



PRINCE PHILIP PUBLIC SCHOOL, SEPTEMBER 2021

WELCOME BACK!

The staff at Prince Philip are excited to welcome students back to school on **Tuesday, September 7th, 2021**.

Thank you for reading our September Newsletter! We encourage you to review the information at home with your child so that everyone's transition back to school will be as smooth as possible. Similar to last year, we will be adhering to the Public Health recommendations to keep each other safe.

BELL TIMES

8:30 - Supervision begins

8:45 - Staggered Entry

9:05 - Period 1

9:45 - Period 2

10:25 - Period 3

11:05 - Period 4

11:45 - Period 5

12:25 - Period 6

1:05 - Period 7

1:45 - Period 8

2:25 - Period 9

3:05 - Dismissal - students must leave school premises

MASKS

The DSBN will be following all mask guidelines as provided by the Ministry of Education and Niagara Region Public Health. Grade 1-8 students will require a non-medical mask each day, we encourage Kindergarten students to also wear a mask. Please send a back up mask or two in a labelled ziploc bag or container, to keep in their backpack. The use of non-medical masks for students in Grades 1 to 12 are required on school vehicles.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

We understand that many families like to purchase school supplies. As always, you are welcome to do this. However, the school will provide all necessary learning materials. If you need these items, many of our community partners will be providing supplies. Please let us know.

TRANSPORTATION

If your child qualifies for busing, go to www.nsts.ca for procedures and health and safety guidelines. Niagara Student Transportation Services is following Ministry of Education protocols for Transportation.

DRIVING YOUR CHILD

Parents who drive their child to school may use the parking lot at the side of the school (Parnell St.). Please remember that the Kiss and Ride area is for quick drop offs. If your child needs assistance getting out of the car, we ask that you

use a designated parking space. Please do NOT use the front parking lot (Vine St.) as this lot is for school staff and DSBN employees only.

WHAT TO EXPECT IN THE MORNING

Our top priority is the health and safety of our students, staff and school community. It is essential we plan for spacing and that we minimize direct and indirect contacts with staff and other students. Thank you for modeling safe practices when you are on school property. Please note:

- Supervision on the yard begins at 8:30. Avoid coming to school early.
- Parents say goodbye at the school designated drop off areas and staff direct students to their outside spaces.
- Kindergarten students should be dropped off at the gates at the front of the school (Vine St.).
- Grades 1-8 are dropped off at the gates at the side of the school (Parnell St.) or at the gates by the back field.
- Parents and guardians are not allowed beyond the gates. We appreciate your quick good-byes in the morning so that our parking lots and sidewalks do not become too congested.
- Bus students are greeted by staff and taken to their class' designated space.

MORNING BELL AND THE FIRST 20 MINUTES

At the bell, homeroom teachers will take attendance. Daily outdoor instruction will begin, including: expectations, education and reminders about mask protocol, handwashing, physical distancing, hallway flow, washroom use, cough and sneeze protocol and reporting illness, as well as other school or classroom specific expectations. At times, teachers may choose to extend the outdoor learning time.

ENTRY ROUTINES

Enhanced health and safety protocols will be in place. From the class waiting zones, there will be a staggered entry. Students will be reminded to physically distance and put on masks. Students will go directly to their homeroom classroom where they will wash their hands and/or use provided hand sanitizer.

CLASSROOM SETUP

Classroom sizes vary across the DSBN, but schools have already removed unnecessary furniture and will be setting up desks with as much distance as possible, and to allow teachers as much instruction space as possible. Desks will be faced forward rather than in circles or groupings and staggered. We will also be including expanded outdoor learning opportunities this year.

STUDENT TIMETABLES

Each homeroom teacher will provide a 10-day timetable for every student. Our lunches will be staggered this year.

CURRICULUM

As always, teachers will be focused on delivering the Ontario Curriculum. The day will be divided into seven 40 minute periods with all subjects being taught. The majority of your child's subjects will be taught by their homeroom teacher.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Our staff, including the Learning Resources Teachers and Educational Assistants will be supporting students again this year. This includes meeting their needs as outlined in the accommodations and modifications in their Individual Educational Plan (IEP).

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

An important part of transitioning back to school is to focus on students' social-emotional learning skills so they can build resilience, manage their stress, and build positive relationships. Our mental health and well-being staff have provided classroom based activities to help school staff support students for a smooth transition.

WASHROOM BREAKS

Students will have access to washrooms as needed and during nutrition and fitness breaks. All washrooms have age specific signage to coach students on handwashing expectations. Each school will develop guidelines to monitor capacity. The DSBN is committed to ensuring a clean and healthy washroom environment with enhanced cleaning.

NUTRITION AND FITNESS BREAKS

Students will:

- Have two 40-minute breaks each day supervised by staff.
- Engage in 20 minutes of outdoor time, in their designated classroom community zone. For health reasons, students will not be permitted to bring personal sports equipment to use during fitness breaks.

Students will not:

- Be allowed to share food.
- Consume food or drinks (other than water) outside.

To start, we will not be having any hot lunch or special lunch days. **Please do not send treats in for classmates.**

WATER FOUNTAINS

Water fountains are available to fill reusable water bottles only. All drinking spouts have been covered at this time.

DISMISSAL

Students will be escorted by their teacher to their classroom zones for dismissal to parents and caregivers.

VISITORS, DROP OFFS, AND LATE ARRIVALS

We are not allowing visitors in our schools at this time. If you have items that need to be dropped off during the school day, PLEASE PLACE THE ITEMS IN A BAG LABELLED WITH THE STUDENT AND THE TEACHER'S NAMES. If your child is late for school or you are picking them up early, please go to the front doors and buzz the office.

PREVALENT MEDICAL CONDITIONS

If you have a child with a prevalent medical condition (Anaphylaxis, Asthma, Diabetes, and/or Epilepsy or others) we want to make sure we have a current Plan of Care to support your child. All parents of children with prevalent medical conditions are asked to fill out the new Plan of Care and submit to the school. You can find the forms on our school website. For more information, please contact the school.

COLLECTION OF FUNDS & PERMISSION FORMS

School Cash Online enables you to use your debit or credit card to make quick and easy payments. We also use School Cash Online to obtain permission for school events. To access the system, click on the "School Cash" button on our school website. **PLEASE NOTE:** The usual Welcome Back to School package that contains important forms to complete including a Student Verification Form along with Board forms that must be completed by all families will be completed through School Cash Online this year. We will email you when the forms will be sent to you through School Cash Online.

DSBN DRESS CODE

Everyone has their own unique style and aesthetic. We celebrate students' individuality and respect their ability to express themselves. Our only expectation is that all students come to school dressed appropriately for a learning environment. When deciding on what clothes your child will wear, we ask that all members of our school community are mindful of health and safety considerations and the dignity and well-being of all students and staff (i.e. clothing that is free of inappropriate or discriminatory imagery or wording).

RETURNING TECHNOLOGY

We are continuing to gather ALL technology that was borrowed last year. If your family still has a DSBN device and your child is returning to in-person, please have your child return the device to their home teacher. If your child is

learning online this year, please return the device to the office. We need to ensure that all DSBN devices are updated and activated appropriately for the new school year. Technology requests for the current school year should be sent to laura.nawrocki@dsbn.org.



...WE ARE STRONGER TOGETHER!