 Strive Share Soar

The Trailblazer Monthly Newsletter

September 2019

***Message from the Administration***

Welcome back students, parents, and staff to another year of learning at Military Trail Public School. We would especially like to welcome all the new students, families and staff who have joined the Military Trail community. September and October are busy months as staff and students gear up for a new school year by reviewing routines and establishing goals to begin their journey of learning. Our staff is busy planning the year’s curriculum and establishing a safe welcoming, inclusive and caring learning environments. We invite you to join us at this year’s Curriculum Night on September 18, 2019. Please look for future communications for time and schedule to meet with your child’s teachers and administration.

One of the changes we are focussing on is addressing the number of times our students leave school to go across the road to purchase lunch at the local establishments. In the interest of safety, we are encouraging our students to remain at school over the lunch hour or go home for lunch to avoid the volume of students in the plaza. If you have indicated that your child stays at school for lunch then they will not be granted permission to leave the school property. We encourage our students to remain at school and to participate in the numerous activities being provided over the lunch hour. If you indicate that you allow your child to come home for lunch, we relinquish the responsibility to you and encourage students to return to school at 12:20pm. With respect to our IntoKids Health Initiative, which promotes healthy lifestyles, we discourage any fast food coming into the school. We would like to thank you for our cooperation in this matter.

This year at Military Trail we are excited to offer many opportunities for all of our students. We continue to offer many sports teams, choir, ‘EcoSchools’ and ‘We Group’. Continuing again this year is our Military Trail Boys and Girls Club and mentorship program. Also returning is IntoKids Health, Jays Care and the Imani Program through the University of Toronto. We are excited about the 2019/2020 school year and are looking forward to working with all of you! With sincere thanks to our wonderful community!

Mr. Shaikh (Principal) and Mr. Lalonde (Vice Principal)Upcoming Dates in September:

**Weekly Activities**

Monday:

Tuesday:

Wednesday:

Thursday:

Friday:

September 2nd – Labour Day

September 3rd – First Day of School

September 18th – Curriculum Night

September 24th – School Council @ 5pm

**School Council**

The Military Trail School Council is open to all parents. New and returning members are welcome and encouraged to attend meetings. Please consider volunteering your time and efforts to become more involved in the life of your child’s school. It is essential that school councils function in an open and inclusive manner to support our school community. . Our first meeting will be on Tuesday, September 24th at 5:00pm. New members are always welcome! Hope to see you there!

**Student Agendas**

****All students in Gr. 1-8 will receive an agenda for this school year. These planners help students and parents keep track of homework, assignments and important upcoming dates. Please send $6 to cover the cost of the agenda to your child’s teacher as soon as possible.

The agenda is a very important tool for home and school communication. It includes information about Military Trail and our school routines and expectations, as well as information applicable to all schools in the TDSB. Please take some time to review these important pages with your child

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**School Uniforms NEW this year – included Blue pants**

Military Trail is a uniform school. Wearing appropriate clothing to school each day supports a positive learning environment for students, staff, and visitors. All students are expected to be in full uniform at all times. Our uniform consists of a crested M.T. shirt worn with grey or blue pants (no denim, jeggings, leggings), knee-length grey shorts or skirts. The gym uniform is a crested M.T. t-shirt and grey shorts.

Crested items can be purchased through our supplier, Marchants. They can be contacted at 416-439-1479 or at [www.marchants.com](http://www.marchants.com).

Our uniform policy will be strictly enforced. Students who are not in uniform may be sent home to change.

**Parent Concern Protocol**

The Toronto District School Board has established a procedure for Principals and Superintendents of Education to follow in addressing parental concerns. The Parent Concern Protocol is based on the best practices currently used in TDSB schools for addressing parents’ concerns, and provides a range of feasible options for principals and superintendents of education when parents bring individual concerns to them.

At our school, parent concerns have always received a high priority and this procedure will support that priority. We encourage parents to discuss any concerns first with the teacher if the concern relates to the student or the classroom. Discuss the concern directly with the Principal or Vice-Principal when the concern is about the school as a whole, or its policies.

## Image result for Parking Lot safetyDrop off and Parking Lot Safety - Parents, we need your help!:

Throughout last year we developed a new system for dropping off students at the school Kiss N Ride. We would like to thank all those parents who embraced the new routine. Our school safety patrollers did a fantastic job.

* **Do not** use the staff parking lot to drop off or pick up your children.
* Insist that your child use the sidewalks and not run between cars.
* Drive slowly when approaching the school.
* Drive carefully and look for children crossing the road when entering or exiting the Kiss N Ride.
* Refrain from doing U-Turns in front of the school.
* **Do not** park or leave your car unattended in the Kiss N Ride.
* When walking across the street, please remind your child to use the designated crosswalk and look both ways before crossing the street.

## C:\Users\036626\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\IE\8F03ZY9K\non-tardare[1].jpgSAFE ARRIVAL PROGRAM

Please make every effort to contact the school office if your child is going to be late or absent. Automated, daily calls are made for unaccounted absenteeism, if parents do not inform the school of their child’s absence ahead of time. Please leave a message on the school’s answering machine the evening before, or early in the morning at **416-396-6475 Press 1**. Include your child’s first and last name, grade, teacher’s name, and the reason for the absence. This way, the system will not call your home.

**5 Day Schedule**

**Entry**- 8:40 a.m.

**Lunch**- 11:30 a.m. – 12:25 p.m.

**Dismissal**- 3:15 p.m.

**Remediation/Activities/Clubs/Teams**- 3:15 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

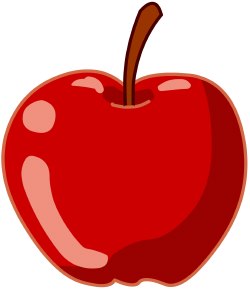
**Lunch Program**

Students staying for lunch are **not** permitted to leave school property. When a student needs to leave school property, a note must be sent to the school and is required to sign out upon leaving the school. While in the lunchroom and school yard, students are expected to:

* ****Be courteous and polite
* Observe the school’s Code of Behaviour
* Cooperate with lunchroom supervisors and staff on duty
* Not leave school property during the lunch hour

**If a student is unable to adhere to the rules, it may be necessary for parents to make other arrangements for their child at lunch time.** Students are asked to bring a **HEALTHY,** **LITTERLESS LUNCH, so that everything brought to school is taken home.**

**Snack Program**

We know when students are not hungry, they are able to better concentrate and focus on their learning. M.T.’s snack program provides a healthy snack each morning for our students. Our program is partially funded through donations from generous organizations. We are requesting that each family contributes **$50** towards the program. More information will follow as our program gets up and running. Thank you to our snack coordinators, Mrs. Dutton, and Mrs. Campbell for the amazing job that they are doing to ensure that our students are given what they need in order to start their day well fed.

**Into Kids’ Health**

To reach optimal physical health and mental well-being, children need to get enough sleep, make healthy food and drink choices, be more active, and limit the time they spend in front of screens. Military Trail is obligated to encourage all students follow its guideline.

Remember the numbers “10-5-2-1-0” and follow the tips below every day to promote your child’s physical health and mental well-being.

10 or more hours of sleep

5 or more fruits and vegetables

2 hours or less of screen time

1 or more hour of moderate to vigorous physical activity

0 sugar sweetened drinks

*EarlyON*

*Child and Family Centre* Ontario.ca/EarlyON

[EarlyON centres](https://www.ontario.ca/page/find-earlyon-child-and-family-centre#earlyon) offer free drop-in programs for caregivers and children from birth to 6 years old. You can learn and play with your child, meet people or get advice.

Our centres are open to all families in Ontario. They’re welcoming places that offer a range of services:

* join fun activities – reading, storytelling, sing-alongs, games and more
* get advice from professionals trained in early childhood development
* find out about other family services in your community
* connect with other families with young children

EarlyON is a combination of four programs – Ontario Early Years Centres, Parenting and Family Literacy Centres, Child Care Resource Centres and Better Beginnings, Better Futures. We reorganized our programs so you can get the same services at any EarlyON centre in Ontario, and also find programs tailored to your community.