

August 27, 2020

Dear Blessed Sacrament School Families:

We are looking forward to welcoming your children back to the classroom in September. Thank you for your continued patience and understanding as we navigate these uncharted waters whilst getting our school ready for the upcoming year. **Please Note: This message is for students who are attending in-class (face to face) learning only and does not apply to students who have opted for our remote learning program (Distance Learning). If you are choosing Distance Learning you must officially register your child here:**

<http://www.bhncdsb.ca/news/register-now-distance-educationonline-learning>

For all students returning to Face-to-Face Learning:

As you know, our students will experience significant change when they arrive back at school. To make the transition easier and to ensure all students have a practical understanding of our enhanced health and safety protocols, we will be implementing a **staggered entry approach for in-class school start-up.**

A staggered approach to school start-up will provide the opportunity for us to review health and safety practices as well as new school protocols and routines with our students before the full complement of students return. This approach allows for staff to be available to support our students' successful integration into the new school environment. Our goal is to ensure students can develop comfort in their new routines within small groups while being supported by school staff.

Students will return to school in small groups based on alphabet surname to help us achieve the goal of everyone feeling safe with new protocols. Students will remain at school for the regular school day (8:30 a.m. - 2:50 p.m.) This will begin on Tuesday, September 8, 2020. All in-class students JK to Grade 8 will be fully returned to school at full capacity by Wednesday, September 16th. Please see the chart below to determine when your children will come to school from Sept 8th to the 16th:

Mon Sept 7th	Tues Sept 8th	Wed Sept 9th	Thurs Sept 10th	Fri Sept 11th
Labour Day Holiday	All students Gr. 1 – 8 with surnames A – Du (approx. ¼ of the school) All JK & SK students with the surnames A – K (approx. ½ of the Kindies)	All students Gr. 1 – 8 with surnames Dy - K (approx. ¼ of the school) All JK & SK students with the surnames K - Z (approx. ½ of the Kindies)	All students Gr. 1 – 8 with surnames L - Pi (approx. ¼ of the school) All JK & SK students with the surnames A – K (approx. ½ of the Kindies)	All students Gr. 1 – 8 with surnames Po - Z (approx. ¼ of the school) All JK & SK students with the surnames K - Z (approx. ½ of the Kindies)

Mon Sept 14th	Tues Sept 15th	Wed Sept 16th	Thurs Sept 17th	Fri Sept 18th
All students Gr. 1 – 8 with surnames A – K (approx. ½ of the school) All JK & SK students with the surnames A – K (approx. ½ of the Kindies)	All students Gr. 1 – 8 with surnames L – Z (approx. ½ of the school) All JK & SK students with the surnames K - Z (approx. ½ of the Kindies)	All Students (100% of the school)	All Students (100% of the school)	All Students (100% of the school)

Staggered entry does not apply to students with significant special education needs and the parents/caregivers of these students will be contacted individually to discuss re-entry plans for their child/ren as it may be essential for those students to follow an alternate re-entry schedule. As well, in the cases of blended families or differing surnames, we kindly ask that you advise us which name/schedule you will follow as we recognize it is best for your family to all come on one day.

Next week, you will receive an email from your child’s teacher introducing themselves to you, and communicating to you the particulars of their classroom routines, supplies required etc. They will also be outside on the morning of your child’s first day to greet your child.

Additionally, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact the school during office hours beginning Monday, August 31, 2020.

Thank you for your patience and support of Catholic Education

Sincerely

J. T. Ernst