



PARENT UPDATE #3: SEPTEMBER 20-24

“A kind word or a smile is often enough to put fresh life into another’s soul.” —Saint Therese of Lisieux

Thank you for a great start-up to the 2021 school year. Please continue to wear your masks at drop-off and pick up time, when on school property.

Curriculum Night

Our annual Curriculum Night will be held this year on Thursday September 23, 2021 at 6:30pm. Please save the date!! Further information and links to join the virtual sessions will be emailed next week from your child’s classroom teacher.

Welcome Video

Please take a moment to view the staff video that we created introducing the staff of Our Lady of Fatima for the 2021-2022 school year: [OLF Welcome Back 2021](#)

Daily Screening for COVID-19 Symptoms

A reminder that Self-screening **must** be completed **each** day before a student attends school by using the [Ontario School and Child Care Screening Tool](#). If a student does not pass the self-screening, they are to remain home and follow the direction given on the screening tool. To ensure the safety of all students and staff, students are not permitted to enter the school building until the self-screening has been completed.

Arriving on time / Scheduling Appointments.

School begins at 8:20am. The doors are open for students to enter beginning at 8:05am. It is very important that we are establishing good routines with our students and children, by ensuring that they arrive on time each day. Please consider walking your child to school to avoid the busy parking lots in the morning and afternoon. It is also highly recommended, whenever possible, to schedule appointments outside of the regular school day. This will allow your child to avoid missing instructional time and valuable learning that teachers have prepared for them each day.

Office Drop offs and Healthy Lunches

Please send your child each day with their healthy lunch and water bottle when you drop them off in the morning. We want to avoid disruptions to the class and student learning, so we ask that you avoid dropping materials off at the office.

We kindly remind all parents that we cannot accept McDonalds or other restaurant food drop-offs at school as they cannot guarantee their items to be Nut and Allergen Free. As part of the HCDSB Return to School plan for 2021-2022, we continue to maintain a safe and healthy school environment, so we ask for your partnership, by ensuring they are packed each morning with all they need, so they can enjoy a healthy and nutritious lunch/snack each day.

We will be returning to the Lunch Program this school year in the upcoming months. Please stay tuned for more information as to when we will begin these offerings.

Student Verification forms

Please complete your child's student verification forms if you haven't already done so. An email was sent home with the link during the first week of school.

Health and Safety on School Premises

We remind all families of our measures to keep everyone at OLF safe at all times:

- All adults accessing the school wear a non-medical mask when distancing cannot be maintained (ie. drop off and pick up times)
- Parents/guardians are **not** permitted access to the school yard during drop off or pick up.
- Do not leave your vehicle when using the Kiss and Ride
- Do not congregate at drop off/pick up locations around the school

Kiss N Ride expectations

Please do not get out of your car when dropping off your child in the Kiss N Ride lanes. This is reserved for those who are dropping their child off without parking their vehicle. This will ensure we do not create a backlog of traffic in this lane and those who need to drop off and go quickly can do so. Please pull all the way to the front of the Kiss N Ride lane if space permits. Please do not stop on the curve of the parking lot to drop off children, and be aware of children walking on the sidewalk near the gate to the pavement.

Medical Update

Many families at Our Lady of Fatima were sent an email on **Thursday September 2** regarding students with medical conditions.

- Please complete and send back the medical documentation paperwork that was sent to you in June.
- If there is any changes from last year, please make those adjustments on the paperwork and drop it off to the main office so we can make the appropriate adjustments in our system.
- If there are no changes please sign and send back the paperwork and we will keep this on file.
- If your child requires medication to be kept at school such as an epipen or inhaler, please place in a zip lock bag with your child's first and last name. Please bring medication to Our Lady of Fatima on Monday September 20th.
- If you are new to the school and your child has a medical condition, and you have not completed the documentation, please email shannonja@hcdsb.org with the child's name, teacher and information and the Vice Principal Mr. Shannon will be in touch with you.

Virtual family paint night in recognition of Orange Shirt Day.

The online session will be hosted by Indigenous Artist, Moses Lunham, who will provide step-by-step instructions on how to create the painting at home. No prior artistic experience is necessary to get involved. However, those interested in participating can prepare for the art session by collecting the following [art supplies](#).

Date: Wednesday, September 22, 2021

Time: 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

A link to the live event will be available on the scheduled time and day of the presentation on the [Grandmother's Voice YouTube Channel](#).

For more information, visit the [HCDSB website](#).

Roots of Empathy

Please see the attached poster regarding our Roots of Empathy program being offered this year at Our Lady of Fatima.

Save the Evidence

Please see the attached document with information regarding the “Save the Evidence” campaign which is a campaign to raise awareness and support for the restoration of the former Mohawk Institute Residential School and to reopen the building as an Interpretation Centre and a Site of Conscience.

St. Kateri Tekakwitha Catholic Secondary School

The Virtual Grade 8 information night for Secondary School will take place on **Wednesday, November 3** in the evening. Details are being confirmed by the Administration at the school, but when details become available they will place it on their website:

<https://secondary.hcdsb.org/stkateri>

UPCOMING DATES:

September 23 – Opening School Liturgy 9:00am

September 23 – Curriculum Night 6:30pm

September 27 – Terry Fox Walk

September 29 – Rowan’s Law awareness day

September 30 – National Day of Truth and Reconciliation / Orange Shirt Day

September 30 – Golden Ticket Monthly Celebration