



---

Dear Holy Cross Families,

We are excited to be welcoming new and returning students back to school! We hope everyone had a good summer, with lots of opportunity to enjoy the sunshine. On Wednesday, September 7, 2022, students in grades 1 to grade 8 will return to in-class learning. Please note that **Pre-kindergarten** and **kindergarten** are on a separate staggered start schedule.

If you've driven by the school lately you will have noticed the work being done on the Convent House. Sadly, the 100-year-old Convent House is beyond renovation and is being torn down. We are saddened as the Convent House holds a lot of history and memories for Holy Cross School. The main school entrance has now been moved to the *main green doors* facing Dubuc Street.

No definite plans have been made for future building on the site. Once remediated and safe for children, the current plan is for the space to be used as an additional playground area for students.

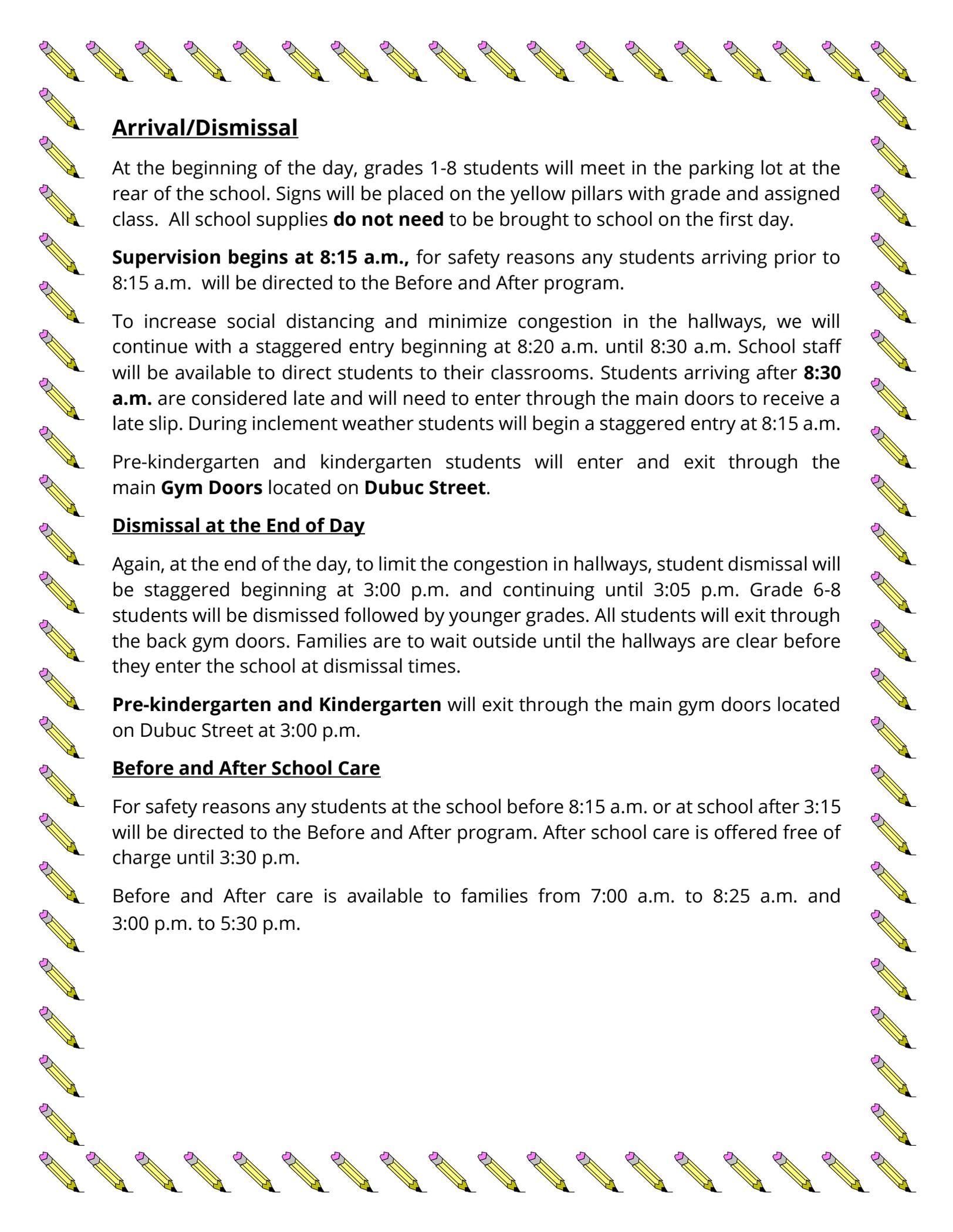
In preparation for the demolition and loss of space, we have built new classrooms, repurposed space, and borrowed space from St. Boniface Diocesan High School.

A larger and more spacious prekindergarten class has been built downstairs next to Ms. Smaczylo's kindergarten class.

Mrs. Lampman's religion homeroom will be in the high school. Her classroom is located very close and adjacent to Holy Cross basement entrance. Students will be supervised on entering and exiting the high school and there will be limited contact with their students.

PAC (Parent Advisory Council) is hosting a **USED UNIFORM SALE Tuesday, September 6, 2022** beginning at 9:00 a.m. and running until 12:00 p.m. (or until uniforms are gone). Entrance is through the gym doors on Dubuc Street.

We are also excited for this school year because Manitoba Public Health and Manitoba Education has determined that schools are able to begin the year with near normal protocols. We will continue to promote good health practices, such as frequent hand washing and staying home when you are feeling sick, but we will be able to resume most of our pre-pandemic activities.



## Arrival/Dismissal

At the beginning of the day, grades 1-8 students will meet in the parking lot at the rear of the school. Signs will be placed on the yellow pillars with grade and assigned class. All school supplies **do not need** to be brought to school on the first day.

**Supervision begins at 8:15 a.m.**, for safety reasons any students arriving prior to 8:15 a.m. will be directed to the Before and After program.

To increase social distancing and minimize congestion in the hallways, we will continue with a staggered entry beginning at 8:20 a.m. until 8:30 a.m. School staff will be available to direct students to their classrooms. Students arriving after **8:30 a.m.** are considered late and will need to enter through the main doors to receive a late slip. During inclement weather students will begin a staggered entry at 8:15 a.m.

Pre-kindergarten and kindergarten students will enter and exit through the main **Gym Doors** located on **Dubuc Street**.

## Dismissal at the End of Day

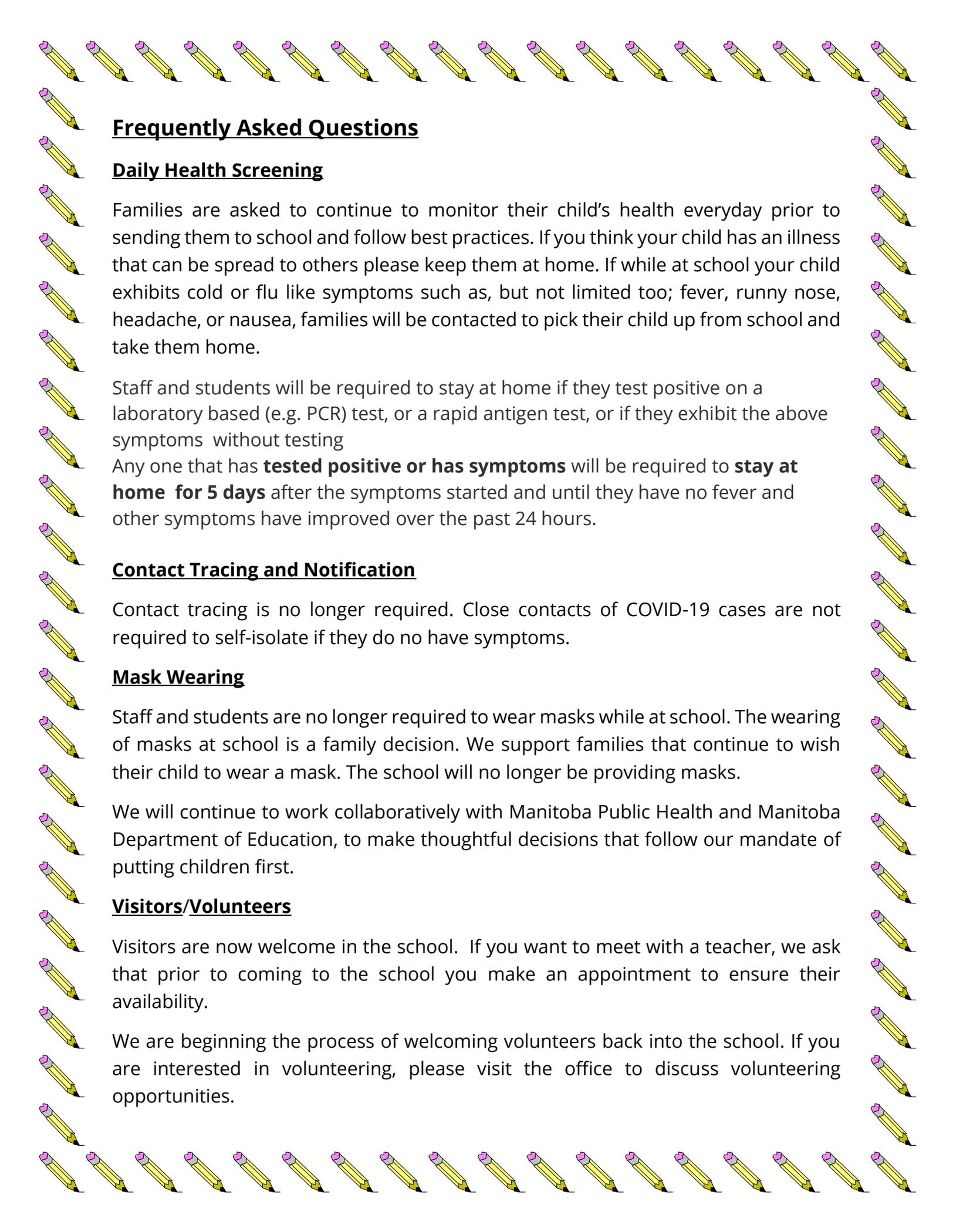
Again, at the end of the day, to limit the congestion in hallways, student dismissal will be staggered beginning at 3:00 p.m. and continuing until 3:05 p.m. Grade 6-8 students will be dismissed followed by younger grades. All students will exit through the back gym doors. Families are to wait outside until the hallways are clear before they enter the school at dismissal times.

**Pre-kindergarten and Kindergarten** will exit through the main gym doors located on Dubuc Street at 3:00 p.m.

## Before and After School Care

For safety reasons any students at the school before 8:15 a.m. or at school after 3:15 will be directed to the Before and After program. After school care is offered free of charge until 3:30 p.m.

Before and After care is available to families from 7:00 a.m. to 8:25 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.



## Frequently Asked Questions

### Daily Health Screening

Families are asked to continue to monitor their child's health everyday prior to sending them to school and follow best practices. If you think your child has an illness that can be spread to others please keep them at home. If while at school your child exhibits cold or flu like symptoms such as, but not limited too; fever, runny nose, headache, or nausea, families will be contacted to pick their child up from school and take them home.

Staff and students will be required to stay at home if they test positive on a laboratory based (e.g. PCR) test, or a rapid antigen test, or if they exhibit the above symptoms without testing

Any one that has **tested positive or has symptoms** will be required to **stay at home for 5 days** after the symptoms started and until they have no fever and other symptoms have improved over the past 24 hours.

### Contact Tracing and Notification

Contact tracing is no longer required. Close contacts of COVID-19 cases are not required to self-isolate if they do not have symptoms.

### Mask Wearing

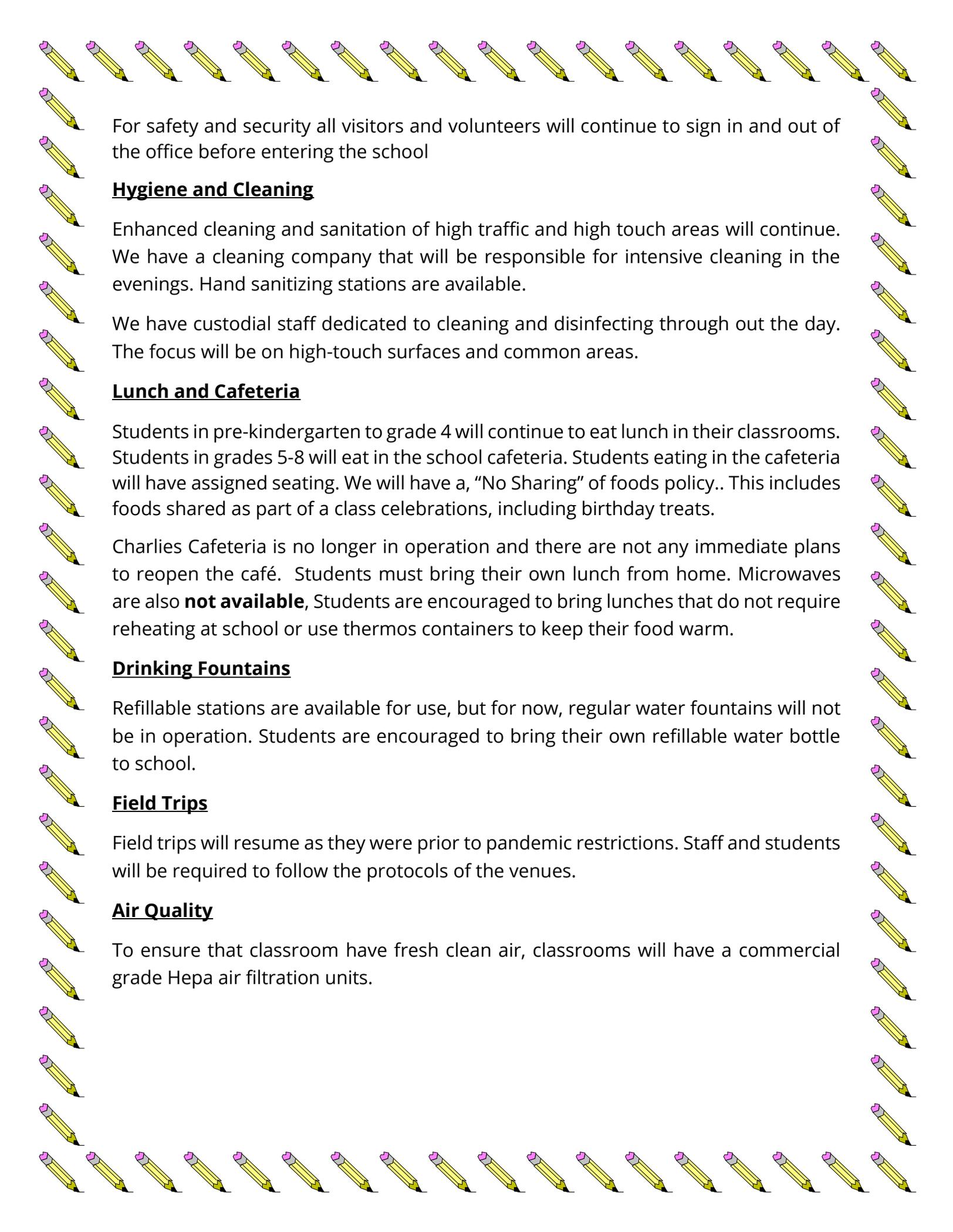
Staff and students are no longer required to wear masks while at school. The wearing of masks at school is a family decision. We support families that continue to wish their child to wear a mask. The school will no longer be providing masks.

We will continue to work collaboratively with Manitoba Public Health and Manitoba Department of Education, to make thoughtful decisions that follow our mandate of putting children first.

### Visitors/Volunteers

Visitors are now welcome in the school. If you want to meet with a teacher, we ask that prior to coming to the school you make an appointment to ensure their availability.

We are beginning the process of welcoming volunteers back into the school. If you are interested in volunteering, please visit the office to discuss volunteering opportunities.



For safety and security all visitors and volunteers will continue to sign in and out of the office before entering the school

### **Hygiene and Cleaning**

Enhanced cleaning and sanitation of high traffic and high touch areas will continue. We have a cleaning company that will be responsible for intensive cleaning in the evenings. Hand sanitizing stations are available.

We have custodial staff dedicated to cleaning and disinfecting through out the day. The focus will be on high-touch surfaces and common areas.

### **Lunch and Cafeteria**

Students in pre-kindergarten to grade 4 will continue to eat lunch in their classrooms. Students in grades 5-8 will eat in the school cafeteria. Students eating in the cafeteria will have assigned seating. We will have a, "No Sharing" of foods policy.. This includes foods shared as part of a class celebrations, including birthday treats.

Charlies Cafeteria is no longer in operation and there are not any immediate plans to reopen the café. Students must bring their own lunch from home. Microwaves are also **not available**, Students are encouraged to bring lunches that do not require reheating at school or use thermos containers to keep their food warm.

### **Drinking Fountains**

Refillable stations are available for use, but for now, regular water fountains will not be in operation. Students are encouraged to bring their own refillable water bottle to school.

### **Field Trips**

Field trips will resume as they were prior to pandemic restrictions. Staff and students will be required to follow the protocols of the venues.

### **Air Quality**

To ensure that classroom have fresh clean air, classrooms will have a commercial grade Hepa air filtration units.