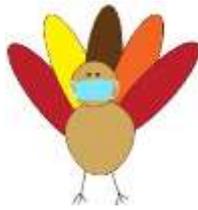




Please be mindful of your social interactions and respect the guidelines put in place by Public Health so as not to jeopardize the health and safety of our students and staff.

MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICE

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a Happy Thanksgiving. We have lots to be thankful for, despite the restrictions being imposed. We are thankful to have our children being educated, in person. We are thankful to our staff for showing up every day, despite their personal reservations, to work with us. We are thankful that our students and staff are healthy and able to join us at school every day. We are thankful that parents are following our protocols and respecting our procedures. We are thankful for the confidence and grace you've shown our staff. We are thankful to be part of a caring community. Thank you. Be well and stay safe.



WHAT THE RED ZONE MEANS FOR ST. PAUL

Now that the Government has indicated that the Greater Montreal area (South Shore, Montreal Island, Laval and North Shore) are in the RED Zone, we will have to be even more diligent in ensuring that the directives from public health are respected. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Ensuring minimal materials travel back and forth between home and school; Parents **must** respect 2m of physical distancing at all times during drop off and pick up when on school property, or wear a mask/face covering. We need to model the expected behaviour for our students and children; Our library will remain closed until further notice, as public libraries are closed.

SCHOOL PICTURE RETAKES

Retakes for students who were absent on the original picture days will be held on Friday, October 2, in the morning. Please ensure that your child is in dress code if retakes are being done.

STUDENT ABSENCES

While we understand that worries and anxiousness are on the rise, we need to remind you that legally your children need to be in school. We cannot provide work for parents to choose to keep their children home. We will provide work for any student who is ill for more than two consecutive days and for any students who may need to isolate/quarantine. The only alternatives are to seek a medical exemption (forms available on our website) or to apply to homeschool. While we understand that this may seem harsh, we have the legal obligation to inform the CISSS of all extended absences that are non-medical in nature.

WORLD TEACHERS' DAY

Monday, October 5th is World Teacher Day, a day where we can pause and honour our teachers for the excellent work they do. This year, more than ever, they deserve recognition for their tireless efforts to fill the learning gaps from the closure, keep students safe and move forward with their students' learning. In the past weeks, I have received several messages of appreciation from parents, and I have shared them with the staff. If you can, take a few minutes and let your child(ren)'s teacher(s) know that you appreciate their dedication to their students and courage to come to work day in and day out during this pandemic. They deserve all of our respect.

COLD WEATHER

Please be reminded that students need to be dressed for the forecasted weather. Please be sure that your child has a coat and/or rain gear, as the wait time during dismissal can be long and the students **will** be outside, rain, cold or shine.





TERRY FOX RUN

We will be participating in a drastically scaled down version of the Terry Fox Run in the coming weeks. Since we need to be paperless, please consider using this online pledge form to make a contribution to this worthwhile cause. We know we have members of our St. Paul community who are fighting their cancer as we speak, and we would like to recognize their strength and courage by participating this year.

The link to make a donation is:

<https://secure.terryfox.ca/registrator/TeamFundraisingPage.aspx?TeamID=906466>



ST. PAUL COMMITTEES

The meeting dates for the Governing Board and PPO are indicated on the calendar. Both meetings will be held via Zoom for members. Questions for the Governing Board must be submitted 24 hours before the meeting, to the attention of the Principal.

Wednesday, October 14:

Governing Board

Wednesday, October 21:

PPO

The GB agendas will be posted on our website before the meeting. The minutes of the meetings will only be posted following their approval at the following months' meetings.

FIRST COMMUNICATION

You will be receiving your child's first communication this week (Kindergarten-Grade 6) and next week for Pre-Kindergarten. This is an initial progress report that will give you feedback about your child's learning and behaviour thus far. It is not as detailed as the term report cards. You will receive your Term 1 report card in mid-November.

At this time, there is no formal evaluation for pre-Kindergarten. We will be using a communication tool provided by the SWLSB, which will be sent around the same time as the typical report cards.

STAFF PARKING LOTS

Please be sure not to park in the staff parking lots during dismissal or drop off as vehicle circulation while children are circulating is a tragic accident waiting to happen. All parents must use the street parking. Use of the parking lot is permitted after 4:00 p.m. if you're picking up your child(ren) from daycare.

FIRE SAFETY

We had a covid-friendly fire exercise last week. The alarm was sounded twice to familiarize students with the sound. Each teacher did a practice with their classes explaining the procedure and walking towards the exits and meeting points.

REUSABLE SHOPPING BAGS

We are currently finalizing our Emergency Plan and would like to ensure that all parents have sent in a reusable shopping bag, labeled with your child's name. These are by the homeroom teachers and will be used in the event that we have to close a class or the school as directed by Public Health. Our support staff will take care of bagging your child's supplies and a schedule will be sent for the pick-up of the materials.

