



# Apple Seeds

September 2020

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<http://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/ossingtonoldorchard>



Welcome back students and families! I would like to extend a very special welcome to our many new students who will be joining the OOOPS community this fall!

I hope you all have enjoyed a wonderful summer and found time to relax, rejuvenate and enjoy your family and friends. It sure will be a different school year with many protocols in place. We are committed to working diligently to ensure students and staff follow protocols to promote a healthy and safe teaching and learning environment. Please read the information carefully so that you are aware of how school will be operating. We look forward to seeing you soon!

## **BEFORE COMING TO SCHOOL**

Parents must ensure that their children are free of any COVID symptoms before coming to school. Each morning, please assess how your child is feeling using the COVID screening assessment tool. <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/self-assessment/>

It is really important that everyone in our school community monitors themselves for symptoms and remains home if they suspect they are ill. Getting tested for COVID is also recommended if you suspect you or your children have been exposed or have symptoms of COVID-19.

## **SCREENING AT SCHOOL**

Upon entering school in the morning, all students will be screened to ensure they are feeling well. To facilitate this screening process, parents are asked to sign a **Health Pass to confirm that their child is well. The child must bring this Health Pass with them each morning with the parent signature.** A Health Pass will be provided to each child on the first day and it will be stored in a plastic pocket inside your child's agenda (Gr. 1-6) or in a plastic sheet protector (JKSK).

If you are able to print the Health Pass and sign it before your child comes to school on the First Day of school that would be very helpful.

## **STUDENT ENTRY AND DISMISSAL**

This year, all grade 1 – 6 students must enter the school building through the back school yard doors. **No student or parent will be able to enter the front door and walk through the school to the backyard. Instead, students and parents will need to walk around to the back of the school.** There is a pathway at the south of the school beside the JKSK play yard.

The school yard is also accessible via the steps from Churchill Avenue and from Dovercourt Road. This procedure is meant to minimize people inside the school.

## **ENTRY BELL: 8:40 AM**

At the entry bell students will line up in a designated spot in a socially distanced fashion. Teachers will meet their students and each class will enter the school one at a time. Before entering the school, students will be asked to show their Health Pass with parent signature to validate that they did a self-assessment and are free of any COVID symptoms.

Please see links to COVID screening tools in a variety of languages:

English: <https://www.toronto.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/94e5-Survey-poster-Schools.pdf>

Portuguese: <https://www.toronto.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/9585-Portuguese-Screening-Poster-TPH-June-2020.pdf>

Vietnamese: <https://www.toronto.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/9598-Vietnamese-Survey-Screening-poster-TPH-June-2020.pdf>

Simplified Chinese: <https://www.toronto.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/8f89-SCSurvey-Screening-poster-TPH-June-2020.pdf>

## **KINDERGARTEN ENTRY AND DISMISSAL**

Parents are asked to bring their children to the JKSK play yard. Children in Room 9 will enter the play yard through the gate in the front of the school. Children in Room 10 and Room 15 will come to the back of the school and enter the play yard through the back gate. Staff will meet the children at the gate and they will enter and line up in a designated area with their classmates and teacher. Parents/guardians will not be allowed inside the JKSK play yard at this time.

Dismissal will also take place outside from the JKSK play yard. Room 9 parents/guardians: come to the front gate and Room 10 and Room 15 parents/guardians: to the back gate.

## ENTRY/EXIT DOORS - Gr. 1 - 6

Grade	Room No.	
Gr. 1/2	20	Door 3
Gr. 1/2	21	Door 3
Gr. 1/2	22	Door 3
Gr. 2/3	11	Door 4
Gr. 2/3	Portable 1	
Gr. 3/4	12	Door 4
Gr. 4/5	18	Door 4
Gr. 4/5	Portable 2	
Gr. 5/6	18	Door 4
Gr. 5/6	16	Door 4

## MASKS

All students are required to wear a mask while inside the school. This will help prevent the spreading of germs. It is really important that your child understands and complies with this safety protocol. Each child will be given 2 cloth masks on the first day of school, which will need to be washed prior to wearing. It is recommended that your child have 3 or 4 masks with them each day (if possible) so that he/she can switch masks after outside play. Please read the TDSB's mask wearing protocol.

<https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Return-to-School/Health-and-Safety/Mask-and-Face-Covering-Requirements-For-TDSB-Students-and-Staff>

## COLOUR COHORTS

Students have now been placed in classes, which will be their cohorts. Many parents had requests for cohort friends and while we tried our best to accommodate, it was not possible to honour all requests. Twins, siblings who are 1 year apart and kindergarten daycare children were placed in the same cohorts.

Each cohort has been assigned a colour. This will help the students to remain with their cohort, especially during outside recesses.

## FANNY PACKS

The School Council has been busy over the summer thinking about how they can help to support a successful, fun and safe return to school. They have invested in a variety of items including:

**Fanny Packs for every student!** Every child will receive a Fanny Pack in their cohort colour. These fanny packs will be very helpful for storing clean and dirty masks and hand sanitizer. It is advised that students carry 2 labeled bags inside their fanny pack; one bag for clean masks and another for dirty masks.

We will encourage the students to wear their fanny packs at all times during school. **Your help in reminding your child to wear the fanny pack each day to school would be appreciated.**

## OUTDOOR LEARNING

Many teachers will be holding lessons outside this Fall. Outside learning will facilitate mask breaks for students and also allow students to engage in inquiry and experiential learning in their community. Please ensure your child is dressed for the weather.

Also, because our outside space will be equipped with outdoor learning zones, we ask that parents leave the school area after dropping their children off in the morning.

**A big thank you to our school council for purchasing tents, milk crates and other materials that will be required to support outdoor learning spaces.**

## KINDERGARTEN PARENT MEETING

**Friday, October 1 - 8:45 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.**

Please join us for our annual Kindergarten Parent Meeting. This year, we will be meet outside, so dress appropriately for the weather! This will be a great opportunity to meet other parents and to learn more about our amazing School Council.

## LUNCH and RECESS

To provide as much space between cohorts of students as possible, we have created a schedule that staggers the times for recess and lunch. All students will eat lunch in their classes with their teachers before they go outside for lunch recess. Students need to bring their lunches and a water bottle with them. Please also bring any required cutlery and napkins. Students will not be able to share food. **Please remember that we are a nut free school when you are packing snacks and lunches.**

The schedule for lunch recess is as follows:

JKSK: 11:25 – 12:30

Gr. 1-3: 11:25AM – 12:15 PM

Gr. 4-6: 12:15 PM – 1:05 PM

(Please note: The timetable is very complicated this year. Revisions may be required as we evaluate how the timetable is working).

If your child will be going home for lunch, please pick them up at the designated entry/exit door at the beginning of their lunch recess.

## FIRE DRILLS AND LOCKDOWN PRACTICES

The TDSB requires that we hold 6 fire drills and 2 lockdown practices per school year. Please talk to your children about these drills in order to alleviate any fears.

## SAFE ARRIVAL PROGRAM

One measure of keeping students safe is ensuring students have safely arrived at school. Please remember to phone the school if your child will be absent or late. Students arriving late must report to the office for a late slip before entering class. **Please remember that the entry bell rings at 8:40 a.m.**



At the Toronto District School Board (TDSB) we have an automated call-out system that will attempt to contact you if your child is late or absent and the school has not been informed or notified of a reason for absence/late.

The system call-out will work as follows: Parents/guardians identified in TDSB's Student Information Systems who have access to student records, and emergency contact with priority 1 or 2 will receive a call. When you receive the call, you are required to listen to the entire message and follow the prompts accordingly. You will be asked if you are aware of your child's absence. **If you are unaware, please call the school immediately.**

If you are aware of the absence, you will be asked to enter the reason for your child's absence. At the end of the message, you will have to press 2 to confirm you received the message. If you do not confirm receipt, you will receive a call on your mobile phone. If there is no response from a Priority 1 contact, this same process will be followed for Priority 2 contacts. If there is no contact with either Priority 1 or Priority 2, this entire process will be repeated 3 times in 10 minute intervals.

In the evening, all parents/guardians of students who were late that day will receive a call informing them of their child's tardiness, regardless of whether or not you have informed the school. With this in mind, please ensure your contact information on file at the office is current and up-to-date.

## DISMISSAL

A reminder to parents who have given their child(ren) permission to leave the school on their own (without adult supervision), that they must leave the school grounds at 3:20 p.m. **Students must not be left unsupervised on school property.**

## ANAPHYLAXIS/ALLERGIES

Anaphylaxis is a life threatening allergic reaction. We have several students who are anaphylactic in our school and we need to ensure that **peanuts and peanut/nut products are not brought to the school.** Students are not to share food or drinks of any kind with any other

students and to practice good hygiene. We have students with a variety of other food allergies in our school and several who could have an anaphylactic reaction.

## MEDICAL CONDITION and/or MEDICATION AT SCHOOL

If your child has a medical condition (ie: asthma, anaphylaxis, diabetes, etc.), please ensure the Medical Form includes this information. Likewise, if your child requires medication at school (ie: asthma puffer, epipen), please let the office know immediately so that the appropriate paperwork can be sent home.

## PERMISSION FORMS

A series of electronic permission forms will be sent home – please watch for them and complete them as soon as possible. We will also be sending home paper copies of Lunchroom Permission forms and Student Dismissal forms. Please watch for these in your child's agenda or backpack and return them to school as soon as possible.

## TORONTO PUBLIC HEALTH – IMMUNIZATIONS

**Did you receive a letter from Toronto Public Health?**

- ✓ See your doctor if your child needs any vaccines
- ✓ Report your child's vaccination record to Toronto Public Health

Online: [toronto.ca/health/immunizationconnect](https://toronto.ca/health/immunizationconnect)

416.338.7600 [toronto.ca/health](https://toronto.ca/health) | TORONTO Public Health

## RESPECT

The TDSB character attribute for September is Respect! As we help our students learn what respect is and how we can show respect to others, here are a few discussion points that you might have with your child.

**What does it mean to be respectful?**

**What are some ways that you can show respect for yourself and for others?**

**Why is it important to respect our environment?**

**How can we speak to others with respect?**