



ST. MICHAEL'S COLLEGE SCHOOL

Under the direction of the Basilian Fathers

February 3, 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Return to in-person learning on February 16, 2021

We hope this latest update finds you well, safe, and connected during these days of prolonged provincial and regional lockdowns. Barring any further changes to provincial requirements, we plan to return to in-person learning with Cohort A on February 16, 2021, following the Family Day Weekend.

For next week, as posted in Edsby:

- February 10 – Online classes/altered schedule with Parent-Teacher Conferences in the afternoon.
- February 11 – Online Parent-Teacher Conferences.
- February 12-15 – Family Day weekend.
- February 16 – Return to in-person classes, Cohort A

We are all looking forward to having the boys back at school, I am certain no more than they do! It has been a unique start to 2021 and there has been much success and lessons learned through this year of hybrid learning. We certainly see the commitment and effort the boys are putting in and teacher feedback on student engagement and achievement is very positive. Please find below a short survey for parents to let us know your experience during the past six weeks.

Important Return to School Expectations:

In planning for a safe and prolonged return, we would like to promote a rekindled commitment to health and safety protocols.

Our approach to creating a COVID-19 safe environment has already proven successful. While structural and physical changes provide the framework for success, how we engage in our environment determines how successful we will remain. We ask for your participation in verbally reinforcing with your son how to remain safe at school. Please encourage your son to:

- Notify you if he feels unwell and read through the daily screening tool carefully to see if he should attend school
- Wipe his desk and chair with provided sanitizing wipes before sitting down
- Keep a distance of 2m while engaging with his friends
- Sanitize his hands upon entering or leaving a classroom, before and after eating, when adjusting or touching his mask, and after touching surfaces others frequently touch
- Continually wear his mask. Mask breaks can be done while seated facing into plexiglass areas, for hydration when others are 6 feet away, or outside when a distance of 6 feet is strictly maintained

If your son is not feeling well, please have them stay home, contact the attendance office, rest, and join classes online if able.

Please review and test your access to the daily COVID-19 screening tool to be sure it is ready and operational for you on February 16.

Toronto Public Health (TPH) recommends the use of non-medical face masks (NMFM) among students. Please note, more cloth layers will provide your son with additional protection. The idea behind NMFM is to keep those around you safe by grounding your potentially infectious droplets and decreasing the circulation of these droplets in the air. Some students currently wear surgical face masks which provide more thorough protection to both the wearer and the exposed. While TPH recommends the use of non-medical face masks among students, SMCS supports those who wish to enhance their approach to safety through medical-grade surgical mask use.

Next week, we have parent-teacher conferences leading into Family Day weekend. We certainly have much to celebrate and be thankful for including the grace and love of family, especially in these pandemic days. It may seem like every day is Family Day these days, but please take time to regroup, reflect, and recharge as we head into spring!

Feedback

As we move out of this online learning period, we would like to hear how this experience has been for you. Parent and student feedback to date has helped us adapt and improve the learning experience and we are not done yet. Please take a moment to complete this check-in survey and let us know how you are doing.

(Survey shared via Edsby)

Sincerely,

Mr. James McKinnon
Principal