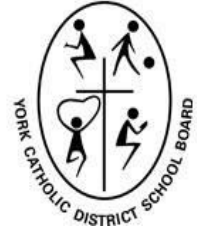




St. John XXIII Catholic School

125 Krieghoff Avenue, Unionville, ON., L3R 1V8
905 - 477 - 3288



Good Morning Parent/Guardians,

Welcome back to school! The staff missed the students dearly and we can't wait to see everyone very soon. Our start will look a little different this year. We will welcome students by following these staggered start dates:

Thursday, September 10th – Grades 1, 2, and 3 students will be welcomed into the school. They will continue coming in every day thereafter.

Friday, September 11th – Full Day Kindergarten (FDK) students will be welcomed into the school. They will continue coming in every day thereafter.

Monday, September 14th – Grade 7 and 8 will be welcomed into the school. They will continue coming in every day thereafter. **Please note that students in the Grade 6/7 FI class will begin on this day.**

Tuesday, September 15th – Grades 4, 5, and 6 will be welcomed into the school. They will continue coming in every day thereafter. **Please note that students in the Grade 3/4 class will begin on this day.**

By **Tuesday, September 15th**, all students will be back in class.

Switching Between In-person and Remote Learning:

Parents must notify the school of their request by November 1, 2020 if they wish to switch their child between face to face and remote learning.

Remote Learning:

If you have opted for remote learning for your child in Kindergarten to Grade 8, please be advised that **you will be receiving communication from the principal of your child's Virtual School, not your home school, prior to Thursday, September 10, 2020.**

Please ensure that ALL students bring:

1. **Mandatory Masks** (Grades 4-8). It is encouraged for students in Grades K-3 to also wear a mask;

2. **Paper bag or breathable cloth bag** in which to store their masks at their desks during recess times. Plastic bags are not preferable and only recommended for short periods of time (i.e. up to 15 minutes);
3. **Unscented hand sanitizer**;
4. **Lunch and snacks for the whole day.** There will be no hot lunch options offered. Parents are not permitted to drop off lunches at school.
5. **Refillable water bottle** to be used at our water filling stations.
6. **Personal tissues.**

Before Arriving at School Routine:

- Self-screening is required for all staff and students **every morning** before coming to school.
- Self screening involves: A daily self-assessment that must be conducted by all students (supported by parents). Please click on this link [Check Your Child Daily for Symptoms of COVID 19.](#)
- Parents of young children should review our video on [Returning to School During COVID 19.](#)

Once students enter school, they should remain at school until the end of the school day. This includes going home for lunch; students leaving the building for lunch will have to stay home for the remainder of the day.

Reporting a Child's Absence:

Very Important!!! Please call the Safe Arrival System to report absences and lates before 9:00am. Call 1-855-865-7862 or online at [go/schoolmessenger.ca](https://go.schoolmessenger.ca) Please have a pick up plan in place in the event that your child is not feeling well and needs to go home.

Student Transportation:

For those students eligible for bus transportation, you are able to access bus stop pick-up and delivery times using the “Find My Bus Stop” tool at www.schoolbuscity.com. Student Transportation Services has developed a transportation specific COVID Safety Update to help answer commonly asked questions about transportation. You are encouraged to visit the following [link](#) and review bus procedures with your children. **Students will be given seating assignments on the first day of school. They are to maintain this seating arrangement until otherwise instructed. Please note that students in Grades 4-8 MUST wear a mask on the school bus.**

First Day of School Procedures:

You will be notified through email as to who your child's classroom teacher is prior to the first day of school. We kindly recommend that you drop your child off as close to the bell time (8:55 a.m) as possible. Kisses and hugs should be given to students in the car or on the sidewalk. Parents will not be entering the school or school yard as per Public Health direction. Staff members will be in the school yard, within the school, and in the Kindergarten pen to

help facilitate the direct entry plan. Please refer to “Entry and Exit Procedures” for information on how students will enter and exit the building.

Note: In order to encourage a positive back-to-school transition, we are asking parents to prepare their child in advance letting them know that they will be saying a goodbye at the edge of the schoolyard and then going directly into the school. If students are distraught and refuse to enter the schoolyard/school, the parent must take their child home.

Entry Procedures:

- **All students in Grades K-8 will have direct entry into their classrooms in the morning, until otherwise directed.**
- All students are to make their way into the school yard and proceed to their entrance doors under the direction of staff who will be situated throughout the school yard.
- The front door is not to be used for entry until after 8:55 a.m.
- Students are to be physically distancing while making their way into the building.
- Students will enter the building in single file, following the directional arrows on the ground. Please note that staff members will also be in the building directing students to their homeroom classrooms.
- Hallways have directional arrows and signs to ensure proper flow and physical distancing.
- Staff and students will maintain physical distance as they enter, move through, and exit the building.
- Staff will accompany their class in and out of the building during entry, exit and recess routines.

Staggered Dismissal Procedures:

- Students and Teachers from Kindergarten to Grade 3 **will begin their dismissal procedures at 3:15 p.m. (ten minutes prior to the end of the day)** for an orderly dismissal.
- **Parents of students from Grades 1-3** are permitted to enter the Primary school yard (east gate) to receive their children from the classroom teacher. Parents are asked to maintain physical distancing at all times while waiting.
- **Parents of students in Kindergarten** will pick up their children outside the pen area. The classroom teacher and DECE will facilitate the dismissal at that time. Parents are asked to maintain physical distancing at all times while waiting.
- **Students from Grades 4-8** will be dismissed at the regular dismissal bell (3:25 p.m.).
- Please note that **ALL bus students** will receive instructions on the first day with regards to their end of the day procedures.

Recess:

According to York Region Public Health, masks are not recommended for recess/outdoor play. Students will participate in morning and afternoon recesses.

Lunch Routines and Snacks:

Students will bring lunches and snacks with them every day. **Parents are not permitted to drop off lunches for students.** Students will eat their lunches at their own desks daily while supervised by staff. **We are encouraging a “Boomerang Lunch” model whereby everything in the lunch goes back home at the end of the day.** This will decrease the need for students to get up and use the garbage can during snack and lunch.

Please note that students that go home for lunch are not permitted to return in the afternoon.

The following lunch schedule will be followed:

12:00 - 12:20 pm	Students eat their lunch
12:20 - 12:40 pm	Students prep for recess
12:40 - 1:00 pm	Students enjoy outdoor recess

Water Fountains:

Students will be asked to provide their own reusable water bottle and refill bottles at our water fountain stations.

Washrooms:

- A detailed washroom plan will be shared with students on their first day.
- Maximum capacity of students in the washrooms will be indicated outside the washroom entrance by a sign (either 2 or 3).
- “Stand here” signs have been placed on the floor near the sink and outside the washrooms.
- **Students must wash/sanitize their hands every time they leave or enter the classroom.**
- Once a student is finished using the washroom, they are to wash their hands with soap and water. In addition, a sanitation station will be situated outside the washroom as well.
- Some stalls and urinals will be closed off to ensure proper physical distancing.
- Extra paper towels will be provided for washroom use.

Visitors to the School:

- Until further notice, visitors are not to enter the school during hours of operation unless identified through a pre arranged appointment.
- It is expected that parents first contact the school by telephone if assistance is required.
- Visitors will only be allowed to enter after they have read the self-assessment notification and have no outlined symptoms.

- Visitors will be admitted individually and they will remain in the school foyer standing on the designated floor decals.
- Upon entering the building, all visitors must sign in and use the sanitation.

Personal Technology:

Students are permitted to bring their own devices (BYOD) such as tablets, laptops and Chromebooks. NO cell phones or iPods are to be used as devices and personal devices may be brought to school once the appropriate permission forms have been signed. Please refrain from bringing personal devices on the first day. Further information will be provided by the classroom teacher during the first week of school. **Just a reminder, families who borrowed devices during last year's distance learning are asked to return them on the first day of in person learning.**

List of Suggested Supplies:

For a list of suggested school materials, **please click on the appropriate attached file** per division.

Thank you to all families for your continued support, patience and understanding as we plan for a safe return to school.

Yours in Catholic Education,

Mr. C. D'Agostini
Principal