

WILDCAT NEWS



50 Taylor Road Yellowknife, NT
X1A3X2. (ph)873-5814,(F) 873-4671

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I trust that this first welcoming Newsletter and the first for the 2021-2022 school year, finds you in good spirits and hopeful for the coming school year. In this newsletter you will find some information on the beginning of the school year and what has happened over the summer. Daily Schedule, First Day Information, Bus and Drop off Routines, Covid-19 Protocols, and Staffing Information to name a few. More information will be sent out in the coming weeks as we all get back into the routine of school.

As you may have heard, we will be continuing to have certain protocols in place that will protect everyone for the school year. There are a few protocols that will remain the same for the beginning of the year, at least. There will be no band instruments played (Wind Instruments) and singing will not be allowed unless conducted outdoors and with distance in mind. Sports that are non contact will be allowed, so I expect that PE classes will be close to normal with reduced student contact. We have added our Culinary Arts Exploratory back this year with added safety protocols in place. Students will be expected to wear face masks when in the common areas of the school but will be able to remove them when they are in their classroom bubbles. You can expect that your child's teacher will be sending home specific details regarding school procedures and expectations for the coming month. I would like to remind you all to adhere to the latest screening tool for daily symptom checks and expectations should a child need to go home for illness. ([Screening Tool](#))



There have been a few things happening at the school over the summer that, once again, made the school appear to have much going on. The underground fuel tank was removed and a new above ground tank will be installed shortly. I am sure that if you have driven by the school during the month on August you saw the huge tank sitting on a trailer. Once it was removed the environmental assessments had to be completed prior to final removal and filling of the hole left behind. The entire school lighting system was upgraded to LED this summer. It looks fantastic and the lighting is much better. This was completed at the beginning of August. Our gym floor was resurfaced as this was not completed last year due to the EJHS move in. Finally, you will see that we have our new Outdoor Classroom setup, complete with round tables and umbrellas. We are positive that the students and the staff will find this area useful during sunny and seasonable days throughout the year.

School will be ready for students on the 30th. Unfortunately, we are not able to take the grade 5's for a pre-tour of the school at the time of this Newsletter as there are classrooms that are still having the floors replaced and the hallways need to be completed. I am sure that they will fit in quickly and get to know their surroundings within a few days. I am positive that we will start the year off on solid footing. The staff are all eagerly awaiting the students and look forward to the year starting on August 30th. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out and I will do the best I can to answer in a timely fashion. Until then, please enjoy the rest of the break and I look forward to connecting with you all in the coming weeks.

Mahsi, Thank-you, Merci

Jeff Seabrook, Principal



ÉWMMS

TIDBITS of INFO

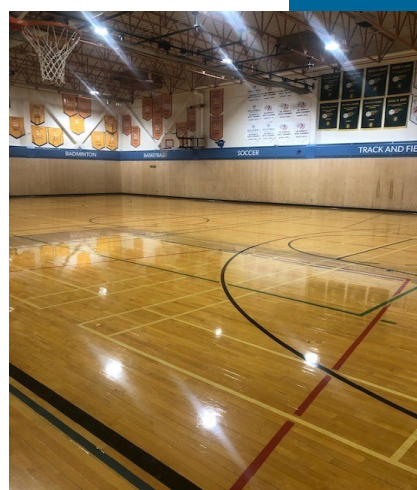
- > STEM-stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math
- > A flea can accelerate faster than a space rocket
- > Did you know that it can be too warm to snow, but never too cold? Bring on the warm!
- > Go Leafs Go!!
- > Ft. Smith recorded the highest temperature in the NWT ever recorded this year, 40.9 degrees.
- > Washing your hands regularly is still a great defence against any illness.
- > Stay Safe Everyone
- > Ms. McDonald(AKA Ms. Paige) is now Ms. Anderson



Fuel Tank removal complete: External tank to be completed next!



Lighting completed and gym floor re-surfaced



Outdoor Classroom ready to go! Go Wildcats!!!!



École William McDonald Middle School Team

Administration

Mr. Jeff Seabrook, Principal

Ms. Heather Jelinski, Assistant Principal

Ms. Liz West, Administrative Assistant

Homeroom Teachers

Ms. Paige Anderson/McDonald, 6 English – Rm 103

M. Olivier Fortin, 6/7 French Immersion – Rm 104

Ms. Maude Frosst, 6 Intensive French – Rm 106

Ms. Kamey Fenwick, 7 English – Rm 101

Mme Elise Cockburn, 6 French Immersion – Rm 209

Mr. Scott Green, 7 Post-Intensive French – Rm 105

Mr. Tyler Craig, 6/7 English – Rm 102

Mme Marie-Eve Raymond, 7 Immersion – Rm 108

Specialty Teachers

Mr. Darren Wicks, PE and Industrial Arts

Ms. Anne Mobach

Mr. Matthew Sinclair, Grade 7 Math and Outdoor Education

Ms. Angela Gagnon

Ms. Kristan McQuat, Program Support Teacher

Mme. Josiane Bousquet

Ms. Katey Simmons, Program Support Teacher

Ms. Heather Jelinski, ELA, PE

Educational Assistants

First Day of School—August 30th

All grade 6 and 7 students will be directed to the baseball field between 8:00-8:30 (Weather permitting). Should the weather not cooperate we will move this indoors and proceed directly to classrooms.

Students will find their Homeroom Teacher, with the help of school staff. At 8:30, as a class bubble, they will then proceed into the school through the designated community access door and go directly to their assigned room. This should be easy for our grade 7's and for the grade 6 students our whole school is on the lower level with rooms numbered 101-108. The Artroom is Rm 108! There is one exception this year and that is the Grade 6 French Immersion class will be in Rm 209.

Visitors

Our current 'no visitors' policy will limit the number of people in the building. However, if a visit has been pre-approved (only likely in the event of an emergency or special circumstances), visitors must also be symptom-free, wear a mask and not be currently in self isolation.

Expectations for Non-Medical masks

Masks are required whenever in common areas of the school (hallways, washrooms, and when entering or exiting the school). The expectation applies to all students and staff. Visitors are only permitted with prior notice and only in the event of emergency. Any visitor to the school will also be expected to set an example for our students by following our mask expectation. Students will be encouraged to respect social distancing as much as possible at all times. Whenever this cannot be achieved, students will be expected to wear masks, including within their classrooms if it becomes required. We will encourage students to wear their own masks as long as they meet the requirements for our dress code and are appropriate.

Student/Staff Health Screening

We will be providing further health screening as part of the regular morning routine. All late arrivals, regardless of grade, enter through the school's main doors. Students arriving late MUST report to the main Office. We expect that parents will provide Daily Screening for Symptoms of COVID Prior to the start of school. ([Screening Tool](#)) We ask that you use it daily in order to ensure that your children are healthy and can attend school. As part of the normal routine first thing in the morning, the teachers will also conduct screening of the students in their classrooms. Working in partnership with the school, parents and staff can keep themselves, community members and students safe. In addition to screening of students, all staff will be screened upon arrival at work in the morning to ensure that they are also ready for the workday.

Daily Schedule:

8:20—Entrance Bell

P.1 - 8:30-9:10

P.2 - 9:10-9:50

Break—9:50-10:05

P.3 - 10:05-10:45

P.4 - 10:45-11:25

Activity - 11:25— 11:55

Lunch - 11:55-12:25

P.5 - 12:25—1:05

P.6 - 1:05—1:45

Break - 1:45 - 2:00

P.7 - 2:00 - 2:40

P.8 - 2:40 - 3:20

Dismissal - 3:20



Buses/Parking/Dropoff-Pick up Routine

For those of you returning, you will undoubtedly feel some anxiety about our drop off area until we get settled into our routine. For those of you that are new to us, I have provided a brief description and Map of how our drop off lanes do work. We kindly ask that you follow the drop off expectations. For our school, the drop off is usually as simple as it sounds, but for the smaller ÉJHS students it often requires a parent to escort their child to the portables or onto the school grounds. There are designated parking spots for this and we kindly ask that you refrain from using those unless you are required to enter into the school for a pre-approved appointment. Please be kind and patient to all drivers as it will take a few weeks to get settled into a routine that worked well last year. The secondary drop off also has parking on the far left while the middle lane is for through traffic. This was changed last year to support parents who needed to park and exit their vehicle. The right lanes for both drop off areas are for drop off only- NO PARKING)

Daily Schedule:

8:20—Entrance Bell

P.1 - 8:30-9:10

P.2 - 9:10-9:50

Break—9:50-10:05

P.3 - 10:05-10:45

P.4 - 10:45-11:25

Activity - 11:25— 11:55

Lunch - 11:55-12:25

P.5 - 12:25—1:05

P.6 - 1:05—1:45

Break - 1:45 - 2:00

P.7 - 2:00 - 2:40

P.8 - 2:40 - 3:20

Dismissal - 3:20



A reminder that the traffic lanes are 1 way only and there is only one entrance onto the school property. We often have traffic go the wrong way to our parking lot. Please ensure that you follow the traffic flow for all persons safety.

Parent Advisory Council

Interested in being a part of the PAC? Our first meeting will be Wednesday September 15th at 7pm. Please stay tuned for further information coming in September

