



## Island Public / Natural Science School

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Good morning IPS Families

I hope you are as excited to return to [In-Person Learning](#) as we are. As we continue to navigate through these unprecedented and challenging times, IPS students, staff and families have continued to show resilience, patience and support for one another. Please find some important reminders and updates for our safe return to in-person learning and also a helpful [Daily Checklist](#). We will continue with [Health and Safety Measures](#) to ensure the safety of students and staff. You are welcome to check the TDSB website page [Question and Answers](#) for further information regarding In-Person Learning. See you Tuesday & enjoy your Family Day Weekend 😊

Regards,  
Scott Woolford  
Principal



### Daily Health Screening

Ensuring the health and safety of our students and staff is a priority and everyone plays a role. The most important thing families can do to help mitigate the transmission of COVID-19, is to screen their children daily for any COVID-19 symptoms and other circumstances which require them to stay home, as directed by Toronto Public Health. Before leaving home, all students and staff must conduct an active health screening self-assessment.

- [Student Screening Tool](#)

You may use the [Health Screening App](#) or the [Health Pass Paper Copy](#) when you are greeted by the Travel Safety Assistants prior to boarding the school bus (City-side Gr. 1 to 6 and All Island-side Students) or the ferry (City-side Kindergarten Students).

- [TDSB Student Health Pass – Paper Copy](#)
- [How to Use the Health Screening App](#)

The main entrance of the school will continue to be designated as the Screening Station.

### Mask & Face Coverings

All students and staff will continue to be required to wear face coverings as outlined in the TPH and TDSB guidelines when riding the ferry, school bus, while inside the school/classroom and now outside when physical distancing is challenging. We will also encourage students to not touch their face, eyes, nose or mouth.

- [Mask Basic Safety](#)
- [How to Wear a Fabric Mask Safely](#)
- [Proper Use of a Fabric Mask](#)
- [5 Things to Remember About Face Masks & Coverings](#)
- [Updated TDSB COVID-19 Mask Procedures](#)

### Overview of Transportation

As you know we have updated the transportation plan for our return to in-person learning due to the COVID-19 ferry restrictions and the winter schedule. Once again Executive Council has invited 52 Division to assist students boarding school buses at Westin Hotel.

- City-side Kindergarten Students take the 8:30am ferry to Wards Island to catch the school bus.
- City-side Grade 1 to 6 Students board the school bus by 8:20am at the Westin Hotel & access the Island via Billy Bishop Airport.
- Island-side Students may catch the 8:45am school bus at Wards

Here are few helpful reminder videos developed by TDSB about riding the school bus:

- [TDSB Riding the Bus Video](#)
- [Before You Leave Home](#)
- [Wash Your Hands](#)

### **Toronto Public Health – School Information for Parents and Caregivers**

IPS and TDSB takes its health direction from [TPH](#). You can use the COVID-19 Decision Tool for School Students as a helpful guide if you are not sure what to do and learn more about the information for parents and caregivers.

### **Entering, Moving Through and Exiting School, Washing Hands & Hand-Sanitizing Stations**

We will continue to utilize the practices of:

- Physical distancing of 2m as much as possible
- Floors marked with stickers to designate traffic flow and distancing and exit/entry doors marked clearly
- Students remain with their class cohort and avoid large gatherings
- Washing hands frequently
- Each school entrance and classroom entrance will have a hand-sanitizing station

### **Wellness Room**

Our wellness room continues to be located in the main office and will follow the protocols set out by TPH and TDSB should a student or staff become unwell while at school.

### **Washroom Use**

We will continue with the **One-At-A-Time** routine when students use their designated classroom washroom. Hand washing will always be encouraged.

### **Eating and Drinking & Student Breaks**

All students and staff are encouraged to come to school with a grab-and-go litter-less lunch and the snacks required for the day. Food, drinks and utensils will not be shared, and students will continue to eat lunches and snacks in their classrooms. Students will be provided with scheduled in-class wellness breaks. Students will also be supported to take outside wellness breaks to support students who may not

### **Nutrition Program**

We are very happy that our Nutrition Program will be up and running our first day back. Those who were registered for either the hot lunch or snack programs, there will be offered to students as before following TPH protocols. If you would like to register, please contact the school office.

### **Technology & IT Support**

Well over 50% of IPS students utilized the school's technology (chrome book or iPad) during our remote learning time. We are asking that any borrowed technology used during remote learning be returned to the school within the first week back. We will re-issue technology requests should we be required to pivot in the future again to remote learning.

### **Water Bottle**

We encourage every student to bring their own personal water bottle to school. There will be scheduled times in the day that classes will have an opportunity to safely fill their water bottle.

### **Walking Excursions & Outdoor Clothing**

Below are the various walking excursion destinations/locations that students may participate in over the coming months. Teachers will continue to notify families via google classroom or email when they plan a walking excursion. Please be sure that your child brings to school appropriate weather clothing each day in order to participate fully.

Chickadee Feeding Station	Franklin's Garden & Newly Created Turtle Pond
Saturn Park Playground & Splash Pad	Collecting Maple Sap to Create Maple Syrup
William Meany Maze & Cherry Blossom Trees	Gibraltar Point Lighthouse
Nature Hikes	Beach Visits

### **TDSB Mental Health and Well-being Video Series**

Although these were developed for our return in September many may still be helpful as we continue to be presented with unprecedented and challenging times.

- [Feeling Good About Returning to School – for Elementary Students](#)
- [Feeling Good About Going Back to School](#)
- [Developing Your Coping Skills for Students](#) – Presenter – Our very own Nicole McSweeney, Social Worker
- [How to Help Our Kids Manage Anxiety for Parents & Caregivers](#)