

The Parnall Post

Mr. R. McLean, Principal

From the Office...

Dear Parents,

Our staff extends a warm welcome back to our school community. We are so happy to see you all! We hope that everyone enjoyed a healthy and relaxing summer! Thank you to Mr. Laurin and the caretaking team for making our school spic and span for our first day back! Thank you to Mrs. King for all of her efforts helping staff and students get ready for our new school year!

We know that the school year is beginning differently this year but our goal for the first few weeks will be to make our students feel comfortable coming back to school after being away for over 5 months. We will focus on safety and well-being as well as establishing routines in the classroom, procedures to maintain safety and expectations of student behaviour.

To keep you informed, we will post a newsletter each month on our website:

parnall.dsbn.org

We look forward to a great year with our dedicated and energetic staff!

Staff List

The Parnall Public School staff for the 2020-2021 school year is as follows:

Mrs. E. King	Secretary
Mr. R. McLean	Principal
Mr. C. Sotola	Gr. 8
Mr. P. Waldie	Gr. 7 / 8
Miss. A. Stamp	Gr. 6 / 7
Mr. B. Keyes	Gr. 6
Miss L. Erwood	Gr. 5
Mrs. C. Cosby	Gr. 4 / 5
Mrs. R. Beresh	Gr. 3
Mrs. M. Gayder	Gr. 2
Mrs. S. Chuchman	Gr. 1 / 2
Mrs. T. Chiarelli	Gr. 1
Mr. J. Pickett	JK/SK
Miss A. Pietrobon	ECE
Mrs. C. Esraelian	JK/SK
Mrs. M. O'Neill	ECE
Mrs. A. Feletar	JK/SK
Mr. R. Smelle	LRT
Ms. S. Strayer	library/ rotary
Ms. S. Watson**	prim. rotary
Mrs. T. Coveney	French
Ms. M. Disher	E.A.
Mrs. J. Friesen	E.A.
Mrs. L. Hood	E.A.
Mrs. V. MacDonald	E.A.
Mrs. S. Fleming	E.A.
Mrs. K. Penlington	Inst. Coach
Mr. J. Laurin	Custodian

**Ms. Watson is off due to surgery to start the year. Ms. V. Kiedrowski will be in during Ms. Watson's absence.



NEW Return to School Protocols

This year the return to school will look very different for our students and staff. We will have fewer students in our classes as some will be learning online. We are required to follow certain pathways in our hallways and our classrooms will be set up differently. Many of the changes that have been made are based on advice and protocols that have been communicated to us by the Niagara Regional Public Health Department as well as the Ministry of Education. Please take some time to read through this newsletter so you and your child(ren) will know what to expect when you return to school.

Staggered Start to the Year

As announced by the DSBN, we will be having a staggered start to our school year. There are many benefits of a staggered entry such as:

- ~Provide a calm environment to introduce our organized entry and dismissal procedures;
- ~Allow students a gradual and thorough introduction to the enhanced health and safety guidelines within the school, and helping them learn new routines;
- ~Allow staff to adapt their practices to meet the new safety standards with students

Sept. 8: JK, SK & grade 1
 Sept. 9: JK, SK, grades 1-3
 Sept. 10: JK, SK, grades 1-6
 Sept. 11: JK, SK, grades 1-8

Our goal is to return to school with safety, well-being and learning in mind. We appreciate your support and understanding as we work to achieve this goal.

Masks



All students in grades 4-8 will be expected to wear a mask while they are in the classroom as well as in the hallways and washrooms. Students may take off their masks to eat as well as when they are outdoors for fitness/nutritional breaks. Please ensure your child has their mask when they arrive at school each day.

Students in Kindergarten to Grade 3 are not required to wear a mask but it is recommended.

Morning Entry Procedures

Teachers will greet students outside on the yard in the morning and will be carrying signs. They will walk their students into the school using specific doors to avoid congestion. Parents are not able to enter the playground area at this time to help limit the number of people and support our social distancing measures. We ask that parents stand outside the fenced in areas only.

Dismissal Procedures

Teachers will walk their students back outside to the appropriate and designated areas at the end of the day. They will be dismissed by their teachers to either walk home or meet an adult/guardian. Please be sure that you exit the school grounds immediately upon dismissal as the playground is closed as per Health regulations.

Late Arrival Process



We know that there are some mornings that despite best efforts being made students occasionally arrive late. In the past parents would walk students into the office to get an admit class slip. To ensure the health and safety of students, staff and parents, students who arrive late will buzz the office and wait for an admin assistant to let the student into the building. Parents/guardians will not be permitted to enter the building with the student(s). Please be aware that entry may take some time depending on the number of students who require entry. We appreciate your patience as we work through this new process.

Parents/Visitors Entering the Building



At this time the Public Health Department has mandated that parents and visitors not enter the school building. Please contact the office to set up an appointment.

Lunch Drop-Off



We know that some parents like to drop student lunches off at the office before our nutritional breaks. We request that students arrive at school with their lunch and snacks. To limit contact with our staff we ask that parents/guardians not drop off lunches throughout the day.

School Supplies



Back to school shopping is always a fun activity that students and parents alike enjoy.

Students will not be sharing personal materials in their classrooms. Below is a list of suggested supplies should you wish to purchase items. Rest assured that we will supply students with all necessary materials. Suggested items:

- ~pencil
- ~eraser
- ~crayons (K-Gr 3)
- ~pencil crayons and/or markers (Gr 4-8)
- ~glue stick
- ~scissors
- ~ruler (Gr 1-8)
- ~calculator (Gr 3-8)

-reusable water bottle (please send filled) – *please note that drinking spouts at school are covered at this time.*

Communication

Due to COVID-19 and our desire to not share items, student agendas will not be used this year. Each classroom teacher will be indicating how they will prefer to communicate with parents.

Chromebooks & Library Book Returns

Please return all technology that was borrowed from the school in the spring as soon as possible so we can begin disinfecting and deploying to student classrooms again. All library books should be returned to your child's teacher upon return as well.

Medically At-Risk Students



If you have a child with a prevalent medical condition (Anaphylaxis, Asthma, Diabetes, and/or Epilepsy or others) we want to make sure we have a current Plan of Care to support your child.

All parents of children with prevalent medical conditions are asked to fill out the new Plan of Care and submit to the school. You can download the forms at <http://www.dsbm.org/prevalent-medical-conditions>

For more information, please contact the school

No Nuts, Please!!!



We have several children in our school with severe nut allergies. It is requested that you do not send nut-based foods to school with your child. We know that you're caring parents and we appreciate your support with this very important matter. Thank you!

Medication for Students

Any prescribed medication that is to be administered to students during school hours must have an authorization form completed by the parent/guardian AND, if possible, prescribing physician. These forms are available at the school office and must be updated on a yearly basis. The medication must be sent to school in the original container with the label attached. It is the responsibility of the student (if able) to go to office at the appropriate time for his/her medication.



Student Accident Insurance

Each year a Student Accident Insurance Plan is made available for all students on a voluntary basis. The plan provides protection for **dental damage due to accidents, fracture benefits and other important coverages**, which are **NOT** covered under the Provincial Health Plan. Some parents may have Dental Plan coverage through their work but many of these plans are limited in one way or another, while this accident coverage is not. You should compare to make sure you have the coverage you need or desire.



Under the Education Act, the Board is not permitted to provide coverage for accidents to pupils, therefore, the Board recommends consideration of this plan to any parent who wishes to obtain this kind of insurance. Although the policy has all the advantages of a group plan, it is essentially a direct contract between the parent and the insurance company. Details of these plans are described on the application form that was sent home. If you require further information, you may contact **InsureMyKids toll free at 1-800-463-5437 or look online at www.insuremykids.com**. If you wish to subscribe to this insurance, please go online at <http://www.insuremykids.com>

School Cash Online

School Cash Online enables you to use your debit or credit card to make quick and easy payments. We also use School Cash Online to obtain permission for school events. To access the system, click on the "School Cash Online" button on our school website. Parents that do not bank online are always welcome to come into the office to pay for items.

PLEASE NOTE: The usual Welcome Back to School package that contains important forms to complete including a Student Verification Form along with Board forms that must be completed by all families will be completed through School Cash Online this year. We will notify you when the forms will be sent to you through School Cash Online.

. BELL TIMES!!!

Please note that classes have staggered breaks so that there are fewer students on the yard at any one time. Students will have two 40-minute breaks at some point during periods 3-8

Entry: 8:55am

Pd. 1: 8:55-9:15am

Pd. 2: 9:15-9:55am

Pd. 3: 9:55-10:35am

Pd. 4: 10:35-11:15am

Pd. 5: 11:15-11:55am

Pd. 6: 11:55am-12:35pm

Pd. 7: 12:35-1:15pm

Pd. 8: 1:15-1:55pm

Pd. 9: 1:55-2:35pm

Pd. 10: 2:35-3:15pm

Dismissal: 3:15pm



Dressing for the Weather



We will be spending more time outdoors this year with the new Covid-19 protocols so we ask that you send rain boots and a rain jacket with your child(ren).

It is our hope to remain outside as often as possible. This includes starting the day outside, even if it is raining.

Fire Drills / Lockdown

We're committed to maintaining our school as a safe place for your child(ren). To create and maintain a culture of safety, we practice both fire and lockdown procedures several times during the school year. School staff work with students to ensure they understand these procedures and feel comfortable so we can all respond to an unpredictable situation in a predictable way.

Milk

Due to COVID-19, we are unable to offer a milk program at this time.



Pizza (and other lunch) Days



Due to COVID-19, we are not able to offer pizza (or other) lunches.

No Internet?

Most of our communications and money transactions are done online. If you do not have access to internet and require a paper copy of the monthly newsletter, please contact the school and we will arrange paper copies to go home.

Also, we do not want your child to miss out on activities where money is collected through SchoolCashOnline. If you are unable to sign up for SchoolCashOnline, please feel free to pay for items with cash sent to the school. **We ask that no cheques are used for payments.**

Absences / Lates

To help out our secretary, Mrs. King, parents are reminded to call the school prior to 8:40am or use the Safe Arrival app if your son/daughter will be absent or has an appointment first thing in the morning.



Calendar

Check the attached calendar to keep up-to-date on our planned events. A calendar is also included on the school website:



parnall.dsbnet.org

Calling parents/guardians:

Join the Parnall Parent Advisory Council (PAC)

**Attend meetings
Have a voice and a vote
Learn about the school & the board
Support your child's learning & school community**

**First meeting
Monday September 28th
Parnall Library
6:30pm**

**To become a voting member, fill out & return the
Intention Form with this newsletter (also available at the
office), and come to meetings!**

**All parents are welcome to attend any meeting
... come see what we do!**



**PARNALL ADVISORY COUNCIL (PAC)
INTENTION FORM**



Dear Parents/Guardians:

We look forward to establishing our Parnall Advisory Council for 2020-21. We hope to involve those who were with us last year and also those new to the Parnall community. Welcome, all!

Please consider supporting your child's learning and school community by completing the form below and returning it to the Principal or Secretary by **Monday, September 28th**. All nominations will be presented at the first meeting of the PAC. If more than 15 parent/guardian nominations are received, a school-wide election will take place at the second PAC meeting. Once the PAC membership has been decided/elected, executive positions will be elected. The first Parnall Advisory Council meeting will take place on **Monday, September 28th** at 6:30pm in the Library.

Please contact parnallpac@gmail.com with any questions you may have about the PAC!

I have read and understand the PAC Constitution. (available online)

Name: _____

I am the parent/guardian of _____, who attend(s)
Parnall in grade(s) _____.

I am an employee of the District School Board of Niagara: Yes ___ No ___

I am interested in standing for the following position:

Chair* ___ Vice-Chair ___ Secretary ___ Treasurer ___

Voting Member ___ Non-Voting Member ___

*(*The PAC Chair must have been a member for a minimum of one year previously.)*

(Alternate) I would like to nominate _____
for the position of _____. I have confirmed that he/she
is willing to stand for this position.

Signature: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Date: _____