



Sir William Osler  
Public School  
R.R. #1  
3823 County Road #88  
Bradford ON  
L3Z 3K4



Ms. Natalie Edgar  
Principal

Telephone: (905) 775-2922 Fax: (905) 775-4782  
<http://swo.scdsb.on.ca/>

## **SIR WILLIAM OSLER RETURN TO SCHOOL- Fall 2020**

### **PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE:**

We hope that our families have had a restful summer break and have remained safe and healthy. The past six months have certainly been unsettling with all the unknowns, but Osler has pulled together and made the best of a challenging situation. As we prepare for the beginning of the school year, it will not be a surprise to anyone that life at Sir William Osler PS will not look the same as previous years. That being said, we want to assure you that our staff continues to work diligently with the Simcoe District School Board, in partnership with Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit, to ensure the safety of our students and staff.

***We will need to rely on all community members' patience, kindness and flexibility as we tackle this new normal.*** These are unprecedented times and no one could have imagined that we would be faced with a pandemic that has lasted months.

Earlier in the month, the school board reached out to families to survey them in order to determine if students would be starting the school year either in-school, or through remote learning at home. If you have not completed the survey, we need you to call the school office, as soon as possible, to share your intentions with our office staff. Mrs. Jamieson is available to answer calls the week of August 31<sup>st</sup> from 9:00 am- 3:00 pm. ***If families have changed their minds in regards to their child's schooling format, they will also need to contact the school.***

Communication from the school will be coming regularly, so please ensure that your preferred emails address is provided to our school office- you can update your email address by emailing: [swo@scdsb.on.ca](mailto:swo@scdsb.on.ca)

Outlined below are many of the changes that will be the new reality for the 2020-2021 school year at Sir William Osler PS. It will be important to follow all the new protocols as there are best practices that have been laid out by public health officials to promote a safe learning environment for all of our students. Please read carefully.

We are looking forward to working with students in whatever capacity best works for your family.

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### **FIRST WEEK OF SCHOOL:**

The Simcoe County District School Board has planned a staggered return to school for all students within the board. The staggered entry is as follows:

Tuesday September 8<sup>th</sup>- Students with surnames A-G will attend

Wednesday September 9<sup>th</sup>- Students with surnames H-O will join A-G students

Thursday September 10<sup>th</sup>- Students with surnames P-Z will join A-O students, new JK students will also begin today

Monday September 21<sup>st</sup>- Remote/Online Learning begins- Students who are enrolled in Remote Learning will receive communication from your child's teacher prior to this date.

### **CLASS PLACEMENTS:**

Students and families will need to remain flexible around class placements during this unique year. For a number of reasons, there will be some staffing changes. Along with creating "in school" classes, we will need to build remote learning cohorts as we approach September 21<sup>st</sup>. Some of our teachers will be moved from in-class learning to remote learning in an effort to accommodate these students.

When students arrive on their designated first day of school, they will be assigned a temporary class for the first several weeks. Later in September, we will likely have a potential reorganization of classes. Families and students need to anticipate that their educators may change, as will their classmates. In fact, this may occur several times throughout the school year when remote learners are offered the opportunity to return to school- classes will need to be reorganized multiple times. The reality of this school year is that your child may have several different throughout the year.

***Considering parent requests for this school year is not a luxury that we have during these unprecedented times. We would ask that you communicate regularly with your child's educators throughout the course of the school year.***



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## **FACE MASKS**

While face mask/coverings are encouraged for our Kindergarten to Grade 3 students, they are mandatory for Grades 4-8. For these students, they must be worn at all times. Face masks/coverings must be provided by the home and masks must cover the nose and mouth. Parents and guardians may also consider practicing wearing a mask with their child to in an effort to get ready for a return to school. Grades 4-8 students who refuse to wear a mask will be sent home, as this is a SCDSB (in consultation with the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit) directive for in-school learning. All staff will be wearing medical grade face coverings while in the school.

## **NO PARENTS/VISITORS IN THE BUILDING:**

As part of the enhanced health and safety measures, ***there will be no parents, visitors or volunteers allowed in the building at any time.*** We would ask that you do not pick up your child at school during the school day, unless it is absolutely necessary. If this cannot be avoided, you will need to buzz the office from outside the front doors and wait until school staff can direct your child outside. ***Please be prepared to wait and we ask for your patience.*** At no times will parents be allowed in the building, so if you need to communicate with your child's educators it will need to be done through phone or email.

## **ARRIVE ON TIME:**

Our school day begins at 9:15 a.m. and students can arrive between 9:00 and-9:15. For students arriving late, they will need to go to the front entrance of the school and line up (physically distancing by 2 meters) and prepare to wait for school staff to come out, sign them in and allow entrance into the building. Students/families arriving late must be prepared to wait (potentially lengthy waits) as we work through this process. We will ask for your co-operation and assistance with this matter. It would serve everyone's best interests for students to arrive prior to 9:15 a.m. to avoid long wait times.

## **LUNCHES:**

Students will need to come prepared daily with their snacks, lunch and reusable water bottle for the day. **Parents will not be allowed to come to the school during the day to drop off food or drink- this will no longer be an option as an enhanced health and safety protocol. Students must remain at school for lunch- students are not**



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**allowed to leave for lunch during the school day, and if they do, they cannot return until the following day.**

We will have "Grab and Go" snacks available at school for students who forget their lunch- but it will be essential that students have the food and drink they need each day. Our pizza lunches and selling of food will be canceled until further notice.

Water fountains have been turned off and bagged, but water bottle refill stations will be available for student and staff use.

As a school, we are promoting the Boomerang Lunch concept. This is for students to bring home any of their own garbage to dispose of at home in an effort to reduce the handling of recycling and garbage in classrooms throughout the pandemic.

#### **COVID-19 SELF ASSESSMENT:**

It is imperative that each day prior to coming to school, students need to complete the Covid-19 Self Assessment Tool:

<https://covid-19.ontario.ca/self-assessment/>

Students who are exhibiting any symptoms need to remain at home. Staff will be following this same protocol as this will be instrumental in ensuring a healthy learning environment

#### **SHOWING SIGNS OF COVID-19 AT SCHOOL:**

If students begin to show signs of Covid-19 at school, they will be guided to an isolation room (in the office). Parents/Guardians will be called and will need to come to the school to pick up the students immediately. If parents/guardians are unable to come, they will have to make alternative arrangements for pick-up of their child. Families should come up with a plan for such an event, prior to returning to school.

#### **FIELD TRIPS/ASSEMBLIES/CO-CURRICULAR:**

At this time, all school assemblies, presentations, field trips and co-curricular activities have been cancelled until further notice.



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### **GYM/LIBRARY:**

The gymnasium and library will be closed for the 2020-2021 school year.

### **RECESS AND NUTRITION BREAKS:**

Students will remain in their cohort (class) during all recess and nutrition breaks as is current protocol. Students will have assigned areas to enjoy in their cohort to avoid Covid-19 transmission.

### **TRANSPORTATION:**

Route changes and times may occur this year. If this is the case, Mrs. Jamieson will contact families.

### **STUDENT PERSONAL BELONGINGS:**

It is essential that students limit the personal belongings that they bring to school. All personal items will remain at their designated desk or table spot. Please label your child's belongings to support with this.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE RETURN TO SCHOOL PLAN FOR SCDSB SCHOOLS, PLEASE VISIT:**

<https://www.scdsb.on.ca/covid-19>