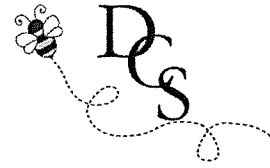


DRUMMOND CENTRAL SCHOOL

"The place to bee!"

Ms. Dianne Stroud, Vice Principal
Mrs. Stacie Dowdall, Principal



Dear DCS Families,

This year's school start-up will look different from any other year but the one thing that has not changed is that we are REALLY looking forward to seeing your child(ren) again! We have missed them!

I know you have some questions / concerns about what our 'back to school' looks like.

Hopefully, this letter will address most of them 😊

When does school start?

The UCDSB is beginning school with as staggered start for all students in K-6, based on last name.

September 11th: All students with last names A-G start school.

September 14th: All students with last names H-P start school. A-G continue coming to school.

September 15th: All students with last names Q-Z start school. A-P continue coming to school.

What is the school Schedule?

The school day at DCS has changed this year. This is the day schedule we will be following:

9:20am – 11:50am Learning Block 1

11:50am -12:30pm Lunch and Recess

12:30pm – 3:00pm Learning Block 2

3:00pm – 3:40pm Recess and Dismissal

What should we send?

Your child's teacher will be reaching out to you to welcome your child to their class. All school items are being provided by the school. You are asked to provide the following:

- A backpack
- A lunch (Please ensure that items can be opened by your child(ren). Garbage will be coming home in the lunch kit so you may want to provide a baggie to use for this.)
- A water bottle filled each day as the water fountains will not be running.
- Indoor shoes
- Extra clothes (kindergarten)

Please label your child(ren)'s belongings.



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What could we send?

All supplies needed for learning will be provided by the school. We will be providing a plastic note tote for each student to keep these items in. Students will not be sharing these items. You may wish to send in the following but they are not required

- A pencil case
- Tissues for personal use
- Hand sanitizer – We have lots at the school but if you wish to send in a small bottle with your child(ren) that is fine. Please ensure it is unscented and at least 60% alcohol.

What we should NOT send in?

For reasons of hygiene, please keep anything extra at home, especially personal toys of any kind, pillows, blankets and stuffed animals.

How do we communicate with the school?

Communication will be done electronically this year or by phone. Agendas will not be used by students nor will there be communication books. Nothing, except what a student should bring, will travel back and forth between home and school. On occasion, paper copies of certain things will be sent home for parent signature. When this happens, for your own safety, please ensure you sanitize prior to and after touching the papers. Send them back to the school where we will follow our own protocol before handling them.

What about hot lunches and milk?

We are not able to offer hot lunches or milk this year. Food For Thought will be operating in the school to provide healthy grab and go snacks in the classroom.

How do we drop kids off if we are driving them to school?

Students will be supervised on the yard from 9:05am -9:20am. Buses will be arriving and dropping off students at this time. If you arrive during this time, we ask that you wait in your car until the buses have left and then drive and park along the bus lane. Parents are asked to remain in your car unless helping a child from a car seat. A staff member will ensure your child enters the school through their designated entrance.

If you are dropping your child(ren) after 9:40am, please come to the front doors and ring the doorbell. A staff member will meet you there and will send/escort your child(ren) to class. You will not be permitted to enter the school.

How do we pick up our child(ren)?

Buses arrive for dismissal at 3:25pm and leave at 3:40pm. If you arrive at this time, please wait in your car until buses leave. Once they have left, you can then drive and park along the bus lane and your child(ren) will be walked to your car.

Only in an emergency will pickups be allowed between 3:25pm and 3:40pm.

If you plan on picking your child(ren) up before 3:25pm, please notify the office earlier in the day and we will have your child(ren) ready for you.



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What are you doing to keep our child(ren) safe while they are at school?

We have a lot of protocols in place to keep your child(ren) safe at school! We have sanitizing stations at each entrance, markings on the floor to show traffic direction, social distancing markers and lots more! For the first while, classroom teachers will be focusing on teaching your child(ren) what the expectations are and how they can keep themselves safe while at school. Each class is a cohort. This means they will be together all day. They will have a space on the yard to play (we will provide equipment for them to play with). They will also have a designated bathroom to use in the school where only 2 students at a time will be permitted. They will eat lunch in their classroom at their desks. Students will be washing and/or sanitizing frequently throughout the school day. Staff will be masked at all times while in the school.

What about masks?

The Ministry of Education's guidelines require all students from grades 4 to 6 to wear a mask in school. Students in K-3 are encouraged to wear one but it is not required. If you want your child who is in K-3 to wear a mask, please share this expectation with his/her teacher.

- **What if my child forgets their mask?** We have cloth masks here to give to students who forget their mask or if theirs gets damaged or dirty.

Does my child have to wear a mask all day? There will be several mask breaks in the day: when the students are eating, when they are outside to learn, when they are in gym, and when they are outside for recess. There may be other opportunities to remove their mask in the classroom if the 2m distance is being maintained. This will be at the direction of the teacher. When they are not wearing their mask, they will be placed in a paper bag on their desk. Ideally, at least two masks per day are recommended so that children can change them half way through their day. If you wish to send more than two, you may. Natural changing times would be morning snack, lunch, afternoon snack/recess and before dismissal (if your child wants a change before a long bus ride).

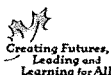
- **What if my child can't wear a mask?** There is an exemption process for those students who are unable to wear a mask. Please contact me if you need this.

What if my child has a runny nose? Do I send them to school? How do I know?

Lanark and Leeds Public Health has developed an excellent online resource to help you in making this decision. We are relying on parents to screen their child(ren) **every day** before they leave for school. The link can be found on the Lanark and Leeds Public Health website. A hard copy of the questions is also attached to this letter.

We chose remote learning. What happens next for us/

If you chose Synchronous learning, a teacher from DCS will be in touch with you to explain how things will work and will orient your child to the programs they need to access. If you chose Asynchronous learning (digital or paper), a teacher from the Online school will contact you. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me.



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I hope that this letter addresses some of your questions and/or concerns about school startup for this year. We are SO EXCITED to welcome students back! Please feel free to reach out to the school with any concerns you have!

Sincerely,



Dianne Stroud
Vice Principal, DCS



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