

TRANSLATE - <https://translate.google.ca/>

## Welcome to the 2021 year!

We are looking forward to welcoming all of our new and returning students back to John McCrae Public School! ***We can do this together!***

In the fall, we did an amazing job to help keep our staff and students safe!

### Before Coming to School

#### COVID-19 Screening:

- All parents must screen their children **every day** before leaving home for symptoms of COVID-19. If there are symptoms, children need to stay home from school. If COVID-19 is suspected, testing is recommended.
- Link to [self-screening tool](#)

### What to Bring to School

Please keep your child's personal items to a minimum! To support a safe and comfortable environment, students are asked to bring the following items clearly labelled with the student's name:

- Knapsack or tote bag for personal belongings
- Face masks - they may need more than one
- Personal water bottle, labelled with their name
- Seasonal outdoor wear - winter/rain wear!
- Only those items that are necessary for the day (e.g., pencil case, calculator, pens, pencils, eraser)
- Lunch container with reusable containers marked with their names

### First Day Procedures

#### Morning Drop Off:

**Please wear your mask while on school property as social distancing can be a challenge!**

Only students will enter the school yard. A Greeter will direct students to their areas. Parents/Guardians will say goodbye at the edges of the school yard and are not to enter onto

the yard. Students ***are to arrive only a few minutes before entry time at 8:35am*** in order to minimize mingling of class cohorts. All students will enter onto the yard by the sidewalk or by the Kindergarten yard, then make their way to their designated areas.

Students who arrive on **buses** will be directed by a School staff and make their way to the back to join their class (at their designated areas).

Who will meet my child?

Staff on duty and our morning greeters will welcome students. For students who arrive off the bus, staff will also be there to greet them. ***If you are a walker, please do not come until as close to 8:35am as possible.***

Can I go on school property? Enter the school?

All parents and visitors will ***not be permitted inside schools*** during the pandemic, except in case of emergency. At entry and dismissal times, parents are to remain outside of the school yard and adhere to physical distancing protocols. If picking your child/ren up early or for appointments, please call into the office (519 766 4544) and we will bring the child/ren to the main door for pick-up.

The Parking Lot will be for **staff ONLY!** There will be no access for student drop off! This is for the safety of all of our children and to help the environment!

Whenever possible, please park on a side street and walk your child onto school property/use the crossing guard to cross the street.

### **Class Meeting location:**

Students will enter the yard and find their same designated spot.

There will be staff around to help direct students if unsure where to go. Keeping socially distanced, students will meet their teacher and their classmates. Teachers will direct their class to the location where they will line up for entry time; this will be their class' 'spot' when entering in the morning. Same as before we went to remote learning.

Students will be required to socially distance while in line waiting to enter the school.

### **Entering the Building:**

- Students will line up in designated areas at the entry bell
- Students will wear their face masks and keep 2 meters apart in line
- Teachers will lead students to their classrooms and as they enter the building, Teachers will give the students sanitizer on their hands while reminding students to keep socially distanced either at the door or in the class

**Late Arrival:**

Students who arrive after 8:35 AM will report to the main entrance. They will be met by the school greeter. Their name and class will be recorded for our Safe Arrival attendance program and then directed to their classroom.

If students arrive later in the day, parents should call the school or walk them to the main entrance and call the school number 519 824- 0028 ex 0.

**Recess Information:**

**(Wearing masks outdoors is encouraged at all times, mask breaks can be taken as long as students socially distance, 2 meters apart)**

- Before leaving classrooms, students will wash/sanitize their hands
- Classes have been staggered so that there are fewer students outside at the same time
- Classes will have designated areas on the yard to play (these will rotate periodically)
- Upon re-entry from recess, students will wash/sanitize their hands before entering classrooms

**Lunch Procedures:**

- As in past years, students will eat in their classrooms and at their assigned desk/work space
- For younger grades, there will not be older student helpers this year. Staff on duty can help with containers, *however families should pack food and snacks in containers that they know their child/ren can easily open*
- Recyclables and unfinished food items will be sent home with students. Students will be reminded to put masks back on once they have finished eating
- Students are to save discussions for after eating and always face forward while eating with their mask off. Masks should be replaced as soon as students are finished eating.

**End of Day Procedures:**

Parents/guardians are to wait by the gates and front grass areas for their child/ren and adhere to physical distancing protocols. Students will be dismissed in lines maintaining social distancing until they leave the school property. Students are not to congregate or stay on school property once the bell has rung.

**Before and After School Program - students will meet in their designated area.**

**Communication with the School**

When your child is going to be absent from school, please leave a message in our absences mailbox 519 824- 0028. **Please remember that if your child is unwell, to keep them at home and let us know on our attendance line.**

Communicating with classroom teachers: Emailing your child's teacher through the Google

Classroom will be the best form of communication to minimize transmission of germs between the school and homes. Individual teachers will also share their preferred method of non-paper communication.

At this time, face-to-face meetings are not possible. If you would like to arrange a phone call, please email your child's teacher or contact the office so that we can help make the connection.

### **Access to the School**

Only essential visitors are permitted inside the school (e.g., maintenance personnel).

All parents and visitors will not be permitted inside schools during the pandemic, except in case of emergency.

If you are picking up and dropping off your child, proceed to the front doors, knock on the window or call the office number 519 824- 0028 ex 0. Your child will be brought to you at the front door.

At entry and dismissal times, parents are to remain outside the playground fence (K) on the front grass and adhere to physical distancing protocols.

## **John McCrae Public School Mission Statement**

Our Mission, as an unique school community, is to foster confident, responsible, lifelong learners. We do this by developing our students' full potential within a stimulating, inclusive, equitable, bilingual environment. We do this so that our students will become positive, successful and contributing members of society.

"The World Awaits Us/Le monde nous attend"