



Saint Charles  
Catholic School

September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020

Dear SCCS Families,

The first day of school is quickly approaching!

There are a few more items that I would like to share to help make the back to school transition as easy as possible for both you and your child(ren).

This link that I am including in this email is a link to the most current and up to date information on the government website.

<https://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/covid/index.html>

This site is updated regularly and provides a lot of details for families.

At St. Charles Catholic School, we have a lot of preparation happening to welcome your children back to school next week. I've been getting multiple emails with questions, and I am doing my best to answer them all, but please note that due to extreme volume of emails, I may not be able to answer your emails as promptly as you are used to, and as I would like.

Here are some things that you must know for the return to school:

1. **All students from Grs. 4-8 must have their own masks as part of their daily uniform. They do not have to be uniform in colour, but must reflect our school community and Christian faith. SCCS will not be providing masks unless of an emergency, so please send at least 2 masks each day as part of your "backpack routine."**
2. **Mask compliance is necessary for the safety of our students and staff, however, there will be times when students will not have to wear their masks. Recess, Phys Ed and lunch time will be those times, and students are also able to remove their mask if they are in their classroom and able to maintain 2 metres of physical distancing. This also goes for staff.**
3. Students in Kindergarten to Gr. 3 are not mandated at this time to wear a mask but are ***strongly encouraged*** to do so.
4. Since our Gr. 5 class is our largest class at SCCS with 28 students, the "new" Gr. 5 classroom has been relocated to our library space and is now a classroom. All other classrooms have between 16-26 students.
5. All teachers in every grade have spent a lot of time planning out their classrooms so that social distancing can occur. Unfortunately, we cannot accommodate 2 metres between each student, except in the Gr. 8 classrooms because they are smaller in size. However, we have been successful in maintaining a 1 metre social distancing space. Some classroom furniture has been removed and put into storage to help with social distancing.

6. Teachers have been making plans to accommodate locker time, washroom times, and hand washing protocols, and will be sharing these with their students next week.
7. Every class will be eating their lunch in their own classroom, and microwaves have been moved to accommodate each cohort (Kindergarten, Grs. 1-2, Grs. 3-5, Grs. 6-8). A handwashing station has also been added in each cohort area except for Kindergarten since they have a sink in their classrooms already.
8. Recess will proceed as usual, but will include staggering classes for dismissal and entrance to recess, and each cohort will have their own “play” area. We will be using the front of the school, the North side of the school, the back of the school, as well as the play structure area of the school. Right now, our field has had an irrigation system put in over the summer, as well as been seeded with soil, and is currently awaiting sod, so we are unable to use the field. In a few weeks, that will change, and we will have our field back. Kindergarten morning and afternoon recess has been adjusted to happen with the same amount of outdoor time, (15 mins.), but either occurs before or after the regular scheduled recess. (Please do not send toys from home for recess.)
9. As stated in my last communication to families, students will have supervision at their assigned doors each morning from 8:15-8:35am. However, if you are able to drop your child off right before the 8:35am bell rings, please do not hesitate to do so. Students will be allowed to socialize with their friends in their assigned area, play, chat, etc. **Students from Gr. 4 and up will have to have their masks on before entering the school at 8:35am.**
10. Patrols will also be wearing masks while doing their job each day, since they will be in contact with different age groups.
11. As you are aware visitors are not encouraged in the school, but when they do need to visit, they will be screened, use hand sanitizer, and will require a mask. All meetings with either staff or Admin. will need an appointment, and wherever possible, will be done over the phone, or online.
12. Middle Years students will have two periods each week dedicated to Recovery Learning in Numeracy and Literacy. This will also provide teachers to do some Mental Health awareness activities. Kindergarten to Gr. 5 teachers will be incorporating Recovery Learning into their daily timetables where necessary. Our Literacy consultant will also be helping with the Kindergarten to Gr. 2’s Recovery Learning in Literacy. Our Resource teachers will also be helping with Recovery Learning, and so will Mrs. Barnes until she goes on maternity leave. Our Educational Assistants will also be involved in Recovery Learning if a classroom teacher needs more assistance.
13. Parents are asked to screen their child(ren) before coming to school each morning. Staff are being asked to do the same. If your child has a condition that may cause them to have symptoms that look like COVID symptoms, and you are sure that they are not, please notify the front office [sec@stccs.ca](mailto:sec@stccs.ca) and let us know so we can get the message to the teacher. (ie) seasonal allergies, asthma related symptoms, etc. If you have a medical note for your child that you would like to attach to their file, that would also be appreciated. Communication between home and school is absolutely necessary in this area.

14. Sanitizing and disinfecting will continue to happen on a daily basis, both during the day on high touch surfaces, as well as each evening with our night cleaners. Teachers will also be sanitizing their spaces before they leave for home each day.

The government and Public Health has deemed return to school safe for the September 8<sup>th</sup> start date. At St. Charles Catholic School, we will do everything we can to protect our students and staff. I continually receive information daily on the latest protocols, procedures and changes.

As difficult as this start to this new school year may be for some of you, please know it is difficult for staff as well, and we will do our best for you, your child, and your family.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tammy".

Tammy Narynski  
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