



West St. Paul School

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David Ingram – Principal

Tanya Kohut – Vice Principal

Dear Parents,

Thursday, October 29, 2020

Earlier this week, Superintendent Brian O’Leary sent an email to all parents and guardians regarding additional safety measures put in place for schools by our Chief Provincial Health Officer Dr. Roussin. Dr. Roussin has stated many times that schools are safe places for children and we know children learn best when they are in their classroom with a classroom teacher. Based on Dr. Roussin’s recommendations, we have paused all field trips, singing in music and playing band instruments. Teachers are continuing to take the learning of students outdoors whenever possible and music and band programming has changed from singing and wind instruments to learning skills to play rhythm instruments, fiddle and guitar.

We continue to take additional measures to make our school as safe as we can for everyone. Our school has been working on moving excess furniture out of classes to better space students by two meters or more to the greatest extent possible. Staff who work in multiple cohorts will now be wearing medical grade masks. We are hiring more support personnel. We are repurposing all free spaces in the school to create more classrooms with fewer students. We will be adding three more teachers and classrooms: a kindergarten class in room 18, a grade 1/2 class in the music room and in grade 3/4 class in the library. Students who will be changing classes will be contacted by the school. The music teaching will temporarily be relocated to a larger space in Red River Hall. With our school adding five new classrooms this year, our students are well-spaced out and the school is not offering remote learning to students.

We continue to teach kids the fundamentals of staying safe: stay two meters apart, wash and sanitize your hands frequently, wear a mask, stay within your cohort to reduce contacts, use only your assigned doorway, and stay home if you are not well. The school continues to rely on two evening and two day custodians to sanitize and keep the school clean.

Halloween is quickly approaching. Students are encouraged to come to school wearing their Halloween costume on Friday. Please incorporate a mask in all costumes this year. Children will not be able to change into a costume at school. Weather permitting, some classes will be going to the Middlechurch Home of Winnipeg to parade outside the windows to entertain the residents. All kids will have a chance to parade around the outside of school to share their costumes as well. Please do not send any treats to school for sharing. The school has already bagged some small treats and will be sending the bag home with all kids on Friday.

We appreciate that families have been keeping symptomatic children at home and that if a child shows symptoms at school, there is a plan in place to pick the child up immediately. Together we will continue to work to keep our students, staff and community well.

David Ingram
Administrators

Tanya Kohut