

*Gratitude is not only the greatest of virtues, but the parent of all the others.*

*Marcus Tullius Cicero*

## **Thank You**

A big thank you to our St. Matthew parents, students, and staff for working together to ensure a safe start to our school year. We had a wonderful first full week back! We appreciate your understanding and cooperation with all the new protocols that are in place. It is wonderful to see that so many parents have had the opportunity to walk their children to and from school. Thank you for continuing to model the importance of mask wearing to the students, especially when they arrive at school and leave at dismissal.

## **New COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool**

The Ontario government has released a new online screening tool for schools – <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>. It is extremely important that parents do this self-screening test with their children BEFORE they come to school each day. Staff are also required to do this assessment daily before coming to work. Let's all do our part to ensure the safety of all!

## **Family Information Packages**

Family Information/Consent Forms and Verification information have been sent home with students. Please complete and return the Family Information and Consent Form to the school as soon as possible.

## **Kiss and Ride**

Together with our St. Matthew School Return to School Committee we have decided we are unable to provide a safe Kiss and Ride Program at the south entrance of the school. Parents have been very supportive with walking their children up to the playground by parking at St. Matthew Church or using the path and trails around the school. We will continue to encourage this in the interest of safety for all. On rainy days, please ensure the children come to school prepared for the weather. The students will go directly into the school through their assigned classroom entry doors.

## **Curriculum Night**

Our Curriculum Night will be held virtually on Thursday, September 24<sup>th</sup> from 7 – 8 p.m. Parents will receive a meeting invitation from the classroom teacher. Two meeting times will be available for parents at 7:00 p.m. and 7:35 p.m.

Wishing everyone a wonderful start to new school week.

N. Dinolfo and M. Simon