



École Our Lady of the Rosary School
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June 13, 2022

Dear parents/guardians,

As we head into the last two and half weeks of school for the 2021-2022 school year, we would like to share with you some information regarding start up for next year. First of all we have a minor bell change time. We will begin morning supervision at 8:09 a.m. (previously 8:10 a.m.) with the entry bell going at 8:15 a.m. (previously 8:16 a.m.). This allows us to run a more uniform daily schedule.

Based on staff feedback, students would benefit from a longer lunch time. We will return to a longer 30 minute lunch time replacing the five minute afternoon snack time. Students benefited from this longer amount of time to eat.

Next year we will continue to have our staggered recess times. Kindergarten English, Grade Two and Grade Four students will have recess at the same time. Kindergarten French, Grade One and Grade Three students will share recess times. Staggered recesses allow for more playground access for students and staff have noticed this practice has been a huge success and benefit to student self-regulation and play.

We asked families for feedback about staggered entry. The question was posed as we know from previous experience that having smaller classes to start the first couple days of school assists in positive student mental health with a decrease in anxiety by having smaller classes and allows for teachers to more quickly build relationships with students, and the importance of these relationships in a trauma informed approach. We requested feedback from families as we know staggered entry can affect childcare and families' schedules. Based on our survey data to the question; Would you be in favour of staggered entry for the first two days of

school moving forward? 56% of respondents reported yes, 29% responded no, and 15% reported no opinion. Based on the majority of respondents reporting yes we will begin with staggered entry next year.

Staggered Entry for Grades One to Four will occur on September 1 and September 2. On Thursday September 1 students with last names beginning with A-L will attend school. Students with the last names beginning with M-Z will attend their first day of school on Friday, September 2. We coordinated the last name staggered entry dates with École Mother Teresa School so that families from both schools will attend on the same day. All students will attend class on Tuesday, September 6, after the long weekend. This staggered entry structure will not impact Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten as they have a separate staggered entry schedule that will be communicated to families.

As we begin the new school year we are excited to welcome families to our Meet the Staff on Wednesday August 31 from 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. This practice allows families to drop off school supplies and allows your children to meet their teacher and find their classroom prior to the first day of school. This practice has been well attended and received in the past as it assists in relieving student anxiety by meeting their teacher and identifying the location of their classroom.

If you have any questions, or concerns about any of the information above please don't hesitate in contacting us at the office.

Yours in Catholic Education,



Rob Coumont



David Griffin