

September 3, 2020

Principal's Message,

Welcome back to school. Things have gone well in the first few days of staggered entry and we are excited to see students learning in classrooms, socializing with peers, with teachers building the foundational skills for success as learners. Everyone has done their best with mask and sanitization protocol and I could not be more proud of how our young learners have handled this new era of schooling. Our young students are truly remarkable at how well they adapt to change. Many of our students will look back on this period in their schooling as a unique era and experience. When we arrive at our final destination of a complete return to the mask free world where COVID-19 is not a major public health threat, many of the things we are doing now will hardly seem inconvenient or abnormal. As our students have already shown us, change is easy if you have the right mindset.

Greg Cruickshank, M.Ed.

Principal- Andrew School

Meet the Teacher September 9th

We will be hosting a meet the teacher event in person in front of the school from 3:30-4:30 on Wednesday, September 9th. This event is designed for NEW FAMILIES ONLY. To reduce the number of people gathering at the school, we request that only new families or parents of new students attend the meet the teacher event. If you would like to speak with your child's teacher regarding something specific, just as you would any time of the year, please email them or call the school to arrange a conversation. Contact details can be found on our website www.andrewschool.ca

Fun Fridays

This year we are going to try and make Friday's a bit more fun with special theme days. Participation is voluntary but appreciated.

September 4th- Formal Wear Friday (Dress up in your best clothes to start off our first official day together)

September 11th- Favourite hoodie or shirt day

September 18th- Jersey day

September 25th- Wildcat Wear Day (We have lots to lend out if you don't have Andrew Wildcat clothes)

Breakfast Program

We will be continuing to offer healthy snacks to students in the morning as they arrive at school. However, we will not be congregating in the crush area to eat as a group. Teachers will deliver the snack to each student at their desk for them to eat there. All of our snacks will be pre-packaged items. This is a free program meant to make sure no student starts the day off hungry. As we rely on financial donations to keep this program running, any help from local businesses or individuals is greatly appreciated.

Pre-School

Andrew's licensed pre-school begins on September 21st. The fee is \$80/ month. However, thanks to the generous Moisey Foundation, there will be no fees until November. Any child aged 3-5 is welcome to attend. You may attend Monday and Wednesday or just choose one day of the week. Please see our website or go directly to this link <https://forms.gle/bCz1Ao7dHHih2qzd9> to register. Parents will be permitted to help ease their children into the classroom and enter the building. Pre-school children do not wear masks. However, everyone must complete the COVID-19 Screening questionnaire and all pre-school students will undergo a temperature check when they

September 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 First day of school Grade 5/6 only	2 First day of school Grade 3/4 only 12:00 am	3 First day of school Grade 1/2 only 12:00 am	4 K-6 School 12:00 am	5
6	7 Labour Day	8	9 Virtual Meet the staff and Welcome Back 4:00 pm	10	11 Kindergarten Friday	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25 Kindergarten Friday	26
27	28	29	30			

enter the school. This is to align with the provincial rules for childcare licensing, which are separate from the plans school authorities have put in place.

October 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7 Early Dismissal 2:00 pm	8	9 Professional Learning Day. No Students	10
11	12 Thanksgiving Day - No School	13	14	15	16 Kindergarten Friday	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30 Kindergarten Friday	31

Enhancing literacy and numeracy

As part of Elk Island Public Schools' (EIPS) ongoing efforts to enhance the literacy and numeracy of students in all grade levels, the Division is once again administering the STAR 360 and Math Intervention/Programming Instrument (MIPI) assessment tools for all in-school learners in the 2020-21 school year. The tools focus on literacy and numeracy, are digitally based and offer an opportunity for students to demonstrate their learning. The goal: To provide timely information to teachers, help enhance classroom instruction and ensure student learning needs are identified.

At three points throughout the year, EIPS in-school students in grades 1 through 12 will complete the STAR 360 assessment, which evaluates reading comprehension. The assessment takes approximately 20 minutes and is administered on a digital device. At least once throughout the year, in-school students in grades 2 through 10 will complete the MIPI assessment, which is a mathematic screening tool used to inform teachers about a student's math skills. For students in grades 7 through 10, the MIPI takes approximately 50 minutes, and for students in grades 2 through 6 it takes approximately 20 minutes. The results offer the teacher a clearer picture of a student's learning needs and help determine if subsequent instructional planning is required.

The scores of the assessments aren't used toward a student's grade, and there is no need to study ahead of time. The tools simply provide the teacher with information to better understand where each student is in terms of reading comprehension and mathematic ability. If, after analyzing the results, it's determined a student can benefit from extra support, the teacher will contact the family to discuss possible support strategies.

For more information about the Division's STAR 360 and MIPI assessment tools, contact EIPS Supports for Students at 780-464-3477.

Quick Facts: Video surveillance

Did you know each EIPS bus is equipped with video surveillance? Video surveillance and equipment helps:

- ensure the safety of all students, drivers and property; and
- discourage destructive acts.

On a regular basis, EIPS Student Transportation reviews the video recordings, in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FOIP). The recordings assist the department with monitoring student and driver conduct and may be used as evidence in a disciplinary matter.

For more information about the collection, use and disclosure of personal information, contact the EIPS FOIP Co-ordinator at 780-464-3477.

Update Your PowerSchool Information

The "Correction and Verification Form" is now available online through your [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#). Families can use the form to access and update their child's information—including address, parent and guardian information, emergency contacts and any medical information. Reviewing and updating the form ensures the school has the most up-to-date information regarding your child. In particular, please pay close attention to all phone numbers, email addresses and emergency contact information. We will undoubtedly continue to have important information to communicate with families throughout this school year—whether your child is registered in in-school or out-of-school learning—and we want to ensure you receive this information. If you haven't already done so, we ask all Andrew School families to review their child's PowerSchool information by **Sept. 20, 2020**.

For more information about the PowerSchool Correction and Verification Form, contact the school directly.