



September 2020

Dear Parents,

Now that the school year is about to get underway I am pleased to be able to provide some worthwhile information that will hopefully serve to assist you as we begin the 2020/21 school year. I hope that each and every one of you have had a restful, yet enjoyable holiday and are looking forward to a successful, productive, and exciting school year.

## **Traffic Reminders**

A reminder to all parents that drop off and pick up along Venables Street or Parker Street should be done on the school side of the street only. Parking on the opposite side of the street can be very dangerous. If and when students are dropped off or picked up on the opposite side of the street, it is strongly advised that they cross the street at a crosswalk (Venables and Renfrew) or at the corner (Parker and Renfrew). Students or parents attempting to cross in the middle of the street may receive respectful reminders not to do so. **Parents are asked to cooperate with our traffic parent volunteers as they are doing their best to keep all of our students safe.**

**With the current construction of our athletic field well underway, there is no parking lot option at this time.**

Drop off must, in no way, include stopping on, in front of, or across the street from the fire hall property at the west end of the street. We have received concerns from the fire hall that parents have been stopping and, at times, parking in that area before and after school. As well, please avoid stopping on or directly in front of any of our neighborhood business establishments. It is in our best interest to maintain positive relationships with all who live or work near the school.

We thank you for your understanding and your anticipated cooperation with respect to these important reminders. Please refer to our school drop off policy on our website for further reminders related to drop-off before and after school.

## **Parents Information Evening:**

This annual event is scheduled for Wednesday, September 16. **However, at this time, that specific event will be either canceled or presented online at a later date.** Either way, pertinent information related to that evening will be sent out to parents.

## **Staffing Update:**

There will be several new and returning additions to our staff this year:

### **New Staff:**

**Mrs. Sheryl Dragicevic** (SEA)

**Mr. Brian Briones** (SEA)

**Mrs. Diana Bartlett** (Receptionist)

**Mr. Adnan Ahmed** (IT Assistant)

### **Returning Staff:**

**Mrs. Jennifer McTague** (Socials Studies/Social Justice)

**Ms. Josipa Esposito** (Student Resource Department Head)

**Deacon Mike Boreham** (Archbishop Representative – St. Helen's)

**Reverend Father Garry Laboucane** (School Chaplain – Sacred Heart)

Please note that **Mrs. Heidi Dufour** (Languages), **Ms. Sarah Meli** (Art), and **Miss Sarabeth Boa** (Receptionist) will not be returning to Notre Dame. All three ladies have moved out of province to take on new challenges. We are grateful to all three ladies for their outstanding contributions to our community and wish them God's blessings in all of their future endeavours.

**Mrs. Catrina Luongo** and **Mrs. Angela Mason** will both be on a leave of absence. Our hope is that Mrs. Mason will return at some point during the current school year while we expect Mrs. Luongo to return full-time as of September 2021.

Special acknowledgement to **Mrs. Chantal Thorburn (nee Sarazin)** for her summer wedding.

## **Return to School**

Please refer to the information sent out on August 26 for more detailed information. Parents and students are asked to review the schedule

## **Dress Code:**

A reminder that there is no summer dress code option at this time. All students are expected to wear the formal dress code as of September 14. Please peruse our website ([www.ndrs.org](http://www.ndrs.org)) to access all dress code stipulations that will be in effect throughout the 2020/21 school year. **It is very important that all families become familiar with the expectations so as to help set your children up for success. If you are not sure, please contact the administration prior to purchasing an item that may not be permitted at school.**

## **Lockers**

Please note that lockers will not be available to any students. Student bags (one per student) will be allowed in class.

## **Notable Upcoming Dates:**

<b>Thursday, September 10</b>	Grade 8 Orientation
<b>Friday, September 11</b>	Grade 10-12 Orientation
<b>Monday, September 14</b>	Regular Classes (Blocks A and B)
<b>Tuesday, September 15</b>	Regular Classes (Blocks A and B)
<b>Wednesday, September 16</b>	Online Schedule
<b>Thursday, September 17</b>	Regular Classes (Blocks A and B)
<b>Friday, September 18</b>	Regular Classes (Blocks A and B)

## **Grade 8 & 9 Orientation – Thursday, September 10**

### **Grade 8**

**Cohort 1 - 8:00-8:25 AM arrival for students. Dismissal at 10:30 AM**  
**Cohort 2 - 9:00 – 9:25 AM arrival for students. Dismissal at 11:30 AM**

### **Grade 9**

**12:00-12:25 AM** arrival for students. All grade 9 students are expected to use the Parker Street entrance.

**12:30 PM – 1:30 PM** Orientation

**1:30 PM** Dismissal

**Juggler Day attire (or casual for grade 8) is in effect for the student orientations. All students must wear a mask upon entering the school.**

## **Grade 10-12 Orientation – Friday, September 11**

**8:30-8:55 AM** arrival for students. Grade 10 and 12 are expected to use the Venables Street entrance and grade 11 students should enter via the Parker Street entrance.

**9:00 AM – 10:00 AM** Block A Class Orientation

**10:00 AM – 10:05 AM** Transition to Block B Class

**10:05 AM – 11:00 AM** Block B Class Orientation.

**11:00 AM** Dismissal

**Juggler Day attire is in effect for the student orientations. All students must wear a mask upon entering the school.**

## Mask Reminders

All students should have their own mask. Though they are not mandated at all times they are in high congestion areas such as the start and end of each day, in the hallways during transition from class to class, in common areas, **and, if and when necessary (i.e. physical distancing is not adequate), when students are in classes outside of their cohort.**

Students should have their names or initials on their personal masks.

Parents are asked to keep it simple with respect to using neutral (solid) color masks with appropriate words, pictures, or designs. **The administration reserves the right to not permit any masks at school that are deemed to be inappropriate.**

As we approach the start of this unusual school year I am both honoured and privileged to be continuing my duties as Principal at Notre Dame Regional School. Despite the challenges that lay ahead I have no doubt that we will work together to do our very best for each other and especially for your children.

May God bless all of our efforts!

Mr. R. DesLauriers  
Principal