

Dear Parents/Guardians:

First of all, I would like to thank you all for your patience as we have been figuring out our new reality in these fast changing and uncertain times.

**Our first week (March 30-April 3)** back from spring break has been focused on connecting with staff and our students and their families as well as gathering information for working and learning over these next few months. I trust all of you have had contact from your child's teacher this week either by phone or by email if they were unable to get you on the phone. Please note that the call may be coming from a blocked number as our teachers are working from home and using their personal phones.

**Our second week (April 6-9)** we will be using the information gathered to help staff continue their planning and preparation for delivering service. As well we have scheduled times for families to pick up essential school supplies and personal belongings for Tuesday, April 7<sup>th</sup>. Please see the schedule below for your pick-up time and location.

### **School Supply Pick-Up Schedule**

**As much as we are missing seeing your children, if possible please come without your children, as it is harder to ask kids to keep their distance. Also, please bring a backpack to carry supplies home.**

Division 1, 2, 3

(Lofthouse/**Multi-purpose entrance**, Holm/**Primary entrance**, Hay/**intermediate entrance**)

**8:30 – 9:30**

Division 4, 5, 6, 7

(Loura/**Multi-purpose entrance**, Mehat/**outside your classroom door**, Mann/**Primary entrance**, Turner/**intermediate entrance**)

**10:00 – 11:00**

Division 8, 9, 10

(England/**Multi-purpose entrance**, Munro/**Primary entrance**, Harnett/**intermediate entrance**)

**11:30-12:30**

Division 11, 12, 13

(Morgan/**Multi-purpose entrance**, Heyman/**Primary entrance**, Braun/**intermediate entrance**)

**1:00-2:00**

A 30-minute delay has been scheduled before the next group to ensure there's no overlap of parents in order to maintain social distancing.

**Parents when you arrive to school, while waiting to approach your bin for your package, remember you must maintain a 6' foot space between yourself and the other parent(s).**

**Our third week (April 14-17)** our staff will be delivering at-home learning opportunities in order to support their students.

We want to let you know that our education goal for students is more than to maintain learning. We will do our best to transform learning, find new education opportunities and inspire innovation.

**We are focused on:**

Health and Safety  
Supporting Essential Services  
Supporting Vulnerable Families/Students  
Continuity of Learning

**Please remember this is not school and we are not trying to recreate that at home. This is something different; there is nothing like this before. We will be focusing on supporting our students' social and emotional well-being and to provide them with meaningful activities/options to engage in learning and interact with their teacher and EA for a reasonable amount of time each week. Please work with us as we all go through the growing pains. We know there will be mistakes made and problems that will pop up, but I am confident we will be able to work through this together. We need to go slow, take care of each other and work together now more than ever. We want our students to know that we care about them and miss them and that we are still a Central community.**

**Some Tips for At Home Working and Learning:**

- **Set realistic expectations** ~ Goal setting is important, but in this unprecedented time, it's helpful to establish realistic expectations early.
- **Maintain a Routine** - It's helpful to have a consistent routine. Wake up at the same time, get ready for work or school, before settling in and starting tasks.
- **Create a Dedicated Workspace** - If possible, create a separate learning/working space, away from distractions such as TV/video games/cell phones.
- **Stay Connected** - Students/parents/teachers/staff are encouraged to continue building relationships and community.
- **Manage Emotional Wellness** - Take breaks and practice healthy living behaviours like getting fresh air and going for walks, while maintaining physical distancing.
- **Ask for Help** - Students/parents are encouraged to seek support from our educators.

**Food Support**

Our community partners, including Starfish Backpack, Bowls of Hope, Salvation Army, Community Services, Rotary, the Food Bank and Freshco, have coordinated their services to provide help for those in need. We are currently in the process of organizing distribution of donated food and if you will be receiving this support you will be contacted shortly by our staff. We are anticipating that the first pick up for food will be either Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup> or Thursday April 9<sup>th</sup>. If you are in need and have not been contacted by early next week, please call the office to request support. We are doing our best to accommodate as many families as we can.

Warm regards,

Leslie Waddington