



St. Lawrence
Catholic Elementary School

Principal: Mrs. M. Trotta
Principal Intern: Mr. A. Orlando
Administrative Assistant: Mrs. I. Capozza
Superintendent: Mrs. T. Kovach
Trustee: Mr. M. Valvasori

SEPTEMBER 2020

Beginning of School Year Prayer
Loving God, Our creator, our Saviour, our Companion,
Bless this journey of a new school year that we undertake today.
Refresh our souls and renew our spirits
as we embrace the beautiful ministry to which you have called us.
We welcome those who are new to this community and
ask that you strengthen them to share the wonderful gifts you have given them.
Lord, make our hearts pure as we prepare for the return of students to St. Lawrence School,
and may You guide them to return with open hearts and minds eager to learn.
We ask this in Your name,
Amen

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

I would like to welcome back all our students as we begin the new school year. Whether you are learning here at school or learning from home you are all part of our community. A special welcome to those who are new to our school community, I look forward to meeting all of you over the course of the year. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Father Peter as the spiritual leader of our community, we look forward to growing in faith together.

All classes will officially begin on **Tuesday September 15th, 2020.** We are working to provide a safe and engaging place of learning for all our students and I thank you for your continued support and patience.

A few items for us as a St. Lawrence School Community:

COVID19 assessment/child screening at home:

Please ensure that you screen your child before school. There is a small checklist on our Board website. This will help keep a safe environment for all. If you or your child do not feel well please take some time and rest and get better together.

If your child does not feel well at school, we will call you to pick him/her up immediately.

Arrival:

Students will be allowed to enter the building beginning at **8:20am**. All 3 doors will be open. When they enter they can use hand sanitizer and head straight to class.

Recess/lunch/scheduled breaks:

Students will have recess and lunch indoors. When having their snack they may remove their mask to eat and then put it back on. During this time your child may bring individual items to do, for example: crosswords, colouring, rubix cube, and reading materials.

Students will have a **20 minute** outdoor break with their individual class in **am** and in **pm**.

Going home for lunch:

Students will be permitted to go home for lunch. Forms will be going home next week. It would be helpful to let your child know to go home and then return to school. We strongly encourage at this time that older students are not going elsewhere. Afternoon begins at 12:15pm.

Dismissal:

I will be calling out classes at the end of the day. Each class has been assigned a specific door. The classroom teacher will communicate this. If you are not sure please ask.

At this time if you need to speak with me I kindly ask that you email, call or schedule an appointment.

We are committed to providing your children with a rich Catholic environment as well as a high quality curriculum in the safest environment possible. We will strive to do our best, and, as always, should you have any questions and/or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Please take the time to read through the newsletter carefully as it contains important information which will help make the start of the school year an easy transition for all. Questions can be directed to stla@hwcdsb.ca

We are looking forward to a great year at St. Lawrence Catholic Elementary School

Please remember Masks are mandatory on buses and in school.

Information about mask exemptions was shared in an earlier message. If you require more information on exemptions please call the school.

SCHOOL HOURS



Morning Entry	8:40 a.m. (Entry starts at 8:20am)
A.M. Recess	9:50-10:05am (nutritional break)
Lunch	11:25-12:15pm
P.M. Recess	1:35-1:50pm
Dismissal	3:00pm (Staggered exit)



A SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR JK STUDENTS

Thank you for entrusting us with your children. During this week it is understood that it will be a difficult transition, for both students and parents. Our team will be out to meet students at the bus or in the yard when you drop them off. Please encourage them that school is a wonderful place full of learning – even though it can be scary at first. Because the groups will be small for the first few days it will give all of us a chance to get to know each other. You should have received a bus tag – please fill this out and attach it to your child backpack, it is another layer of protection for our kindergarten students. A reminder drop off and pick up is from John Street (Fenced Play area)

PARKING: Please use the drop off at front entrance. If you feel the need to walk your child to an entrance please park in the parking lot. Parents will not be permitted to come in to the school at this time for everyone's safety.

ATTENDANCE

Regular and punctual attendance is expected from each student. Attendance is taken at the beginning of each morning session at 8:40 a.m. and again at the beginning of the afternoon session 12:15 p.m. All students will enter through front doors, use hand sanitizer and go straight to class. Teacher will buzz office so attendance can be adjusted.

SAFE ARRIVAL

1. Parents please use the SafeArrival website, <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca>. Sign up to create your account using your email address. Select Attendance to Report an Absence. **NOTE:** Once you are logged in, please ensure that you update your message preferences.
2. Using your mobile device, download and install the SchoolMessenger  app
From the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store [or from the links at <https://go.messenger.ca>] Use your new login information to access your account. Select Attendance to Report an Absence.
3. Call the toll-free number 833-275-6703 to report an absence using the automated phone system.

Leaving for an Appointment: Please call the school to make arrangements for pick up during the school day.

BUS INFORMATION



Update posted on HWCDSB website.

FAMILY INFORMATION/EMERGENCY CONTACTS:

It is imperative that school records are kept up-to-date. Many changes occur during the summer for some students. Your child will be bringing home their "Information Sheet, next week. Please read it over carefully and fill in any information that is missing or needs to be changed. The sheet needs to be returned to the school immediately. Please remember to inform Mrs. Capozza of any changes that occur during the school year (telephone, work number, etc.)

MEDICATION

Regulations state that school personnel cannot administer any drug, including aspirin, without written permission from the parent/guardian and a doctor. If there is need for such medication, please see the school website or contact the school to obtain the forms that **MUST BE FILLED OUT BY THE PARENTS/GUARDIANS AND A DOCTOR.** This record is a School Board Regulation and must be kept on file. Please notify the school if medication distribution stops so that all medication can be returned to the parent/guardian as soon as possible.

SCHOOL I PADS

If you have an I Pad that was lent to you from the school and you are retuning face to face we ask that you please bring it to school and give it to the classroom teacher. If you have a device lent to you by the school and need it because of online learning than please keep and use the device.

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

The monthly newsletter contains important information that affects your child. Often this will be the only source of information that you will receive regarding certain events, so it is important that you go to our school website. The calendar is populated regularly, and the entire school year is available for viewing.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS

The Catholic School Council is an important advisory body to the Principal. It consists of members who represent the school community to make suggestions. I.

More information will be sent about Catholic School Council soon.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL GRADUATE EXPECTATIONS

Each month at school we will focus and be learning about a different CSGE. We know that this will aid all of us in growing as people of faith and create positive conversations in and around our school. We look forward to continue this initiative as a safe, caring and inclusive school community.

FOOD ALLERGIES/SEVERE REACTIONS

As you are aware, there are a number of young children who endure very severe allergic reactions to a variety of different foods. Unfortunately, these reactions are frequently triggered not only by the ingestion of a product, but by the mere molecular particles or smell of something in the air (commonly referred to as an “air-borne” allergic reaction). For the above-mentioned reason, we do not permit students to share snacks, treats, lunches, etc. with each other at any time. Each teacher will notify the class and parents if there are any students in their class with food allergies. We ask for your assistance in not sending these food items to school. We are concerned for the health and well being of all our students. Thank you in advance for your cooperation and support in this regard.



**God Bless,
Mrs. Trotta
Principal**