



SOUTH MARCH PUBLIC SCHOOL

Family Update - Tuesday, September 14, 2020

Proud, Positive, Powerful Penguins

Welcome to another great week at South March!

Hello SMPS Families, more information to keep you informed. Looking forward to welcoming your children this week at SMPS.

Class Placement

- Today at 6:00 p.m. you received your child's Classroom Placement
- We had to redo all class lists last week due to the reduction in homerooms
- We have tried our best to accommodate requests from the spring
- There are OCDSB and OPH guidelines we had to follow with respect to placing students to help with cohort tracing (siblings in the same class, daycare students together, bus students together, etc) - This was all a complicated process.
- Another major factor was keeping class sizes down so that we can ensure safe physical distancing in each classroom - not all classrooms are the same size and some decisions were based on number of students in the class
- Any change has a ripple effect and we simply do not have the time to do this right now. The priority is to safely start the school year.

For these reasons I will not be able to consider switching students into other classes until we have a true sense of class sizes and final enrolment. It is not ideal but it is the current reality. Please continue to send me your requests for consideration. I will not be able to review until the end of the week or the week after.

Family Handbook

There is a lot of information to share. We have created a live handbook to answer your question. We will also be able to update and add more information as we proceed into the school year. The handbook is designed to walk you through what is expected throughout the day. **CHECK IT OUT: [SMPS Family Handbook 2020-2021](#)**

Drop-off/Pick-up ZONES

We have a plan to facilitate how students are dropped off and picked up. The end of day procedures will be the most challenging and we have created three different ZONES that students will be assigned to. Your child's assignment is based on the survey feedback you provided. A confirmation email will be sent out to families Tuesday evening (or at least to the Gr 1 and 2 students who start on Wednesday)

ACTION:

- Fill out survey that was sent to you Sunday night (if you haven't done so already), If you haven't received the survey please contact your child's homeroom teacher
- Check out the map and explanations - [CLICK HERE](#)
- We will need your patience and flexibility while we work see how the plan works

Staff Updates:

- Welcome to **Kate-lyn Smith** who is our assigned DOT for this year and to **Megan Venner** who has officially joined SMPS staff as Library Technician
- All the best to **Brittany Yach** who accepted a position with the Renfrew County Catholic District School Board as one of their ABA Specialists.
- All the best to **Heather Anderson** who was the LTO for Jennifer Little
- Welcome to **Jessica Griffith** will be replacing for **Cheryl Wilson** while she is on leave
- **Cindy Arthurs (EA)** will now be working in the Autism Program and I welcome **Chris Ray (EA)** who will now work at SMPS full time supporting students in K-6

Staff moving to Virtual learning: Alana Lyng (and Jessica Ashley her LTO until Alana returns from leave), Courtney Pigeon, Jennifer Little, Vanessa de Hoog (0.5 at SMPS/0.5 Virtual), Sandra LeBouthillier, Marc Lucas, Karen MacGillivray, Mel McGee, Lee-Anne Asselstine

Staff moving to another school: All the best to **Nicole White** who has been transferred to Jockvale ES

School Organization

Our final enrollment numbers are: 344 students (67%) will be attending in person learning and 168 (33%) students will attend Virtual Learning. As a result of the declining enrollment we have reduced a total of 7 homerooms.

SMPS Staff List 2020-2021			
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)	0.5 Vacancy
English Homeroom		Support Staff	
R1/2A	Jody Nordman	EA	0.5 Vacancy
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	Operations	
EF4/5A	Della Bonsor	Principal	Jeff Gervais
EF5A	Brad Dillabaugh	Vice-Principal	Barb Martinez
EF6A	Jason McLean	OA	Heather Nichols
Specialized Programs		Office Assistant	Rowena Pearl
ASD - A	Linda Mann	Library Tech	Megan Venner
ASD - B	Staci Jamieson	Chief Custodian	Cody Wagenblass
Rotary			
ETFI	Jessica Griffith (LTO)		
ETFI	Tim Westover		
EFI	Vanessa de Hoog		
Kindergarten/ASD	Allison Theobald		
DOT	Kate-lyn Smith		



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How many students will be in my child's class?

Class sizes are based on provincial rules and funding. We have made every effort to keep class sizes smaller to ensure there is more space for physical distancing.

Most of our classes are below 20 which is a good number of students in the classroom to ensure physical distancing of students. We do have some larger Junior classes. We have moved around many classrooms to ensure that the larger classes are now in the largest rooms in our school. For example, our classes that have 27-28 students are now in the very large kindergarten classrooms and desks are set up in a way that there is a lot of room to ensure physical distance.

Please note: Enrolment numbers are **changing daily** and we will have a true sense of how many students are in classes once school begins. I am closely monitoring the larger junior homerooms and will advocate as needed to get another homeroom created.

CURRENT - as of Sept 13/20	
JK/SK	# of students
KJSA	19
KJSB	21
KJSC	21
English	
R1/2A	19
R3/4A	23
R4/5A	28
R6A	27
French	
EF1A	18
EF1B	19
EF2A	16
EF2B	17
EF3A	19
EF3/4A	20
EF4/5A	20
EF5A	19
EF6A	28
Specialized Programs	
ASD	5
ASD	4