



SOUTH MARCH PUBLIC SCHOOL

Family Update - Sunday, September 27, 2020

Proud, Positive, Powerful Penguins

Welcome to another great week at South March!

Parents are required to screen their children daily for symptoms of COVID-19 **BEFORE SENDING THEM TO SCHOOL.** Use this [online tool](#) provided by Ottawa Public Health to do daily screening. We need to all work together, to ensure our school remains safe.

Hello SMPS Families! We are on week #3 of school and I am looking forward to the adventures this week will bring! Despite the masks, desk shields, constant hand washing, and different routines, students are engaged and excited to be at school! I want to take this opportunity to thank the **Davies family** for building and donating the **blue SMPS barricades** you may have seen in our parking lot. I also want to thank parents/guardians who have been emailing me with really good questions. I am doing my best to answer these emails and have taken some themes and addressed them in this Family Update. Finally, I would like to welcome Emily Godin who has been hired as an 0.5 educational assistant at SMPS.



Have you seen our Family Handbook? [CHECK IT OUT: SMPS Family Handbook 2020-2021](#)

Homework for Parents/guardians:

If you haven't done so please complete the technology, Media, and Plan for Care forms (if applicable) for your children. This is done online - see the links below:

- [Use of Technology Form](#)
- [Media Consent Form](#)
- [Plan of Care For Students With Life Threatening Medical Conditions Form \(if applicable\)](#)

COMING SOON: Verification forms will be sent home soon. This is to ensure that we have updated information in our school database. There will be a double sided form sent home please check both sides. We hope to have these sent home on Monday and back ASAP.

Your help needed:

- Thermoses /Containers: Please have your child practice opening their own thermos, yogurt drink, etc. that they bring for lunch. Some children are still requesting help to open these items and as a staff we need to limit touch points. Thank you for your help with this.
- School Bus: We want parents to know that if your child takes the bus they have an assigned seating. We are looking for your help to reinforce with them that they are not to change seats while on the bus.
- Morning drop-off has been working well!
 - Please continue to use the assigned drop-off ZONES - [CLICK HERE](#)
 - It is important to be at school **before 9:15 a.m.** Access doors automatically lock at 9:15. Do not drop your child off in the yard if you do not see staff in orange vests.
 - After 9:15 students (with parents) need to report to the main entrance and buzz the doorbell.
- After school Pick Up is going well too!
 - Continue to pick up your children at their **Assigned Zones** (map and explanations - [CLICK HERE](#))
 - We were missing students at 3:30 p.m. **This process is working well so beginning this week students will be dismissed a little later (our target time is 3:35 p.m.)**

Managing Symptomatic Students - PLEASE READ

- At the school level, determining if students have COVID symptoms is a difficult and complex situation and OCDSB is following the OPH school decision guide (see [Symptomatic Students or Staff](#))
- The symptoms that may be COVID are lengthy and we use the following guides: List of symptoms: [CLICK HERE \(OPH\)](#) / [CLICK HERE \(Ministry of Health\)](#)
- The OPH directive is that students (and their siblings) who exhibit COVID symptoms are to be sent home and need to be tested
- ***I am required to follow the school decision guide and the advice of our Ottawa Public Health Nurse. I completely understand the challenges of getting tested and the implication of self-isolating (I had to do this last week with my family!)***

DID YOU KNOW? Families have three options if their child exhibits symptoms at school:

1. **Get tested (and self-isolate until results are returned - siblings at the school also need to self-isolate)**
2. If families do not want to get tested they are required to **self-isolate for a minimum of 14 days** before returning to school
3. Obtain a **medical note** indicating that the symptoms are not COVID related.
 - *A common scenario includes students with severe allergies and may have a runny nose all of the time - a doctor would prepare a note for the school to explain the situation). **If this is a scenario that your child falls within please provide the main office with this information asap.***

Orange Shirt Day and Rowan's Law Day: both taking place on Wednesday, September 30th

***SMPS Staff will be incorporating the importance of these days in their teaching through the next few weeks.

Orange Shirt Day is a day to educate our students and communities on the history and legacy of the Indian Residential School system. It is a day of remembrance that will foster commitment to building student capacity for intercultural understanding, empathy, and mutual respect for First Nation, Inuit and Métis students, their families, and communities each and every day. **Students are encouraged to wear orange on Wednesday!**

Background:

Orange Shirt Day is an influential movement sweeping across Canada and the world that is helping to educate our students and communities on the history and legacy of the Indian Residential School system. On September 30, please wear any piece of orange clothing. You may wish to order an 'Every Child Matters' shirt, or design your own, or provide ribbons or orange stickers or encourage students to wear any other kind of orange clothing, or decoration.

Orange Shirt Day was created during the St. Joseph Mission Residential School Commemoration Project in Williams Lake, BC, in May 2013. Former student, Phyllis (Jack) Webstad, told her story of her first day at residential school when her shiny new orange shirt, bought by her grandmother, was taken from her as a six-year old girl, which prompted the realization that many survivors have similar stories.

A few things to keep in mind are that Orange Shirt Day should never be a part of a spirit week. Orange Shirt Day is a solemn day of remembrance. Please keep in mind that Orange Shirt day is to commemorate the survivors of Residential School and to remember the ones who did not make it home. It can be triggering and cause harm for Indigenous students in your building.

Official website: <http://www.orangeshirtday.org/>

Rowan's Law Day: The last Wednesday of each September, has been legislated as a day to raise awareness about concussion safety. **Rowan's Law** was named for Rowan Stringer, a student at John McCrae Secondary School, who died in the spring of 2013. **Rowan's Law Day** raises awareness about concussions and concussion safety.



SOUTH MARCH PUBLIC SCHOOL

Family Update - Sunday, September 27, 2020

Proud, Positive, Powerful Penguins

Welcome to another great week at South March!

SMPS Staff List 2020-2021 - UPDATED

Homeroom/Position	Staff Name	Homeroom/Position	Staff Name
Kindergarten		Learning Support	
KJSA	Erin Ritchie	LST	Meghan Schuler
KJSB	Tracy Wright	LRT/ESL	Trina Piche
KJSC	Laura Sawtell	LRT (0.5)	Sarah Wigle (LTO)
English Homeroom		Support Staff	
R1/2A	Jody Nordman	EA	Emily Godin
R3/4A	Zahara Lalji	EA	Chris Ray
R4/5A	Darla Fuller	EA	Melissa Dean (ASD Program)
R6A	Dani Broadhurst	EA	Rita Williams (ASD Program)
Immersion Homeroom		EA	Cindy Arthurs (ASD Program)
EF1A	Marie Pageot	EA	Kyla Gariepy (ASD Program)
EF1B	Amanda Szucs	ECE	Jalileh Ghoncheh
EF2A	Angela Garneau	ECE	Jodie Nichol
EF2B	Heather Roberts	ECE	Kerry Maheral
EF3A	Catherine Cobb	ECE	Lisa Dougherty
EF3/4A	Rima Fraser	Lunch Time Monitors	
EF4/5A	Della Bonsor	LTM	Amal Elshatshat
EF5A	Brad Dillabaugh	LTM	TBD
EF6A	Jason McLean	LTM	TBD
Specialized Programs		LTM	TBD
ASD - A	Linda Mann	Operations	
ASD - B	Staci Jamieson	Principal	Jeff Gervais
Rotary		Vice-Principal	Barb Martinez
ETFI	Jessica Griffith (LTO)	OA	Heather Nichols
ETFI	Tim Westover	Office Assistant	Rowena Pearl
EFI	Vanessa de Hoog	Library Tech	Megan Venner
Kindergarten/ASD	Allison Theobald	Chief Custodian	Cody Wagenblass
DOT	Kate-lyn Smith		