

WELCOME BACK!

September 1, 2022 (Updated memo)

Dear Parents/Guardians:

We are delighted to welcome back students and staff for another learning-filled school year. We hope that you have had a safe, restful, and enjoyable summer. Over the summer our talented and conscientious building facilities team have been hard at work preparing our schools for your return. Many schools have seen enhancements including improved ventilation, new modern furniture, installation of outdoor classrooms, significant progress toward our goal of a 2 to 1 device ratio (iPads, Chromebooks & laptops) which will be attained this fall, improved WIFI, and many other upgrades. We are very proud of our facilities and continuously strive to provide safe, clean, and inviting school environments.

Before we begin school next week, we would like to share a few reminders and helpful items:

**Isolation Period:** Effective August 31, the Ministry of Health, based on evolving epidemiology and evidence for COVID-19, as well as considerations for other respiratory and gastrointestinal illness that are likely to circulate over the coming months has updated the screening tool, [School and Child Care Screening Tool](#) and revised the guidelines, [Management of Cases and Contacts of COVID-19 in Ontario](#). The mandatory isolation period has been removed. Although a specified self-isolation period is no longer required, to prevent community transmission, anyone who is feeling sick or has any new or worsening symptoms of illness, should stay home until their symptoms are improving for at least 24 hours (or 48 hours for nausea, vomiting, and/or diarrhea) and they do not have a fever. It is also strongly recommended that anyone who has COVID-19 symptoms, or a positive rapid antigen test wear a well-fitted mask in all public settings (including school sites) for a total of 10 days after the date of the symptom onset or positive test result.

**Masking:** At this time, students and staff have the option to wear face masks. Masks are available at the school should they be desired. We promote a school environment where the choice to wear or not wear a mask is respected.

**Hand Hygiene:** Hand hygiene continues to be encouraged. School staff will work with students to reinforce the strong habits that ensure a safe learning environment and posters will continue to be placed throughout our schools.

**Daily Screening:** We are asking that you please continue to complete the [School and Child Care Screening Tool](#) daily before attending school and to follow the instructions on the screener. As we continue to strive to ensure our schools are safe, we ask your cooperation in making this practice, your routine.

**Testing:** Rapid antigen tests continue to be available for students and staff at the school.

**Ventilation:** We are pleased to announce that we have installed a HEPA filter in every classroom and that all mechanical ventilation systems have been inspected and are in good working order.


**Cleaning:** Facilities Staff will continue with a high standard of daily cleaning and enhanced cleaning of all high touch areas such as light switches, door handles and desktops.

We are very grateful for your continued support and for selecting Sudbury Catholic as your school board of choice. Our staff is eagerly awaiting the return of our students and looks forward to another successful school year within our faith based, innovative learning community. We look forward to seeing you once again soon and wish you many blessings.

Sincerely,



Michael Bellmore  
Chair of the Board



Joanne Bérard  
Director of Education