



Elmsdale District School

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September News & Information

We are so happy to be back with our students, and have had a great first couple of weeks at school! We hope your child/ren is/are enjoying their first days of school. Below you will find some important information that we wanted to share with you.

French Immersion Colour Theme Days

Primary French Immersion students will be learning the names of colours in French by participating in 'Colour Theme Days'. They are inviting the whole school to participate, if they would like to. The days are as follows:

- Monday September 20 – Blue (bleu) Day
- Tuesday September 21 - Red (rouge) Day
- Wednesday September 22 - Purple (violet) Day
- Thursday September 23 - Yellow (jaune) Day
- Friday September 24 – PD day - No School
- Monday September 27 – Brown (brun) Day
- Tuesday September 28 - Picture Day (no colour today)
- Wednesday September 29 – Orange (orange) Day
- September 30 - National Day for Truth and Reconciliation - No school
- Friday October 1 - Treaty Day - Black (noir) Day
- Monday October 4 – Grey (gris) Day
- Tuesday October 5 - White (blanc) Day
- Wednesday October 6 - Rainbow (arc-en-ciel) Day

8 Day Cycle

This year, we have moved to an 8-day cycle. This is due to changes in requirements for scheduling, and the sharing of circuit teachers throughout our scfamily. We have now added the days of the cycle to our Google Calendar. Please visit it here: <https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/0/r/month/2021/9/1>

Pre-Primary

It is wonderful to have our pre-primary friends in our school from day one this year! A reminder that all communication for pre-primary goes directly to your pre-primary classroom.

Birthday Invitations

We understand that birthday celebrations are important for many of our students, and that there is excitement around being able to have these celebrations once again. Handing out invitations can create anxiety and hurt feelings when children are left out. For this reason, we request that you do not send birthday invitations to school. Your child's teacher will reach out to you to see if you'd like to be included on an email list for birthday invitations for their class, and teachers will share this information in the near future with families. Only those people who choose to share their email will be included. Thanks for your understanding.

Terry Fox Run

This year, our school is proud to take part in the Terry Fox Run for cancer research. On Wednesday, September 29th, students will have the opportunity to walk or run around the school. If you are able, we encourage you to support us by donating at: <http://www.terryfox.ca/ElmsdaleDistrictElementary>. We are only accepting donations through the website, and are not accepting cash donations at this time.

Lost and Found

We do our best to return found clothes to our students. Having your child's name on their clothing makes it much easier to return items, when found. At the end of each month, we will donate lost items, so please encourage your child to keep track of their items on a daily basis.

Guests in the Building

We continue to limit guests in the building, as this has enabled us to have a safe, secure, and peaceful space for our students. When picking up your child, you can continue to call the office and park in the drop off loop, and we will bring your child to you. On occasion, guests need to enter the building, and they must wear a mask and sign in when they do so. To meet with a teacher or administrator, please schedule an appointment in advance. We can accommodate in-person or Zoom meetings at this time.

Teacher Communication

Teachers in the building communicate using various methods, which may include Seesaw, Google Classroom, Google Sites, email, paper agendas, phone calls, etc. We encourage you to reach out when you have questions or concerns. We are in this together, and we all want what's best for our students and your children.

Masks

We will continue to wear masks until October 12th, 2021. We continue to follow the direction from Public Health in regards to Covid Procedures.

Picture Day is Coming!

On Tuesday, September 28th, Professional Photographers from Pridham's Studio will visit EDS to take school portraits. This year, we will be expanding our background choices so please take a few moments to review your child's proofs online where you will be able to see the full selection. Online proofs are generally posted within 3 - 7 business days. www.pridhamsstudio.com

Dressing for the Weather

As we increase our focus on outdoor learning opportunities, we would like to remind you to have your child dress for the weather. Having an extra set of socks is always a good idea, as students may be outside in light rain. Layers during these days that start out cool, but become warm, are a good idea, and rain coats and waterproof boots on those rainy days are also a good idea. It is also a good idea to label your child's clothing, if possible.

Packed Lunches

When packing your child's lunch, please keep in mind that they should be able to open things independently. It is a good idea to practice this at home. Students do not have access to a microwave, so please keep this in mind as well.

Lunch Orders

When possible, please place orders monthly, and please ensure your child knows when they've ordered or when a lunch has been packed. If placing daily orders, please write down your child's order, with name and classroom, and place it and the money in a baggie. Menus and order forms can be found on our school website and Facebook page.

Water Bottles

It is important that children bring water bottles with them each day, as we no longer have regular drinking water fountains. We do have fill stations that children can use to refill their bottles.

Allergies

We are a peanut smart school, and do our best to be nut free. We have students and staff with severe nut allergies. Please keep this in mind when packing your child's lunch, so we can keep our students and staff safe.

Breakfast Program

All students will continue to access healthy options through our 'grab and go' Breakfast Program. Options currently include cheese strings, Nutrigrain bars and yogurt tubes. Please encourage your child to take advantage of this universal program.

Food and Nutrition Policy

EDS is committed to ensuring that our students have access to healthy foods while at school. This year, we're renewing that commitment and will be working hard to make sure that all foods served and sold in our school follow Canada's Food Guide (this doesn't include the foods students bring for their individual lunch and snacks). We will continue to offer a healthy breakfast program for all students, and this year, we're aiming to offer vegetables and fruits more often. We're also working with CCRCE to enhance our cafeteria menu to make sure it aligns with Canada's Food Guide. Finally, other foods that students may be provided (for special occasions, for example) must also be nutritious so it is important for parents or guardians to connect with a teacher or member of administration before bringing food into the school that is intended to be shared amongst students so we can confirm that it will meet our nutritional guidelines.

We are so thankful for parents, community members and local organizations who support our universal school food programs. We want to continue these important relationships! If you would like to volunteer to prep foods for our programs, please reach out to our Administrative Assistant, Angela at the main office. We greatly appreciate the donations we receive for our breakfast and snack programs, however all food donations must be healthy foods. We ask that you please reach out to the office before making a food donation so we can make sure it will meet our nutritional guidelines. If you are planning to make a food donation, we would suggest whole vegetables and/or fruits.

Drop-off Loop

In the morning, please have your child exit your car independently on the curbside. If your child is unable to exit the car independently, please park in the parking lot, and walk them to the sidewalk. Thank you for helping the drop-off loop work efficiently, and for keeping our students safe!

Important Dates

September 2021

24th - Professional Day - NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS

30th - Truth and Reconciliation Day - NO SCHOOL

October 2021

1st - Treaty Day Observance

11th - Thanksgiving Day - NO SCHOOL

22nd - Provincial Conference Day - NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS

November 2021

11th - Remembrance Day - NO SCHOOL

12th - Assessment & Evaluation Day - NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS

26th - Professional Day/ Parent-Teacher - NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS

December 2021

22nd - First Day of Holiday Break

January 2022

4th - Professional Day - NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS

5th - First Day back for students after Holiday Break

February 2022

21st - Heritage Day - NO SCHOOL

March 2022

14th - 18th - MARCH BREAK - NO SCHOOL

25th - Assessment & Evaluation Day - NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS

April 2022

8th - Professional Day/Parent-Teacher - NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS

15th - Good Friday - NO SCHOOL

18th - Easter Monday - NO SCHOOL

May 2022

23rd - Victoria Day - NO SCHOOL

June 2022

29th - Assessment & Evaluation Day - NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS

30th - Last Day of School