

April 1

Walking around Mill Lake Park yesterday afternoon, a friend and I saw the first babies of spring! Seven little grey and yellow goslings happily toddling along between their parents, two watchful Canada geese. When another adult goose started to get close, the larger of the parents lowered its neck and started hissing. Meanwhile, the happy little babies kept looking around and pecking at the ground, happy as anything. New to this world and full of curiosity.

We are not so new and we are much more aware of the dangers out there right now. Every generation experiences this disappointing realization. Think of the soldiers of WW1, going off to war, not knowing what would happen. Think of their families saying good-bye, not knowing if they would ever see their brothers and sons and fathers and husbands ever again. Think of the British children of WW2, evacuated to Canada, not knowing what lay ahead of them or when they would be allowed to return home. You have heard their stories.

Now you are writing your own story. Some day, students your age will be doing projects on the great pandemic of 2020. They will be looking for primary source material for their reports. What was it like for people their own age during the Covid-19 crisis? What was it like for children in BC? What was it like to have to stay home from school? What was it like to have to stay indoors so much?

You, Div. 6-3, are the ones who will be able to tell them the story. They won't have to just read about it in a textbook. They will know what it felt like because you will tell them. Yes, you! Your journal entries every day are how history is made.

Every day, write about the weather, about your activities and your schoolwork, about what you see happening around you and what you hear on the news. Write about how you feel. All those entries we will put together into a Term Three Class Project: a book about how grade 6 students in Canada were affected by the 2020 pandemic.

You are not as young as those little goslings by the lake. However, you can be just as curious about life. Keep your eyes open. Observe people around you. Observe yourself. How are you coping with this new style of schooling? This new way of life?