

THINGS TO KNOW

Student Arrival or Leaving During the Day

School begins at 8:40 and ends at 2:35 p.m. No child should be at school before 8:15 a.m. as no teacher is rostered on duty until that time. The school can accept no responsibility for pupils arriving on the site before 8:15 a.m. All pupils should be in school by 8:30 a.m. and ready for Registration at 8:40 a.m. Any student arriving at an irregular time during the school day must register at the office before reporting to class. Any student leaving early must be signed out by an adult at the office. If you are picking up your child, we ask that parents not go to the classroom directly, but please stop by the office and the student will be called down.

Bus Notes

In order to ensure an organized and orderly dismissal at the end of the school day, we ask that if at all possible, parents send in a bus note with the student clearly stating where the child is supposed to go and which bus they are supposed to take. Students MUST BE SIGNED OUT by the parent or designate if they are to be leaving the school for any reason. Students who do not have a written note from the parent or guardian will be sent home on the bus. Students who are travelling on a different bus or are getting off at a different stop must have a note from home stating where they are getting off, the date and a parent's signature. Students are NOT to give the bus notes to the bus driver until they are signed by office personnel. Bus notes should be dropped off at the office so teachers and school staff are aware and to ensure there is room on the bus. (this includes students who are to be picked up by parents)

GOTCHA Draws

Periodically, the school holds a GOTCHA assembly to recognize students who have been caught showing respect for either themselves, others, learning or the environment. This is a great way to encourage students to follow our school expectations and also recognize individual achievements among our staff and

students. Parents are always encouraged to attend.

School Visitors

All parents and visitors to the school, including substitute teachers, maintenance personnel and other school board employees must sign in when entering and leaving the school and must wear proper identification. Our goal is to provide a safe environment and by wearing proper identification and signing in and out, we are better able to monitor who is in the school and why they are here.

Breakfast Program

St. Mary's Education Centre is proud to offer a healthy breakfast five days per week. Monday, Wednesday and Friday, the school offers cereal and a tray program, which consists of fruit, yogurt, milk, granola bars and cheese. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, volunteers from the community come in and prepare a breakfast which can consist of anything from pancakes to cereal, fruit, cheese and yogurt. This program is offered free of charge to all children. We are always looking for volunteers, especially on a Tuesday and Thursday, so if you live close by, please come give us a hand in providing our students with a nutritious start to their school day.

Healthy Lunches/Snacks

The school cafeteria serves healthy lunches and snacks at recess and lunch time. There are also microwaves, which students can use to heat leftovers. We do ask that parents make every possible attempt to send students to school with a healthy lunch and snacks. Students who skip lunch are more likely to have trouble concentrating and getting their work finished.

Services Available

For students who may be struggling at school, we have a number of services available. These services include Speech Language and School Psychology. The individuals who offer these services are assigned to our school certain days in the cycle and they are available to help both teachers and students. They can also do

educational testing and language testing to help us better identify where struggles are happening and make recommendation to improve student learning.

Recess and Lunch Time

Students are expected to be outside during the recess break and at lunch time. They also have the opportunity to play outside before classes start in the morning. These outside times give students a chance to get some fresh air, exercise and interact with their peers. Please make sure your child is appropriately dressed for the weather. In the event that there is heavy rain or extreme cold, students will remain in their classrooms during these times.

Early Dismissal for Inclement weather

Deteriorating conditions shall be monitored by the Operations Department of the Strait Regional School Board in consultation with Principals. Should the situation dictate, a recommendation will be made to the Superintendent of Schools to close a school early and transport the students home while conditions are still safe. A reminder to parents that when buses do not travel on gravel roads because of icy road conditions and parents transport their children to school, then the parents are responsible for picking up the students in the afternoon. Also, if school is cancelled during the day because of weather conditions or other reasons (power failure, no water, etc.) parents should have an alternative place for their child to go in case they are not going to be at home.

No After School Programs will be held if school closes early due to inclement weather.

Clothing

Every year we have a large number of pieces of clothing that are left in the lost and found. At the end of the school year if these pieces are not claimed they are taken to the Opportunity Shop. Please make sure your child's clothes are clearly labeled with their name and if you are in the school take a look at the lost and found.

Library

Students usually have two library periods per cycle. One is available for students to do silent reading and during the other, students have the option to borrow books. These books are stamped with a return date and should be returned by this date. Students are responsible to return books on time in order for other students to enjoy the privilege of borrowing that book. If the book is lost or destroyed, the student is responsible to pay for the book or replace it