

Principal Email March 25, 2022

Email to families:

- Knoxdale is participating in a study through the University of Ottawa and Carleton University on sampling of floors to look for SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. Swabs will be used to collect samples around the school facility. The goal of this study is to inform public health surveillance strategies for SARS-CoV-2 and any emerging variants of concerns. The primary goal is not to inform school communities whether their environment has COVID-related activity, although that may be one of the long-term benefits of this study. Nor is the intent of this study to replace human testing strategies that have been an important tool in detecting and curbing spread of COVID-19 in schools. Samples will be collected twice weekly and processed monthly. During this period, results will be reviewed by members of the research team.

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- The Royal City Soccer Club, a registered non-profit community organization, is proud to host their 30th annual popular grassroots summer soccer day camps. The program is designed to promote personal development, team building and of course, FUN! Offering full day and morning sessions to all children aged 5 to 13, the program runs all weeks in July and August. There are camp locations in Ottawa, Nepean, Kanata and Orleans (site details available by [clicking here](#) or visiting the LOCATIONS page on our website royalsoccer.com. To register or for more information, visit royalsoccer.com or call 1-800-427-0536.
- **Did you travel outside of the country on March Break?** Current federal travel requirements state that those returning from international travel must wear a mask at all times in public spaces, including schools. Learn more: [https://travel.gc.ca/travel-covid/travel-restrictions/e/?\)+x+.x\)xemptions](https://travel.gc.ca/travel-covid/travel-restrictions/e/?)+x+.x)xemptions)
- **Play structures continue to be closed due to the frozen ground.** Our custodial staff are monitoring the thaw and will announce their opening when it is safe to do so. There are no longer any Covid restrictions related to the play structures.

Have a great weekend!

Julie Chouinard

