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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome back. Teachers and students are already adapting to the new routines of school and to learning. Our goal for the first few weeks of school is to make students feel comfortable returning to school. We will be focusing on safety and well-being as we establish our new routines. We are excited about this school year and look forward to working with our community to help our students achieve great things at Glynn A. Green.

We have number of new staff joining the Glynn A. Green and they and can be found in this year's organization on page 2.

Due to COVID-19 and our desire to not share items, student **agendas will not be used this year**. Each classroom teacher will be indicating how they will prefer to communicate with parents.

Please take some time to review the important information in our September newsletter, forms shared in School Cash online (see page 7) for information on how to create an account as well in the September packages, that will sent home with students. One of the most important is the **DSBN Parental Agreement for Daily Screening**(see page 3).

Check out other important dates and find a link to the Elementary School year calendar on page 7.

MEDICALLY AT-RISK STUDENTS

If you have a child with a **Prevalent Medical Condition** (Anaphylaxis, Asthma, Diabetes, and/or Epilepsy or others) we want to make sure we have a current Plan of Care to support your child. All parents of children with prevalent medical conditions are asked to fill out the new Plan of Care and submit to the school. Forms were sent home with students who had a plan of care last year. You can also download the forms at:

dsbn.org/prevalent-medical-conditions

We have students who have a severe allergy to nuts and nut products, oils, etc. We request nut-free lunches and snacks to be brought by students and ask that we all exclude these types of products from being brought to school. **Please avoid sending products to school that say, "may contain nuts" as well.**

At this time, Public Health Guidelines do not allow us to share or distribute food brought in from home. Please refrain from bringing in special treats.

Although, we **cannot guarantee a peanut free environment**, we appreciate your continued efforts with this delicate issue.

For more information, please contact the school.

MILK PROGRAM
Due to COVID-19, we are unable to offer a milk program at this time.
PIZZA and SUB DAYS
Due to COVID-19, we are not able to offer pizza and sub days at this point.



CLASS ORGANIZATION 2020-2021

As we prepared for the start of the new school year, we considered a variety of student needs as we organized classes and placed teachers.

The following is the current organization for the 2020-2021 school year.

Please join me in welcoming our new staff members to the Glynn A. Green family.



Bell Times

This year our start and end times will remain unchanged but we are now dividing our day into 10 periods. Classes have staggered breaks so that there are fewer students on the yard at any one time. Students will have two 40-minute breaks at some point during periods 3-8. Teachers will communicate the time of your child(ren)'s lunch breaks.

9:00	Entrance
9:00 - 9:20 am	Period 1
9:20 -10:00 am	Period 2
10:00- 10:40 am	Period 3
10:40-11:20 am	Period 4
11:20-12:00 pm	Period 5
12:00 12:40 pm	Period 6
12:40-1:20 pm	Period 7
1:20-2:00 pm	Period 8
2:00-2:40 pm	Period 9
2:40-3:20 pm	Period 10
3:20 pm	Dismissal



Kindergarten

Mrs. B. Chrastina

Kindergarten

Mrs. M. Belvedere

Kindergarten

Mrs. M. Teather

Mrs. G. Rossi

Mrs. S. Hall

Ms. V. Leveille

Gr. 1

Mrs. L. Kurland

Gr. 1/2

Mrs. T. Fairchild

Gr. 2

Mrs. K. Downs

Gr. 2/3

Mr. S. Side

Gr. 3

Ms. K. Moore

Gr. 4

Mr. B. Mako

Gr. 4/5

Mr. D. Mueller

Gr. 5/6

Mr. J. Medhurst

Gr. 6

Mrs. M. Furtney

Gr. 7/8

Mr. J. Campbell

Gr. 7/8

Ms. J. Coote

Gr. 7/8

Miss S. Gamm

French

Ms. M. Timgren

French/Prep

Mrs. K. Hipwell

LRT

Mr. J. Penner

Prep

Mrs. K. Burton

Kindergarten/Prep

Mrs. A. Riley

Secretary

Mrs. S. Cunningham

Secretary

Ms. C. Holditch

Educational Assistants

Mrs. B. Helin

Mrs. W. LaChance

Ms. A. Newman

Vice-Principal

Mr. R. Mitchell

Principal

Mr. T. Halliday



BUSSING

Please visit www.nsts.ca and sign-in to the secure parent portal to get your child's student transportation information. **To sign-in to the portal you will need your child's Ontario Education Number (OEN) which can be found on their report card.** While signed-in, please subscribe to the delay and cancellation module for direct and timely emails regarding student transportation that impacts your child's bus route.

Changes to home, pick-up or drop-off addresses must be made through your child's school. NSTS is not authorized to change student address information.

IMPORTANT SCHOOL FORMS

Many of the forms sent home at the beginning of the school year will be available on School Cash Online this year. If you are new to the District School Board of Niagara you can create an account and complete these forms on line. The **DSBN Parental Agreement for Daily Screening** is one of the most important. Please read and follow the guidelines. Paper copies are available through the school and online as well.

<https://www.dsbni.org/docs/default-source/default-document-library/dsbn-parental-agreement-for-daily-screening.pdf>



There will be some forms that your children will bring home. Please complete and return these forms as soon as possible.

One of these forms is the confidential student information sheet which is kept on file at the school office. It is very important that we have up-to-date medical and personal information each year, as well as, an emergency contact number in case we cannot reach you at home or work.

This contact person should be someone who is usually available and lives in relatively close to the school. Please let us know if this information changes during the school year.

LEGAL DOCUMENTS

When couples separate or divorce, parents generally share custody of the children. Sometimes, however, other arrangements are made and set out in a court order.



The school cannot enforce these alternate arrangements unless we have a copy of the court order on file in your child's confidential Ontario School Record.

Should you have such a court order that we should be aware of, please speak to the principal and share the most current copy with the school office.

ABSENCES, LATES, SIGN-IN & SIGN-OUT...

Your child's safety and whereabouts are very important to us, because of this, it is essential for us to know when your child is absent from school. Please use the Safe Arrival system to report your child's absence. Information about the system and links to the apps can be found at:

<https://www.dsbm.org/earlylearners/safe-arrival-program>

If you used the Safe Arrival App last year. Please log out and sign-in again to ensure that it updates appropriately.

We know that there are some mornings that despite best efforts being made students occasionally arrive late. In the past parents would walk students into the office to get an admit class slip. To ensure the health and safety of students, staff and parents, students who arrive late will buzz the office and wait for an admin assistant to let the student into the building. Parents/guardians will not be permitted to enter the building with the student(s). Please be aware that entry may take some time depending on the number of students who require entry. We appreciate your patience as we work through this new process.

Students who may need to leave the school during school hours must be signed out by a parent or guardian. Parents are asked to please buzz the office and wait as we collect your child and greet you at the door to complete the sign-out process. Notifying the school in advance of the pick-up will help us prepare for your child's sign-out.

If there is a change in your child's normal dismissal procedure (i.e., "not taking the bus today" etc.) please message your child's teacher or contact the office in advance. The office can be very busy at dismissal time and we would not want to miss notifying your child of any changes to their routines.

ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Each year a Student Accident Insurance Plan is made available for all students on a voluntary basis. The plan provides protection for dental damage due to accidents, fracture benefits and other important coverages, which are NOT covered under the Provincial Health Plan.

Some parents may have Dental Plan coverage through their work but many of these plans are limited in one way or another, while this accident coverage is not. You should compare to make sure you have the coverage you need or desire. Under the Education Act, the Board is not permitted to provide coverage for accidents to pupils, therefore, the Board recommends consideration of this plan to any parent who wishes to obtain this kind of insurance. Although the policy has all the advantages of a group plan, it is essentially a direct contract between the parent and the insurance company.

This year we will not be sending home forms but details of these plans are described online at www.insuremykids.com. If you require further information, you may contact **InsureMyKids at Box 557, 100 King Street, Hamilton, L8N 3K9** or call toll free at **1-800-463-5437**.

If you wish to subscribe to this insurance, please enroll online immediately, but preferably before the end of September.





NEW RETURN TO SCHOOL PROTOCOLS

This year the return to school will look very different for our students and staff. We will have fewer students in our classes as some will be learning online. We are required to follow certain pathways in our hallways and our classrooms will be set up differently. Many of the changes that have been made are based on advice and protocols that have been communicated to us by the Niagara Regional Public Health Department as well as the Ministry of Education. Please take some time to read through this newsletter so you and your child(ren) will know what to expect when you return to school.

Masks

All students in grades 4-8 will be expected to wear a mask while they are in the classroom as well as in the hallways and washrooms. Students may take off their masks to eat as well as when they are outdoors for fitness/nutritional breaks. Please ensure your child has their mask when they arrive at school each day. Students in Kindergarten to Grade 3 are not required to wear a mask but it is recommended.



Morning Entry Procedures

Teachers will greet students outside on the yard in the morning and will be carrying flags. They will walk their students into the school using specific doors to avoid congestion. Parents are not able to enter the playground area at this time to help limit the number of people and support our social distancing measures. We ask that parents stand outside the fenced in areas only.

Dismissal Procedures

Teachers will walk their students back outside to the appropriate and designated areas at the end of the day. They will be dismissed by their teachers to either walk home or meet an adult/guardian. Please be sure that you exit the school grounds immediately upon dismissal as the playground is closed as per Health regulations.

Parents/Visitors Entering the Building

At this time the Public Health Department has mandated that parents and visitors not enter the school building. Please contact the office to set up an appointment.



Communication

Due to COVID-19 and our desire to not share items, student agendas will not be used this year. Each classroom teacher will be indicating how they will prefer to communicate with parents.

Chromebooks & Library Book Returns

Please return all technology that was borrowed from the school in the spring as soon as possible so we can begin disinfecting and deploying to student classrooms again. All library books should be returned to your child's teacher upon return as well.

Dressing for the Weather

We will be spending more time outdoors this year with the new Covid19 protocols so we ask that you send rain boots and a rain jacket with your child (ren). It is our hope to remain outside as often as possible. This includes starting the day outside, even if it is raining.



Daily Health Assessment

- Parent completing daily self-assessment of their child
- Mandatory self-assessment of staff

COVID-19 Symptoms Protocol

- Prevention and response in partnership with Niagara Public Health should a student or staff member have a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19

Masks and PPE

- Using when mandatory and appropriate for the activity

Classroom Communities

- Students learning in same classroom with same teacher
- Option for Voluntary Learning at Home

Minimizing Contact

- Not sharing instructional supplies
- Personal water bottles
- Restricting visitors into the school
- No assemblies
- Changing classroom layout

Keeping our Elementary Schools Safe Together

Mental Health and Well-being Supports

- Together learning from research-based strategies to be strong and resilient.
- Mindfulness strategies to support students with their self-regulation and confidence

Physical Distancing

- Putting as much space between people as possible
- Directional flow in hallways
- Revising entry and exits

Hygiene Practices

- Training of and teaching proper skills
- Signage to teach and prompt proper handwashing, coughing and sneezing etiquette

Signage

- For access, education, and reminders

Enhanced Cleaning

- High touch surfaces disinfecting after use
- Removing upholstered and soft items

Training, Teaching & Coaching

- Students learning new skills in class to stay safe
- All DSBN staff trained before school year on COVID-19 specific health and safety

SCHOOL COUNCIL

As a school council member, you can help your council discover new and exciting ways to contribute to the education of students in your school. Education is a partnership involving parents, students, teachers, principals, school boards, government, and the community. Your involvement in the council gives you the opportunity to strengthen that partnership, and to be part of a dedicated team working to ensure a high quality of education and an accountable education system for the children of Ontario. Your participation can make a difference!

At our first meeting we will look for members to take on executive rolls (Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer) as well as individuals looking to take on voting member rolls.

We hope that you will consider joining the School Council this year. Our **first meeting for this year has been scheduled for October 6, 2020 at 6:30pm.** An agenda and details about the format will come out as the date approaches. Feel free to contact the School Council co-chairs or the office with questions.

Gaetanne Barton - gaetanne.barton@sympatico.ca

Jennifer McGregor- jennifermcgregor001@hotmail.com

SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

School Cash Online enables you to use your debit or credit card to make quick and easy payments. We also use School Cash Online to obtain permission for school events. To access the system, click on the “School Cash Online” button on our school website. We encourage all of our new families to register and create accounts. Forms can also be requested through the office.

<https://www.dsbno.org/schoolcash/>

PLEASE NOTE: Many of the forms in the usual Welcome Back to School package can be completed through School Cash Online this year.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Please mark these dates on your calendar and plan accordingly.

Thanksgiving Day

October 12, 2020

Winter Break

December 21, 2020 to

January 1, 2021

March Break

March 15th to 19th, 2021



The complete 2020-2021 Elementary School Calendar is available online: <https://www.dsbno.org/calendars>