Please take the mask off of your pencil and stop twirling it.

I know the mask fits over your pants like a knee pad but please take it off of your leg and put it on your face.

What do you mean you tried to eat your lunch through your mask?

Please do not share your mask or trade masks. I don't care if you like their mask better.

I'm sorry but your mask is not school appropriate.

We are not comparing our masks to other kids masks... everyone's mask is unique and special.

No, you cannot decorate your mask instead of doing your work. I don't care if you have a Sharpie.

You are not a pirate, please take your mask off your eye.

Try to get the gum off as much as you can.

Please do not use your mask to pick your nose.

I'm sorry you tripped but that's what happens when you put your feet inside the elastic of your mask.

No, your mask does not make it hard to get your work done.

Your Mom will need to get you a new mask since you chewed a hole in that one.

Why is there a shoe print on your mask?

No, you cannot eat the snow through your mask.

I don't care if you were in art class and being creative, we do not decorate our masks.

We do not beam other kids in the face with a ball. No, their mask doesn't make it not hurt.

Please do not plug your nose holes with your mask.

Who is making that noise?

I'm sorry your ponytail is stuck, that's what happens when you see how many times you can wrap it around your mask.

I'm sorry to tell you but your child thought their mask made them a superhero and so they tried to fly off of the jungle gym at recess...

I'm sorry your breath stinks in your mask, maybe we should all try to brush better.

Please take those things out of your mask. No, you are not a chipmunk.



Our activities continue to be on hold.

Greetings and welcome to our Owen Sound and Area additional Summer Newsletter. We thank Laurie James for all her work compiling this newsletter edition. We do want to keep in touch with all of you during this time of social distancing.

Sadly, but quite understandably, our General Meeting venue at Georgian Shores United Church is not available for meetings this Fall. The good news is that, depending on what is happening with social distancing, we are still tentatively booked for our General Meetings on March 24 and May 27, 2021. We certainly miss these important and informative meetings.

However, your executive is continuing to meet virtually to brainstorm opportunities to stay

connected with all of our members. If you have any suggestions for us please email me at Sue_loyst@hotmail.com. We do want to hear from you. Please share the activities that you are involved with these summer days. I have been enjoying some swimming and kayaking - so helpful to keep cool these warm days.

Until we meet again, I would like to share this Irish Blessing. 'May your blessings outnumber the shamrocks you grow, and may trouble avoid you wherever you go'.



Yours in Caring and Sharing
Sue Loyst - Owen Sound and Area President



During the isolation I watched a female resident of Lee Manor, where I am now living, build a flower garden across the lane from me. She had West Side nursery bring some good soil around and spread it in the garden. It has been successful.

Nora Jones

I completed the second quilt for the twins expected in August. This one is for the boy. My son will be their uncle.

Laurie James



I took a workshop creating and stamping hand made greeting cards just before Covid days began. It turned into a relaxing hobby to fill many hours during Covid days and continues. Family and friends are enjoying them...with even a few sales!!

Rhonda O'Reilly

Social Distancing Picnic

Tuesday Sept. 8th, 2020 at 11:30 am
At Louise Dobson's front yard

Bring your own lunch and a drink as well as a lawn chair. This will be a chance for you to pay your RWTO membership if you haven't done so already. Washroom will be available if needed. Come and enjoy an informal get together with your fellow retired teachers.



Directions to Louise's home:

From Owen Sound: Take Hwy #26 and turn left on County Rd. 15. Go to Annan stop sign, then turn right onto Sideroad 33. At the "T" intersection, turn left onto Conc. 8 N (Road curves to the right). Go straight on Sideroad 24 up the hill and over Keefer's Creek bridge. #264163 is the first house on the left. House has a large porch and a blue roof. The phone # is 519-371-1121.



Membership

A gentle reminder: Although not gathering together just yet, it is important to keep your membership fees current, **especially to keep your insurance valid.** September 1, is the start of our fiscal year. Please send your dues to Marg Abra. 438 1st St. SW, Owen Sound, ON N4K 6Z8

Diary of a Paranoid Germaphobe

To fly or not to fly, that was the question.

I had firmly ensconced myself in my safe condo away from the maddening crowds weathering the storm of the Coronavirus in Florida, or so I thought. Amid news and misleading accounts from the Trump administration discounting it as a "Democratic scare tactic and promises of it to be over soon I discovered the statistics around the world proved this to be misinformation from a maniacal megalomaniac who cared nothing about the health and welfare of his fellow Americans. So, the question was should I fly home or drive the car. I had to consult with my son who is an Actuary and could determine survival rates, chances of exposure and mortality rates to compare flying versus driving. Both had advantages and disadvantages. I opted to go for return by air because of less time for exposure, albeit in a crowded sardine can with a few hundred others.

Before I left I called home to make sure my husband could pick me up some staples so that I would have something to eat and told him not to forget the most important necessity, toilet paper. He told me we were down to a couple of rolls and he had been unable to get some. Now I had visions of me dumping all the clothes out of my suitcase and filling it with all the toilet paper I had at the condo. I was concerned that when customs asked me if I had anything to declare and I alluded to my stash of toilet paper, they might confiscate this much needed commodity. Are there regulations regarding the import of toilet paper across the border? I suspect it might replace the former items such as alcohol, drugs and tobacco as the number one item to be confiscated.

I donned my mask and gloves and clutching my hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes I proceeded to the Airport. I pushed my big suitcase a metre in front of me and my carryon a metre behind so no one could enter my personal space. That with my menacing scowl ensured that no one would dare come close. I then scanned the growing crowd to try and figure out who amongst us might be a carrier of this dreaded virus. I looked at fellow

passengers for sweaty brows, fidgety hands and darting eyes that I deemed were signs of them hiding something, like a virus. I discovered we all were displaying similar signs. The masks made us sweat, and we were all eying each other in a similar fashion and our nerves at being in this worrisome environment made us fidget uncustomarily.

My husband picked me up at the airport and I brought the car back to Owen Sound alone as he decided to fly down and pick my car up from Florida and drive back. He would do his isolation at his apartment in Hamilton where he resides most of the time. His job is considered an essential service so it might be another 4 months before he returns home for a couple of days. It takes a lot of wipes to clean the entire inside of a car I discovered. He gave me the stink eye when I refused to take off my gloves and mask. Apparently, I take this scare a little more seriously than he does.

My drive home was uneventful, thank goodness because I got a chance to catch my breath before the next calamity. I discovered my furnace was no longer working. I went from 32 C when I left Florida to 9 C in my house. I had to leave my winter coat on while I wiped every communal surface down with bleach wipes, and then some other spots too, just in case. I first thought any of those little viruses lurking in the house to attack me would be slowed down by hypothermia but alas it was only me that was hampered as they survive very well in cold climates. It is the heat they don't like. I forgot to ask my son to factor that into his equation.

I counted the minutes before my self isolation was over and I could call someone to look at the furnace, then was too terrified to let someone in the house. I held out until my gas fireplace stopped working. I was able to get the house up to 15 F with it running. I donned my hazmat suit, mask and gloves and awaited the arrival of a similarly dressed technician to assess my defunct furnace for assessment for replacement.

Now to the part where I asked my husband to stock the fridge in essential items as I

wouldn't be able to get to a grocery store. I felt like I was on an episode of Chopped Canada where you are handed a mystery basket with unconnected items in it and have to make a delicious meal out of those ingredients. My creativity and imagination was stretched to its limit deciding what to concoct with the items in the fridge: 3 limes, 3 apples, 2 loaves of bread (which I don't eat), 2 lb. bag of grated cheese, 1/2 and 1/2, a box of mixed greens (nothing else to go with it including dressing) and a dozen eggs. I guess I can make a lettuce omelet with a slice of apple on top, lol. They do say Men are from Mars and Woman are from Venus. Woohoo, I discovered Foodland delivers. I was in heaven. It only took me 4 days to figure this out.

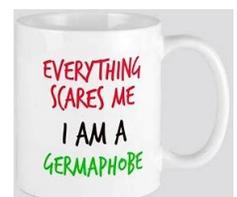
Things were on an upswing now with furnace replaced. On March 30 I actually saw another human being. I was beginning to believe I was the only person left in Owen Sound as I had not seen another person since my return. At first I thought that I was hallucinating due to hypothermia, isolation and malnutrition but then I heard the man (I think it was a male but hard to tell from such a distance) yell something. I am imagining it was a greeting like " so nice to see you" or " how are you doing" but alas he was too far away to hear. I am sure that was a friendly wave of his whole hand and not a single digit salute.

Last Sunday as temperatures soared in the 30's my AC stopped working and once again I had to temp fate to have the same technician come back to determine whether it could be fixed. Unfortunately it too has to be replaced and I found out all AC Units are on back order as they have not been in production since the shutdown due to Covid. On a positive note, were it not for the frequent visits from the friendly technicians from Gas Plus it would have been a lonely 3 months!

See you on the other side. Take care. Stay safe.

Jan Chamberlain

(Thank you for sharing Jan)



I have included 3 pictures for you to show my Covid lockdown activity. I have spent the time enjoying our flowers (not the weeds) and the birds. We have stayed close to home to try and stay healthy. It has actually been very pleasant, but I would like to go to Ottawa to see our family.

Lorraine Dunning



Birthday cards were sent to our July birthday ladies, Betty Ritchie and Jessie Ross. Those celebrating in August are Mary Monteith and Verna Killam. Happy Birthday ladies.

**Yours in caring and sharing,
Lorraine Dunning.
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Barb Schwartz
519-371-2474**

