STRATHCONA SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

September 2022

Dear Strathcona families,

I am so happy to welcome all of our staff, students, and families back to Strathcona School. Staff have been working hard getting classrooms ready for students to return, and there are so many exciting things in store for this 2022/2023 school year. We have to welcome some new additions to our staff here at Strathcona, beginning with our new Vice Principal Jaclyn Rivest. Ms. Rivest comes to Strathcona from King Edward School, and we are extremely lucky to have her join our administration team.

We also want to welcome new teachers to our staff, Ms. Mary Hower will be teaching grade 3/3, Ms. Sarah Yagilnicky will be teaching grades 5%, and we also want to welcome our new part time guidance counselor Ms. Lea Anderson-Gregoire. She isn't a new staff member, but we are excited to announce that Ms. Tavia Nelson will be returning to Strathcona in a full time position as Indigenous Education Support Teacher. She has already had such a large impact on our path to reconciliation here at Strathcona, and all of our staff and students look forward to learning more about Indigenous culture and history from Ms. Nelson.



IMPORTANT DATES

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 7 FIRST DAY OF CLASSES

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 19 NO CLASSES NON-INSTRUCTIONAL DAY

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 22 MEET THE STAFF 4:00-5:00 PM

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 30 NATIONAL DAY OF TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION NO CLASSES Friendly reminder for all families that we will continue to have entry on our hardtop at 8:50 am, and 12:55 pm for the morning and afternoon respectively. You will notice upon entry that our back playground area has taken another drastic improvement. We have added a basketball court with a flexible hardtop space, including painted games, that can be used for a variety of fun activities.

Our entire staff is looking forward to chatting with you at our Meet the Staff event on Thursday September 22nd, from 4:00 - 5:00 pm. I am honoured to be the principal here at Strathcona School and continue to work alongside you in our community. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to drop by the school at the front door, or call the office at 204-586-8493.

Respectfully,

Jeremy Midford Principal Jaclyn Rivest Vice Principal



<u>STRATHCONA</u> <u>VISION:</u>

Cultivating the tull potential of every child with an emphasis on citizenship, creativity, criticalthinking and community

<u>STRATHCONA</u> MISSION:

We are dedicated to creating an equitable and culturally responsive learning environment that reflects the diverse needs of our community. We value building an inclusive atmosphere that fosters the emotional, intellectual, social and physical growth of each student. We acknowledge learning is enhanced through sharing, caring, laughing, questioning and growing. We believe everyone shares in the responsibility for student success.



SCHOOL INFORMATION

Arrival at School

School hours are: 8:50am – 12:00pm (N/K morning program ends at 11:30) and 12:55pm – 3:30pm. **Students are** strongly encouraged to arrive no earlier than 8:45am for morning classes and 12:50pm for afternoon classes, unless being supervised by a parent/guardian. All students will meet their teachers on the back hardtop for entry.

<u>Lates & Appointments</u>

Please do everything possible to ensure that your child is on time in order to follow all of the arrival steps. Should your child be late, please come to the front doors on McKenzie St. and ring the bell for office staff to assist. If your child is being picked up early, please call the office ahead at 204-586-8394 so that we can have your child ready to go. Your child will be walked outside to meet you at the front doors.

<u>Dismissal</u>

Students will be walked outside with their teacher into their pick up and drop off line on the hard top. Parents/guardians and older siblings will pick up students from their designated line. **Please do not double park or stop along Alfred Avenue for pickup.**

<u>School Supply Fees</u>

Friendly reminder to please pay your child's school supply fees during the month of September. The teacher will issue you a receipt for the \$30.00 fee per child. The funds collected enable teachers to plan wonderful learning experiences, and give students access to the tools they need to learn, create, and grow.





WATER BOTTLES

We highly recommend students bring refillable water bottles to school each day. We have a water bottle filling station on our lower floor, where students can refill their water bottle throughout the day.



WEARING A MASK

Update: As of March 15, 2022 masks are no longer mandatory in schools. **Winnipeg School Division continues to recommend the use of masks.** At this time, we will continue to provide medical grade masks for students and staff if they choose to wear one. Students can also bring their own masks from home. That being said, we respect all of our families individual choices regarding the continued use of masks.



RAPID ANTIGEN TESTS

Our school office still has remaining rapid antigen test (RAT) kits available for families to use at home. Public health continues to recommend staying home if you have symptoms of Covid-19, and return to school when your child has been symptom free for 24 hours. If you require a RAT test kit, please call the school office to arrange pick up.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Strathcona School and Food Rescue Project

Strathcona School is pleased to announce that we are one of many organizations that have been chosen to participate in the Canadian Food Rescue Project.

The Food Rescue Project provides our school with additional food support to enhance our amazing breakfast and snack program.

At times the food that is provided to our school comes in very large quantities that is much more than we can use for our nutrition programs. When this occurs we are able to share the food with our families and community members.

If you would like to receive some of this surplus food from the Community Pantry please contact Ms. Lee Tavares, School/Community Support Worker at 204-586-8493 or Itavares@wsd1.org and Ms. Tavares will connect with you when there is food available to share.



NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

On September 30th our school will be closed to honour the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, formally known as Orange Shirt Day. We will wear orange to honour those that attended Residential School and survived. Inside classrooms, students will be learning about Residential Schools in age appropriate ways, as we attempt to ensure those horrible events of the past are never repeated. We will hold some time on September 29th to honour and reflect on the impact of Residential Schools.



Strathcona School MEETTHE STAFF

Thursday September 22nd 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm Meet at the back hard top and head inside to meet the teachers!

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SEPTEMBER 2022					
Monday	Tuesday	WEDNESDAY	Thursday	FRIDAY	
			1	2	
5 Labour Day	6 Day 1 School Opens Non-Instructional	7 Day 2	8 Day 3	9 Day 4	
12 Day 5	13 Day 6	14 Day 1	15 Day 2	16 Day 3	
19 Day 4 Non-Instructional Day—No School	20 Day 5	21 Day 6	22 Day 1 Meet the Staff 4:00—5:00 pm	23 Day 2	
26 Day 3	27 Day 4	28 Day 5	29 Day 6	30 No School National Day for Truth & Reconciliation	