



École Edward Johnson PS

Welcome EJPS to the 2022-23 school year!

Chers parents, bonjour et bienvenue! Welcome back to a new school year 2022-23. I want to introduce myself as the new Principal of École Edward Johnson. Je m'appelle Monsieur (M.) Olivier Cutz. And yes, I was a grade 6 FI Teacher here at EJPS from 2005-2007! Former Principal, Mme Wainman has told me wonderful things about the great Edward Johnson school community and I am excited to be partnering with you to ensure your children achieve their full potential. We look forward to welcoming all of our new and returning students and staff back to school on Tuesday, September 6th! I know there are many questions about the first day of school and what is needed so I hope to answer them below.

New School Hours

Last year, the school day was recommended to be shortened by 10 minutes to allow student breaks times to be evenly split into 20 minutes of recess and 20 minutes of nutrition breaks twice a day. Students will have a break of 40 minutes in the morning and 40 minutes in the afternoon. **This year, school starts at 8:30 AM and ends at 2:50 PM.** Please note that the total instructional minutes have not been changed and still remain at the Ministry's required 1500 minutes per week. Below is a breakdown of our school hours to help you plan around drop off, pick up, and any appointments for your children.

8:30	First Bell
8:30-9:00	Period 1
9:00-9:30	Period 2
9:30-10:00	Period 3
10:00-10:30	Period 4
10:30-10:50	1st Recess for FDK & Gr 4-6 1st Nutrition Break for Gr1- 3/4
10:50 - 11:10	1st Nutrition Break FDK & Gr 4-6 1st Recess for Gr1- 3/4
11:10-11:40	Period 5

11:40-12:10	Period 6
12:10-12:40	Period 7
12:40-1:00	2nd Recess for FDK & Gr 4-6 2nd Nutrition Break for Gr1- 3¼
1:00-1:20	2nd Nutrition Break FDK & Gr 4-6 2nd Recess for Gr1- 3¼
1:20-1:50	Period 8
1:50-2:20	Period 9
2:20-2:50	Period 10
2:50	Dismissal

No Kindergarten Staggered Entry

We will NOT be having a “staggered entry” for students this year. This means that all students will come to school on Tuesday, September 6th. Please ensure you inform your child’s teacher how your child will be coming home (bus, walk, pick- up)

Before Coming to School

COVID-19 Screening and general illness:

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

What to Bring to School-School Supplies

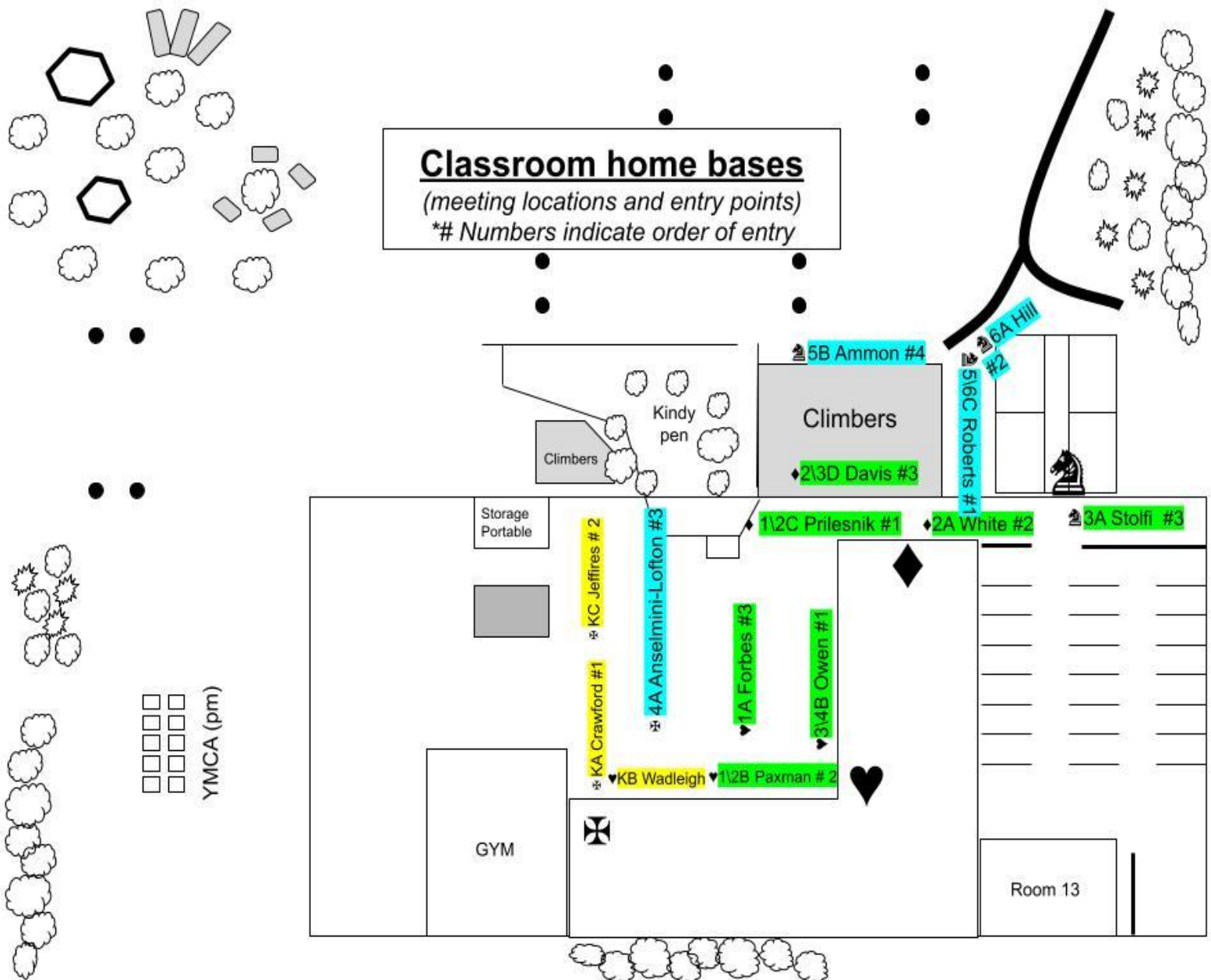
As stated in the Education Act, all schools will provide students with the necessary supplies required for fulsome learning. We appreciate any contributions parents make when shopping for school supplies for their own children. Please keep in mind that teachers will share supply guidelines and suggestions in their first week back communication. For now, our recommendation would be to stick to the basics should you wish to send your child with any extra supplies



or enhancements. Please label all items. If support is needed for items such as a backpack, lunch bag, etc. please contact the school.

How Will I Know What Class My Child is In?

All parents will receive a telephone reminder via our automated system on the Friday before the first week of school to check their email on Monday, September 5th for an email notification informing them of who their child's teacher will be. Please refer to the map below and bring your child on the tarmac to the home base area of their class. School staff will be standing behind a labelled chair and will have their class list available to verify that your child is in their class. Once you arrive on the school property, there will be multiple staff wearing vests and with class lists who can also tell you where to find your child's teacher.



First Day Procedures

Morning Drop Off

- Drop off time starts at 8:15 AM. The school climber is closed in the mornings before school.
- If you wish to wait please clear sidewalks and wait on the perimeters of the school grounds so as not to crowd or congest the home base areas.
- Teachers will direct your child to the appropriate grade level/class signs
- If raining, students are advised to dress for the weather and bring an umbrella

Medications, Plans of Care & Returning Chromebooks:

- There will be a table located at the front doors for plans of care and medication. Please drop any plans of care (asthma, life threatening conditions, ect...) and or medication at this location.
- If you require a plan of care please access this link:
<https://www.ugdsb.ca/board/policy/policy-518-students-with-life-threatening-medical-conditions/>
- **If your child borrowed a chromebook and is returning to in-person school, please return the chromebook, power cord and box to the attendant at the table located at the front doors.**

Designated Entry Doors:

To facilitate speedy and safe entry in the morning and to limit unnecessary travel through the building, each grade/class will be assigned specific entry/exit doors as shown in the map above. An assigned doorways schedule will be used for entering the building, for accessing outdoor activities (and recess) and departing at the end of the school day. On the first day teachers will inform students of their entry/exit door schedule and routines.

Class Meeting location before school (after the first day initial drop off):

Each class will be assigned an area of the school grounds or a "Homebase", where they will gather prior to the morning bell, at the end of recess and dismissal. See map above.

Bus students will be ushered to their home bases in the morning upon arrival. Staff and student bus patrols will assist younger students to find their class' homebases safely.

Late Arrivals/Absences:

Parents will need to call the office or email the teacher in advance if they are planning to pick up their child early or if their child will be absent on an upcoming day. **Notes in an agenda will no longer suffice.** Parents must phone the main office upon arrival while outside the front doors of the school.

Late arrivals: **Call the office to be admitted- 519-763-7374. Doors will be locked for student safety and security.**

Entering the Building in the Mornings:

Each teacher will meet their students at the designated homebase area at the bell as they enter their designated door to the building.

Recess Information:

For the first portion of the recess, half of the student population will be having a nutrition break/lunch while the remaining students are outdoors for their recess. JK-Gr 3\4 will eat first then have recess. Gr 4-6 will have recess first then eat to maximize space and optimize supervision.

For the second portion, the students who were indoors will have their outdoor recess and the students who were outdoors will have their snack/lunch in their classrooms.

Lunch Procedures:

- Students will eat lunch in their classrooms.
- If a child is to be picked up for lunch please ensure that the teacher/office is notified in advance and that the office is phoned when you arrive at the front door.

End of Day Procedures:

Please ensure that if you are picking up that you are by the class meeting location promptly at the bell at 2:50 PM. Bus students will be ushered to their bus lines directly from their classroom via specific exit doors according to a flow schedule. Students must leave the playground at dismissal time.

Communication with the School

- We will be sending home our regular package of information on the first day of school. Please complete the forms, and return them to your child's teacher as soon as you can.
- Please download the messenger app and follow the link: <https://www.ugdsb.ca/parents/school-messenger-app/> to receive updates directly from the school to your email.
- If you haven't already please consider downloading the UG Connect App to receive notifications <https://launch.custo>
- mschoolapp.net/uppergrand/ from the Board
- You can call the office at **519-763-7374**

*** For additional information from the UGDSB, feel free to visit <https://www.ugdsb.ca/board/back-to-school-2022-23-general-information/>

I LOOK FORWARD TO MEETING ALL OF OUR STUDENTS, STAFF AND PARENTS AND HAVING AN AMAZING SCHOOL YEAR! 😊

Olivier Cutz

