



Holy Cross School

300 Dubuc Street, Winnipeg, MB, R2H 1E4

Phone (204) 237-4936 Fax (204) 237-7433

Dear Holy Cross School Community;

Welcome to the 2021-2022 School year, I hope this email finds everyone healthy and safe. I am honoured to be the new principal here at Holy Cross School. I am privileged to be supported by an amazing staff, school board and parent advisory council and value the opportunity to work with your children. ___

This is a very exciting time for me as I begin my 20th year in Catholic Education and 15th year as a Catholic School Administrator. Prior joining Holy Cross School I was the administrator at Gonzaga Middle School.

Mr. Serediuk, Mr. Buenafe, Mr. Clive and the Board have been working hard all summer to ensure that the school is safe, sanitized and clean for students returning to in-school learning on September 8, 2021. For the 2021-2022 school year, all COVID related protocols from last year will remain in place. Our school plan will evolve as the COVID-19 situation changes, as consultation continues with various government agencies.

Summary of Public Health Measures

- All staff and students will be required to wear masks. This includes kindergarten to grade 8 students.
- All staff are required to be vaccinated, or will be required to complete regular testing.
- Schools will be re-opening at Caution Level Yellow on the Pandemic Response System.
- On Wednesday, September 8, 2021, students in grades 1 to grade 8 will return to in-class learning. Pre-kindergarten and kindergarten are on a separate staggered start schedule.

Self-Screening

Families share the responsibility with the school to ensure a safe environment for our students. Please familiarize yourself with current Manitoba provincial public health measures. Pre-screen children daily for COVID-19 symptoms. Keep children at home if they feel sick or show any symptoms.

Arrival at school

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 first day.

Student Supervision begins is available from 8:15-8:30, for safety reasons any students arriving prior to 8:15 must attend the Before and After program.

Students will begin a **staggered entry beginning at 8:25 a.m.** School staff will be available to direct students to their classrooms. During inclement weather students will begin a staggered entry at 8:15 a.m.

Pre-kindergarten students will enter through the **Administration door** located on Dubuc Street.

Kindergarten students will enter and exit through the **main gym doors** located on Dubuc Street.

End of Day

Student dismissal will be staggered beginning at 2:55 p.m. and continuing until 3:05 p.m. Grade 6-8 students will be dismissed first followed by the younger grades. All students will exit through the back gym doors

Pre-kindergarten will exit through the Administration door located on Dubuc Street at 2:55 p.m.

Kindergarten will exit through the main gym doors located on Dubuc Street at 3:00 p.m.

Lunch Time

Students in pre-kindergarten-grade 6 will continue to eat lunch in their classrooms. Students in grades 7-8 will eat in the school cafeteria. Students eating in the cafeteria, will be assigned a seat and public health protocols will be followed. There will be **"No Sharing"** of foods brought from home. This includes foods shared as part of a class celebrations, including birthday treats. Lunches must include items that do not need to be heated as **microwaves are not available.**

Student Placement

A great deal of time and consultation with teachers and support staff is made before assigning a child to a class. Working in grade level teams our staff members take into consideration many variables when assigning a child to their class. Our class lists are

structured to provide equitable class support at each grade level. Moving students is difficult and can cause imbalances and inequities.

Thank you so much for being positive with your child and helping them to understand that it is impossible to place everyone with a best friend or preferred teacher. Please be assured that our decisions are based on the best interests of your child.

School Visitors

Although we welcome family and community involvement at our school, we will continue to limit the number of non-essential visitors in the school. Families are asked to conduct school business via email or telephone. Families may accompany their children to the school doors, but we ask that families refrain from coming into the building.

Before and After School Care

For safety reasons any students at the school before 8:15 a.m. or at school after 3:05 must be registered and attend 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 from 7:00 a.m. to 8:15 a.m. and 3:05 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Parking

We have had concerns expressed by our neighbours about Holy Cross School families illegally parking on the street, blocking the back lane and driveways. We ask that everyone follow all traffic bylaws and be considerate of our neighbours.

God Bless and thank you for your support,



Rachael Andrew

Principal, Holy Cross School