

## **September 14, 2020**

### **Welcome back Cedar!**

We are very excited to be welcoming back our amazing students, staff and families as we re-open our school!!

The safety and well-being of our Cedar family is our main priority and as such there will be some new routines and protocols, however our Cedar spirit remains the same!!

We have endeavoured to capture all the information pertinent to our safe re-opening, so that parents and students can anticipate what to expect during the first week and the days ahead. Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

#### **SCHOOL DAY:**

Our school day will officially start at 8:45 and dismissal will be at 3:05. On the first day, please plan on arriving at 8:40 with your child in the designated meeting/screening area a few minutes early. Your child's teacher will be contacting you to share further important information regarding where to meet outside for a Cedar welcome and screening.

#### **FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL:**

The TDSB has implemented staggered start dates for all students to further support our new routines, a safe re-opening and a smooth first week.

#### **Cedar Drive start dates are as follows:**

**Tuesday, Sept 15** – SENIOR Kindergarten students, Ms. Fiske's ISP class, and Grade 6 students

**Wednesday, Sept 16-** JUNIOR Kindergarten students, Grade 1 students and Grade 5 students

**Thursday, Sept 17-** Grade 2 students, Grade 3 students and Grade 4 students

**Friday, Sept 18-** ALL students will be in attendance.

**\*\* Please note, once your child starts school on their designated day, they continue to attend school for the entire week\*\***

#### **NEW ROUTINES AND PROTOCOLS:**

##### **KISS N' RIDE: CLOSED**

Due to the inability to social distance properly, the Kiss n' Ride, circular front driveway will be closed. Families are encouraged to walk to school where possible. If families must drive, please park your car where permitted (Gatesview Avenue, neighbouring streets) and walk your child to their designated area for the screening process. We realize this may take more time, however the health

and safety of our learning community is of paramount importance. Thank you for using extra caution and for your patience.

#### **HEALTH & SAFETY:**

Safety is our priority and a number of measures have been put into place. As per Toronto Public Health and Safety guidelines stipulate, non-medical masks are required for all students - Junior kindergarten to grade 6. Staff and visitors will wear level 1 or 2 medical masks at ALL times when indoors and when outdoors when they are unable to maintain a social distance of 2 m/6 feet.

Parents please remember to:

- Pack multiple snug and comfortable masks each day (if a mask gets soiled we will provide a disposable mask for your child)
- Remind your child that masks are not to be shared and to avoid touching their face
- Masks should cover the nose, mouth and chin
- Disposable masks should be thrown away in the garbage, after wearing them for a day
- Launder face masks in the hot cycle and dryer

For more information, please visit the TDSB website-Health and Safety- Mask and Face Covering Requirements- TDSB Mask Guidelines.

**\*\*Please note a face shield is not an alternative to masks\*\***

If a student requires an exemption from wearing a mask, please contact the principal so we can ensure a safe and smooth transition for all. Thank you for your co-operation.

#### **LUNCH and ALL-WEATHER PLAY:**

Students are encouraged to stay for lunch where they will eat in their classroom, in their designated spot, supervised by their teacher. Students will then be outdoors for 40 minutes, when they can take a break from mask-wearing, while socially distancing. We are an OPAL school, so in addition to outdoor play breaks, this 40 minute lunch break will be outside regardless of the weather - rain or shine). In the event of extreme weather conditions (thunder, lightning, extreme cold temperatures) we will be following all TDSB Weather guidelines to ensure the safety of our students, and an indoor routine will be established.

Parents please remember to:

- Pack a boomerang lunch (all items go back home when student is finished eating)

- Students will not have access to refrigerated or warmed lunches
- Uber Eats etc. will not be permitted during this time due to safety measures
- Please remember we are a “Nut Aware” school and all nuts, including peanuts, peanut butter are not to be packed for snack or lunches
- Pack some snacks- our Nutrition Program will eventually re-start with new guidelines which we will share with you in the upcoming weeks
- Pack a filled, refillable, labelled water bottle
- Dress your child for all-weather play and provide extra clothes particularly in kindergarten and grade 1

#### **SCREENING:**

The most important thing families can do to help keep everyone safe is to screen their child daily for COVID-19 and keep them home if they are feeling unwell or have come into contact with anyone diagnosed with COVID-19. Screening for students, staff and visitors will be conducted daily before entrance to our school.

**STEP 1:** Before coming to school go to : <https://www.toronto.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/96fa-Screening-poster-Schools-August-2020.pdf>

If you answer YES to any questions, please stay home and call Telehealth or your health care provider to see if your child needs to be tested( More information regarding testing can be found at [www.toronto.ca/home/covid-19/](http://www.toronto.ca/home/covid-19/)

**STEP 2:** If you answered NO to all the questions please record the information daily in one of the two following ways which will grant access to Cedar Drive.

#### **CHOICES:**

1. Health Screening Paper Pass: Bring and sign the sheet (daily) and show to your child's teacher during screening and entry procedures

[Health Screening Paper Pass Link](#)

Full Link:([https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Portals/0/docs/TDSB%20Student%20Health%20Pass\(1\).pdf](https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Portals/0/docs/TDSB%20Student%20Health%20Pass(1).pdf))

#### **OR**

2. Download the Health Screening App- follow the survey instructions survey and keep the QR code <https://tdsb.service-now.com/tswp>

For full instructions visit-<https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Portals/0/docs/HealthScreening.pdf>

- Use your child's **TDSB** student account ( if you do not know this information contact IT Services Support via [https://csdwebchat.tdsb.on.ca/StudentWebChat/servlet/AppMain?\\_IFILE=ChatForm.jsp](https://csdwebchat.tdsb.on.ca/StudentWebChat/servlet/AppMain?_IFILE=ChatForm.jsp))

### **STEP 3**

When you arrive at Cedar Drive and line up while socially distancing in your designated area either:

- Show the greeter/teacher your signed Health Pass OR if you used the app, show your QR code or provide your name for verification

- Sanitize your hands

We thank you in advance for your patience as we start the implementation of this screening process.

#### **ADDITIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY PRACTICES AT CEDAR DRIVE:**

- Daily screening of all students, staff and any visitors (limited visitors who are asked to call into the school and book an appointment where possible)
- Limited visitors and parents in building
- Students remain in one classroom and outdoor play area
- Students are “cohorted” – remain with the same students whenever possible to minimize contact
- Social distancing supported throughout the day
- Stickers on hallways floors and walls to ensure orderly traffic flow and limited contact
- Alternate cubbies/use of the back of the student's assigned chair for the storage of personal belongings
- One pair of shoes to be worn throughout the day
- Provision of paper bags for individual mask storage while students outdoors
- Assigned designated areas for entry and exit procedures as well as assigned outdoor play areas during recess times (students remain in cohorts and are encouraged to socially distance)
- Washroom protocols in effect for students (alternate stalls, marked handwashing spots)
- Hand soap and paper towels in every class with a sink
- Hand sanitizer in every classroom, every mobile screening unit and outside occupied classrooms
- Single use materials only ( individual crayons, scissors etc)
- Classroom carpets and lounge areas removed or closed
- Hygiene practices-mask, hand washing, coughing, sneezing etiquette

- PPE for all staff and students if needed
- Additional cleaning practices and ventilation considerations (increased air flow through frequent air filter cleaning and changes, HVAC systems checked over the summer months in preparation for re-opening, opened windows and doors where possible)

**NEXT STEPS:**

Your child's teacher will be contacting you to share further important information with you ie., where to meet outside for a Cedar welcome and screening.

We thank you for your continued patience and understanding as our wonderful Cedar staff continues to work diligently to ensure a safe and enjoyable re-opening. For families attending Virtual School, please continue to visit the TDSB website and follow the TDSB on Twitter for timely updates.

While our routines and protocols have changed considerably, we remain CEDAR STRONG! We look forward to an exciting, wonderful year ahead!

Sincerely,

Ms. Mitchell  
Principal