



Children of the Earth High School

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Principal: J. Donachuk

January 19, 2024

Dear Caregivers,

The teachers and staff at Children of the Earth High School work hard to ensure that we know our students' strengths and the supports they need to be successful now and in their futures. Having the time to collaborate is a necessary part of this work, and so Children of the Earth will be setting time aside for this work each week on Thursday mornings.

Beginning Thursday, February 8th, Thursday morning classes will begin at 10 am to provide collaboration and meeting time for teachers between 8:45-10. Thursday mornings, students will attend shortened classes that will run from 10:00-10:45, 10:45-11:30, and 11:30-12:10. Afternoon classes are unaffected by this change. Students who arrive at the school before 10 will be welcomed into the building and accommodated and supervised in the Learning Commons.

We understand that caregivers may be concerned about the potential impact of students missing out on in-class time. Children of the Earth will be addressing this concern in a couple of ways. First, and especially for grade 9 students at this time, teachers are designing project-based learning experiences that integrate learning across subject areas. This design has many benefits to their learning including that their learning counts towards many courses at the same time. More detailed information on our new model of teaching and learning continues to be distributed to families. Second, because of our focus on project-based learning, Children of the Earth has been able to reduce the number of days allocated to exams at the end of June to 2 days (plus one day for make up exams if needed). Our final day of regular classes will be June 19th, and teachers will continue to be available to meet with and support students with coursework until the end of the day on June 24th.

If you have any questions or concerns about these plans moving forward, I would be happy to talk with you about it in more detail. Please contact me through email or phone call at your convenience!

Thanks and all the best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J. Donachuk".

Jen Donachuk, Principal

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