

September 2020

St. Mark Catholic School

420 McAuley Rd., Prescott, ON K0E 1T0
<http://stmark.cdsbeo.on.ca> Tel: 613-925-4342



Dear St. Mark Students, Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to the 2020-2021 School Year! This year will be like no other. There are so many changes, but I am confident that we will get through this. Our staff has been busy training and preparing for your child's return. Our main goal is to keep your child safe and secure. We will be following all safety recommendations from the Chief Medical Officers of Lanark, Leeds and Grenville and Eastern Ontario. Although the school will look differently, we will continue to work hard to make this year enjoyable.

Traditionally, your child would be coming home with a lot of information, forms and material during the first weeks of school, however, this will be done electronically. Please check your email, school website and Facebook for communication from the school. Always communicate with the teacher first if you have any concerns or questions about our child(ren)'s progress.

Wishing you a successful school year!

Mrs. K. Elliott

CHANGES DUE TO COVID

1. **Visitors** – At this time, parents and volunteers will not be permitted to enter the school.
2. **Drop Off** – Please drop off your child at 9:30 at the west gate. If they are later than 9:40, proceed to the front door, buzz and a staff member will meet them at the door.
3. **Pick Up** – Please pick up your child at the west gate at 3:50. If you are picking up your child early, please proceed to front door and ring the bell. A staff member will bring your child to the door. Please be aware this may take some time as there could be multiple students. It's best to use the regular dismissal time.
4. **Parking** - Please use the parking lot or the street. Do not use the fire route or bus lane in the front of the school.

Upcoming Events

September 8

First day of school JK/SK

September 9

First day of school grades 1-3

September 10

First day of school grades 4 -8

Important

SCHOOL START CHANGES

Our school day will now begin at 9:30 and end at 3:50

Due to COVID measures before school recess will look different. Please drop your child off at 9:30 at the west gate. They will line up and enter with their teacher.

Dismissal is at 3:50 If you need to pick up your child before then, please call the office BEFORE 2:30.

Please make sure to call the school if your child will be absent or late. You can leave a message before the start of the school day.

5. **Back Gate** – Please note at this time, the back gate will be locked and not accessible.
6. **COVID Assessment** – Please complete the COVID parent screening tool each morning for each child. There is no need to report to the school unless you are keeping your child at home. <http://bit.ly/ParentAssessmentTools>
7. **Recess** – In order to help with social distancing, our yard will be split into zones. Each class will have a zone to play in. The recess will be staggered, ensuring that only half the school is out at one time. NOTE: Kindergarten is on a separate yard and schedule and will be staggered as well. The play structure is in a zone; therefore, the students will have access to it. They must clean their hands before and after use. It will not be cleaned each day.
8. **Leaving at Lunch** - At this time, students will not be permitted to leave the property for lunch, even with a note until further notice.
9. **Lost and Found** - There will not be a lost and found, please label all of your child's belongings.

WHAT TO BRING – This is a general list. Classroom teachers may have other items. Students cannot share supplies so the school will be providing items such as, pencils, crayons, markers, notebooks, glue, scissors etc.

➤ indoor and outdoor shoes

A backpack containing:

➤ Snacks (nut-free)

➤ All required utensils for lunches and snacks

➤ Hearty lunch (nut-free) that your child can open/manage independently; no microwaves will be available.

➤ A full water bottle or personal refillable bottle (water fountains will not be available for drinking; personal bottles can be refilled at our bottle filling stations)

➤ A personal computer or iPad (if one is available at home for use at school) (optional)

➤ Hand wipes (optional)

➤ Students in Grades 4 to 8 will be required to wear non-medical or cloth masks indoors in school and during classes. Students can bring their own mask or one will be provided by the school.

All these items will return home at the end of the day (except for indoor shoes) with your child and must be cleaned at home. Students will not be permitted to share any learning tools or items while at school. All learning materials must be kept at the student's workspace.

Communication with Teachers

All teachers will communicate through TEAMS. This is where you will find out what is happening in the classroom. You can contact the teacher here as well. The students in grades 1 – 6 will receive an agenda; we will not be using it the traditional way. Please do not send notes to the teacher this way. Our agendas were ordered long before these new procedures. Please ensure that the school has an up-to-date email address and phone number for both parents/guardians.



Visit our website

All school events, forms and news are posted on our website <http://stmark.cdsbeo.on.ca/> Make sure to visit the website often, so you stay informed!

Breakfast Program

Please note that school breakfast program will be modified (will include only prepackaged food) to meet new health and safety requirements, and this will begin at a later date TBD. If you can ensure your child has had breakfast before arriving to school, we strongly recommend that you do so. Food can only be consumed in their classroom and at their assigned desk/table. Food cannot be shared at any time.

No nut products

A reminder – Please do not send any products with nuts (peanuts, tree nuts, including sesame seeds) to school for snacks or lunches.

St. Mark Catholic School Council

Consider joining the St. Mark Catholic School Council. More information will follow. These meetings will be virtual.

School Mass

Due to the COVID restrictions, large group gatherings will not occur at this time. We will celebrate liturgies in class.

Vulnerable Sector Check

If you would like to volunteer at school or would like to attend a classroom field trip, you **MUST** provide the school with a Vulnerable Sector Check, which is valid for a period of 1 calendar year. There is no fee. Please contact the school to obtain a letter requesting a Police Check. **Please note: We are unable to accept volunteers at this time. However, having the check done in advance is a good idea.**

Important

Don't forget cutlery!

Remember to pack a spoon and/or fork in your child's lunch. The school does not carry any cutlery.

Go GREEN and pack reusable cutlery!

Meet the Staff

Ms. Scott – JK/SK Ms. Hope - ECE	Mrs. Moulton – JK/SK Mrs. Minish – ECE	Mrs. Lee – JK/SK Ms. Dixon - ECE	Ms. Rowan – Gr. 1 & 2
Mme McCabe – Gr. 1 & 2 Imm.	Mrs. Lapointe – Gr. 1/2 Core	Mrs. Tisdelle – Gr. 2 & 3	Mr. Decoste – Gr. 2 & 3 Imm.
Mrs. Garlough – Gr. 3/4 & 4/5	Mme. Lepies – Gr. 3/4 Imm & 4/5 Imm	Mrs. Goulet – Gr. 3/4	Mrs. Coligan – 5/6
Mr. Veltkamp – Gr. 6	Mrs. Laton – Gr. 7/8	Mr. Kelly – Gr. 8	Mrs. Morrow – SERT
Mrs. Gill – SERT	Ms. McDonald – SERT	Mme. Oosterhof – Gr. 6 Imm. & French	Mme Walker – French
Ms. Leonard – EA	Mrs. Ruigrok – EA	Mr. Harrison – EA	Mrs. Broniszeski – EA
Ms. Norton – Secretary	Ms. Blackburn – Secretary	Ms. Reid – Custodian	Mr. Cousineau – Custodian
Mrs. Perrin – Lunch Monitor	Mr. Perrin - Lunch Monitor	Ms. Perrin - Lunch Monitor	Mrs. Zahn – Lunch Monitor
Mrs. Wilson – Lunch Monitor	Mrs. Reid – SSW	Mrs. Leach – Vice- Principal	Mrs. Elliott - Principal



**Student drop off will be at 9:30
and pick up will be at 3:50, at the
west gate.**

**Please ensure 2 metre distancing
on school property.**

