



Stoneybrook Public School

Welcome Back

Dear Stoneybrook Families,

Welcome to the 2019/2020 school year! We have had approximately 35 registrations this week, so welcome to all of our new families and to the new Kindergarten students that are just beginning their educational journey!

As we head into the new school year there are a few items to make you aware of for the first day. School begins on Tuesday, September 3rd for all returning Kindergarten (K2) students and all students in grades 1-8. New Kindergarten (K1) students will have received a letter in the mail this summer indicating which day they start school next week (Wed., Thurs., or Friday).

On the first day of school, students in Grade 1-8 will gather in the back yard at the sign that indicates their grade. At 9:00 am teachers of that grade will come outside and begin to gather their class. Kindergarten students are to meet in the front yard at the beginning of the day.

Organization of the School

Each year on the first day of school, students are excited as they anticipate what teacher they will have, who is in their class, etc. If your child is in a combined grade (example 1/2 or a 3/4), they will receive the curriculum according to the level they are at, based on the Ministry of Education guidelines. Grade assignments do not determine a student's ability level. There is a wide range of ability levels in each classroom. A new class is a great opportunity to get to know more people. ***Please note that reorganization of classes is always a possibility in the fall. What does this mean? It means that if we have more students than we expected in a certain grade, we may have to move some students/classes to a different classroom. This is based on Ministry guidelines for class sizes.***

Entry and Dismissal Times

School begins at 9:00 a.m. and ends at 3:30 p.m. The schoolyard is supervised by staff at 8:45 a.m. and then after school from 3:30 to 3:45 p.m. **All climbers will be closed before school.** We ask that primary students be dropped off on their yard before 9:00 a.m. They will be escorted into the building by their teachers. Parents are asked to remain outside. Kindergarten parents will be asked to say goodbye at the gate of the Kindergarten playground so the yard does not get too crowded. At the end of the day, parents/caregivers are asked to meet their children outside, rather than in the hallways. Students should not be on the playground prior to 8:45 a.m. or after 3:45 p.m. unsupervised by a caregiver. Thanks for your understanding and help in ensuring the safety of the students.

9:00 Entry

10:10 – 10:25 AM Recess

11:45-12:45 Lunch

(students require parental permission to leave at lunchtime)

2:05 – 2:20 PM Recess

3:30 School Dismissal

Getting to School

Please remember that the area around the school gets very busy before and after school. The parking lot is for staff only; if you choose to drive your child to school you will need to park on one of the neighboring streets. The “Kiss and Ride” area is located behind the bus zone and is intended to be used to pull up and let your child hop out. Please be aware it is not a parking area. For safety reasons, please sit your child on the passenger side, adjacent to the sidewalk. Finally, we have worked very hard with the Active and Safe Routes to School project to implement the Pedestrian Crossover. Please ensure that when your child is crossing Stoneybrook Crescent that they are utilizing this crossover and that they are following the safety precautions which can be viewed here (for pedestrians and drivers) <http://activesaferoutes.ca/resources/pedestrian-crossovers/#Videos>.

We do encourage students to ride their bikes or scooters to school. There are racks at the front of the school to lock these modes of transportation up. A reminder that they should not be riding them on school property, but walking them once they reach the school.

Bus Transportation

Approximately a quarter of our school population take the bus daily to school. Parents are reminded to supervise students carefully near the bus stop and road, for safety reasons. An adult is expected to meet Kindergarten children as they get dropped off at the end of the day. Students are to follow posted bus rules, respect the bus drivers’ instructions, and behave in accordance with the Stoneybrook Code of Conduct at all times. Bus transportation is a privilege, and these privileges can be suspended for serious and ongoing inappropriate behaviour. In the case of inclement weather, please check for delays and cancellations at www.mybigyellowbus.ca.

Keeping All Our Students & Staff Safe – Health Concerns

If your child has a health concern please alert the school staff. The completion of an Individual Plan of Care (IPOC) through the parent portal ensures we are aware of needs, medications and procedures. These are completed yearly by parents. Thank you to those of you that have completed these already.

It is the TVDSB policy to provide a safe environment for children who are susceptible to anaphylactic reactions, but it is not possible to reduce the risk to zero. There are, however, many things that the school community can do to help provide an environment that is as safe as is reasonably possible.

When preparing lunches and snacks, or bringing food into the school for special occasions, we would ask that parents follow the following guidelines to help us make Stoneybrook a safer place for our students with life threatening allergies.

There are an increasing number of nut-safe selections being offer by suppliers in grocery stores. Please read the ingredients list of any store-bought product for references to any nuts and even if nuts are not on the ingredients list, please avoid any products than contain warnings such as “may contain nuts” or “may contain trace amounts of nuts”.

If parents want to bring something in for a special occasion **we strongly encourage** non-food items for special celebrations (i.e. birthdays) such as pencils, erasers, and stickers.

For parents that would like to bring in food items (homemade or store bought), an ingredient list must be sent as well and you must discuss this with your child’s teacher **prior to bringing the item in**. We do have students and staff at Stoneybrook with life threatening allergies to many different food items such as dairy and nuts, please help us keep all our students and staff safe.

Information Coming Home Next Week

In addition to any information the teachers may send home next week you can expect to see a school year calendar, a planner for students in Grade 1-8 (a cost of \$5) these will likely not be coming home the first day, on-going curricular & co-instructional field trip form, an interschool athletic participation form (grade 3-8), and a lunch agreement form. If you are interested in purchasing student insurance these forms will also come home or you can log on to kidsplus.ca/resources. Information regarding school council nominations will be emailed to you the first day of school please adhere to the dates indicated on these forms. As a parent you will still need to log on to the parent portal and complete the necessary student information, including the new portion that focuses on medical needs. **It is essential that you access the portal as soon as possible to ensure all information is up to date.**

It takes the partnership of families, the community and the school to contribute to the excellence we strive to achieve at Stoneybrook. We look forward to another amazing school year.