



Dear Meadowridge School Families:

I hope you are healthy, well, and enjoying the lovely summer days close to home. The start of a new school year is right around the corner, and we are looking forward to welcoming our Elementary School students back on Tuesday, September 8, 2020.

Elementary School Staff

The Elementary School staff are already anticipating and preparing for students' return. We are fortunate to have many of our faculty returning for another year. We also look forward to welcoming some new staff members. On Wednesday, September 2, after 9:00am, families can access the Hub to find out their teacher. Class lists will not be posted at school until Tuesday, September 8 in the morning.

HOMEROOM TEACHERS

Junior Kindergarten

Ms. Kozol, Ms. Dyer and Ms. Ludwig

Kindergarten

Ms. Warner and Ms. Higginson

Grade 1

Ms. Pitzey, Ms. Bruce, and Ms. Walker

Grade 2

Ms. Dobie and Ms. Baker

Grade 3

Ms. Morris, Ms. Smoke, and Ms. Ferneley

Grade 4

Ms. Chow, Ms. Lum, and Ms. Hamaguchi

Grade 5

Mr. Diniz, Ms. Kite, and Ms. Kinneard

SPECIALIST TEACHERS

Kindergarten, Grade 1, and Grade 3 Physical Health Education

Mr. Hamaguchi

Grade 2 Physical Health Education

Ms. McColl

Grade 4 and 5 Physical Health Education

Mr. Horne

Kindergarten to Grade 3 French

Madame Sugden

Grade 4 and 5 French

Ms. Fyfe-Hudon

Junior Kindergarten to Grade 2 Music

Ms. King

Grade 3 to 5 Music

Ms. Durno

Grade 2 to 5 Art

Ms. McColl

PYP Coordinator

Ms. Pallister

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Safety Protocols and Procedures

As a school we have been called to guide our community through a compassionate lens, one that places people and their wellbeing at the center of planning. As you review all the information about starting school in September, I hope you will know that the health and wellness of our community has been the focus in our planning so that we can create an effective teaching and learning environment.

Cohorts

- Students will be divided into cohorts by their Grade level.
- The maximum number of students within cohorts is mandated by the BC Ministry of Education. In the Elementary School, the maximum is 60 students.
- Within a cohort, minimized physical contact is encouraged, but a 2-metre physical distance does not need to be maintained.
- Specialist Teachers (French, Music, PHE and Art) will be working with a few cohorts so they will be required to distance themselves while teaching or wear a non-medical mask.

Staggered Start and Finish Times

- We have implemented staggered start and finish times for the divisions to minimize cross-over between cohorts.
 - Elementary students – designated arrival between 8:05 and 8:15
 - Class starts at 8:20.
 - Dismissal 3:20
- We encourage families to drop off and pick up students at the roundabout.
- Junior Kindergarten families must park in the parking lots and walk the students to the ELC building to sign students in and out.
- Students will enter and exit through the external classroom doors.
- Students will be waiting outside in cohort groups at dismissal.

Staggered Breaks for Outside Play

- Kindergarten, Grade 2, and Grade 4 classes will play outside at the same time
- Grade 1, 3 and 5 classes will play outside at the same time
- Each cohort will have a designated play space separate from other grades outside
- Each cohort will have a designated supervisor

Lunch and Cafeteria Use

- All Elementary School students will be eating in their classrooms.
- Each student will need a water bottle.
- Each cohort will have a microwave available.
- We will emphasize that food and drinks should not be shared.
- Anyone wanting food from the cafeteria this year will need to pre-order (a week ahead). These plated lunches will be delivered to homerooms.
- We cannot allow homemade food items to be made available to other students (ex. birthday treats).

Modelling and Learning Healthy Behaviours

September is always an important time of year for teaching and modelling classroom expectations. This year, much emphasis will be on establishing healthy behaviours. In particular we will focus on:

- Hand Washing Etiquette
 - When students arrive and before they go home
 - Before eating and drinking
 - After using the toilet
 - After sneezing or coughing
 - When hands are visibly dirty
 - When moving to different learning environments (ex. gym, library, etc.)
- Cough into elbow
- Stay home when sick
- Avoid close greetings (ex. hug, handshake)
- Encourage students not to touch their face
- Encourage students to minimize physical contact with each other

Uniform

- Elementary School students have two uniforms: the Number 1 Uniform and the Physical Health Education (PHE) Uniform.
- Students will wear their PHE uniform to school on days they have PHE. Homeroom teachers will share the scheduled days. Students should come to school wearing athletic runners; Students will not be storing a pair of runners at school.
- Students will wear their Number 1 Uniform to school on days they do not have PHE. Students should come to school wearing their black leather dress shoes. On the first day of school, all students can wear the Number 1 Uniform.
- Students will play outside everyday. Students should have a pair of rain boots at school.
- Note: The Number 2 Uniform has been phased out and cannot be worn anymore.

Closing

A new school year comes with much excitement and sometimes a bit of nervousness. To help prepare emotionally for the start of the year, work as a family to set up your school day routine. Be sure your routine includes laying out clothes, making lunches, packing bags, reading as a family, and a place for homework. Younger children may also benefit from having a good-bye routine where they are prepared to say goodbye to their family before they enter the classroom. There are many great back-to-school books to read as a family.

We are looking forward to seeing the students on the first day of school. Enjoy the rest of summer!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Heather Nicholson
Elementary Principal