

# WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL

### **Information For Students and Families**



# Welcome to Elementary School!

We are happy to welcome you into our school community!

We ask that you read through this information carefully so that you and your child know what to expect. Your child's health and safety is as important to us as it is to you. You can help us by ensuring that both you and your child understand the importance of following the procedures outlined on these pages. We can get through this together and you can help by keeping your child home when you, anyone in your household, or your child is unwell.

# School start up will be different this fall

Students will be learning and playing in typical class size groups within a cohort of 60. They will spend the bulk of their time with the same staff and students within this cohort. When students are in places where other cohorts may be present, then physical distancing expectations will be in place. Recess breaks and lunches will be staggered to help with physical distancing. Students will be outside a lot and in all kinds of weather. They will need appropriate outdoor clothing every day, including coats, boots and shoes for rain or shine. Our goal is to balance students' educational needs within a safe, supportive environment and being outside regularly is part of this plan.



#### LABEL EVERYTHING

Label your child's water bottle, supplies, and all materials they bring to school. Only water bottle filling stations are open.



## **SNACKS & LUNCH**

Pack a healthy, nut free snack & lunch your child can eat independently without reheating.

NO LUNCH DROP OFFS NO GOING HOME at LUNCH



#### CARE & CALM

Our goal is always to provide a deep sense of care and calm to support your child's learning.



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#### Scheduled Drop Off & Pick Up

Students will enter and leave the school at designated times and locations.



#### Wash Your Hands

Students will wash their hands or use hand sanitizer upon arrival each day, throughout the day, and before leaving.



#### 2 Metres Apart

When not in a cohort, staff and students will respect the physical distancing of 2 metres.



#### Masks

Non-medical masks are not recommended for elementary students due to the increased chance they'll touch their face & eyes, as well as the help they may need to properly put on and take off their mask. Wearing a mask is a personal choice.

## Mandatory Daily Health Declaration Process for Students & Staff

#### You must review these questions each day before bringing your child to school:

- 1. Do you have any of the following symptoms that are not from a pre-existing condition (e.g. allergies)?
  - Fever Diarrhea Chills Loss of appetite Cough or worsening of chronic cough
  - Nausea and vomiting Shortness of breath Muscle aches Sore throat Fatigue
  - Conjunctivitis (pink eye) Runny nose/stuffy nose Dizziness, confusion Headache
  - Loss of sense of smell or taste Abdominal pain Skin rashes or discolouration of fingers or toes
- 2. Have you or anyone in your household returned from travel outside Canada in the last 14 days?
- 3. Are you or is anyone in your household a confirmed contact of a person confirmed to have COVID-19?

Answering YES to any of the questions will prevent the staff/student from entering the school.

#### What if you answered YES?

- **Question 1:** If you answered YES to question 1 and the symptoms are not related to a pre-existing condition, you need to stay home until you have been assessed by a health-care provider to exclude COVID-19 or other Infectious diseases AND your symptoms have resolved.
  - For assessment of any symptoms, contact 8-1-1, a physician or a nurse practitioner.
- Question 2: If you answered YES to question 2, you will need to stay home to self-isolate based on the Quarantine Act.
- Question 3: If you answered YES to question 3, you will need to stay home to self-isolate based on the advice of the Public Health Authority.
  - \* Contact the school if you have answered yes to any of the above questions and anytime you keep your child home.

Our goal is for everyone to be healthy and safe.

# **Arrival and Leaving School**

It will be important to be on time and come at your designated arrival and pick up times, as well as note the entrance/exit your child will use. Families and children will line up to be welcomed and dismissed at staggered times to allow for physical distancing. Families and caregivers will not enter the school. Appointments may be made as needed.



#### Students will:

- \* Wash their hands before proceeding to class and wash their hands frequently, or use hand sanitizer.
- \* Label everything they bring to school: a re-fillable water bottle, lunch, pencil box, their own school supplies, jackets, hoodies, etc.
- \* Need nut free snacks and lunch, that do not require re-heating. Lunches must be packed and NOT delivered. Students will not go home for lunch. There will be NO food sharing. Birthday treats must be individually wrapped, store bought snacks. No home made treats.
- \* Bring clothing for being outside in all weather, including indoor and outdoor footwear.
- \* Continue to practice physical distancing at all times when outside their school cohort.

## **Masks**



Students and staff will each be given two re-useable face masks. Non-medical masks are not recommended for elementary students due to the increased likelihood they will touch their face and eyes, as well as required assistance to properly put on and take off their mask (requiring increased close personal contact from school staff). Wearing a mask is a not always possible for everyone. No student needs to wear a non-medical mask if they do not tolerate it. Students may choose to wear a mask.

It is important to treat everyone with respect, regardless of their ability to wear a mask or not

Anytime staff or students are outside of their cohort or in an area where physical distancing is not possible, we ask staff to wear masks.

Click on the image to the right to learn about mask care.



