

September 7, 2020

St. Mary's Families,



RE: Week 1 Return to SMHS

We are excited and are ready for our students to return next week! Our school team has been working very hard to prepare the school for a safe return. We realize there will be many changes to what school looked like last year. Together staff, students and families will all need to be patient and flexible as we negotiate the first few days.

Below are important reminders and updates to help keep you informed.

1. Staggered Start

Families whose last name begin **A-L** - students to attend **Tues. Sept. 8 and Wed. Sept. 9**

Families whose last name begin **M-Z** - students to attend **Thurs. Sept. 10 and Fri. Sept. 11**

Students will be attending their period 1 class during these 2 days, this is week 1.

All students return to full time in class learning on Monday September 14. This will be week 2 and students will attend their period 2 class for the entire week.

Any senior students with a spare period 1 will not report to school until Monday September 14th.

2. Self-Screening. Each day parents and guardians are required to complete an oral question COVID [Self Assessment Checklist](#). If you child has any one of the symptoms please

What Happens if My Child is Sick at School?

If your child is sick at school you will be called to come and pick up your child right away.

Please be advised, public health has directed both Child Care and Schools to be conservative when identifying 'symptomatic' children. Children with one Covid-19 related symptom should be sent home, please see the Self Assessment Checklist. We ask therefore, that you have a plan in place to pick up your child in the event that they are unwell.

3. Guidance Appointments:

This year, students are to sign up for guidance appointments online by clicking on the link <https://forms.gle/j4QF2Hu1xciHj16w6> which can also be found on our school website. If your child would like to change his/her schedule. please email your child's guidance counsellor to give advance permission each time they would like to make a schedule change. The guidance counsellors' email addresses are:

Trevor Chiasson: trevor_chiasson@bgcdsb.org

Karen Majury: karen_majury@bgcdsb.org

Andrew Low: andrew_low@bgcdsb.org

4. Distance Learning:

For families who have opted-out of returning to school this quadmester, Mr. Chiasson will contact you next week to register your child in online courses. Distance Learning will begin no later than Monday, September 14, 2020. Students will be able to transition back to their school timetable at the end of each quadmester.

5. 1:1 Equipment Program

Effective September 2020, we are pleased to announce the rollout of our 1:1 equipment program for every student in Grade 4 - Grade 12. Each student in Grade 4 to Grade 12 will receive a Chromebook, Headphones, Charger and Case.

Our 1:1 equipment program is about learning and not technology! This program will inspire our students with hands-on learning and can be used to promote creativity in the classroom. This innovative tool has the capability to provide personalised learning and education in a number of different subject areas. The device allows students to gain access to a continually growing bank of educational content. Please watch for further information and a link to the Bruce-Grey Catholic District School Board Assumption of Responsibility for Borrowed Equipment Form. Click here to find more information about the 1:1 Chromebook program and to complete the Assumption of Responsibility Form.

6. Other important information

- Use your timetable to see where your homeroom (period 1) classroom is and go directly there when entering the school. We will also post homeroom lists outside of the school. Please stay outside of the building until 8:40am while social distancing. Students should not roam the halls, go to other classrooms or congregate in groups. The cafeteria and gym are closed to students.
- Use one of the three entrances to enter the building (by room 218, trophy cabinet, sliding glass doors).
- Please wear your mask while in the building and mandatory hand washing stations will be available at entry points. Students will be provided with 2 washable cloth masks (if needed) to keep as their own.
- Students should bring their own lunch, snacks and full water bottle. No cafeteria food is available at this time and there is no access to microwaves.
- Extra curricular activities are on hold.
- Please bring back any textbooks, library books or technology that you have borrowed (collection bins at entrances).
- Staff and students are the only people permitted into the building. Public health restricts any non-essential visitors, this includes parents and guardians.

Again, we hope this information is helpful to you and your family.

Take care and God Bless,

Mr. Mike Kirby, Principal