



The Black River Bear Weekly



Vol.1.2 September 14th- 18th, 2020

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Belonging, Learning & Growing...

As we welcomed small groups of students back this week our staff have taken the opportunity to review our new safety protocols and routines with students and share some of the new ways we can show kindness, care and respect for each other. Now more than ever, we need to help our students better understand the ways we can all work together to ensure our school is a place where everyone feels safe, everyone belongs and everyone is able to learn and grow. Who would have thought that one of the best ways we can show others that we care is by keeping our distance from each other!

We appreciate that, for all our families, the decision to send children back to school was a tough one; perhaps- for many parents- one of the hardest decisions they have ever made as a parent. As was stressed last week, we will do our best to keep all of our students safe and help them follow the safety routines we have put into place. We also know that having their children return to school has given the adults the opportunity to return to work, take care of their responsibilities and has given the children a chance to have some degree of their childhood back! Now, more than ever we see the important role that our public schools play in our society.

As I walked about the school the past two days I could sense the feelings of excitement, tempered with anxiety and a degree of relief that we were back. I can also note that even with our masks on, the human connections and relationships that define our school are still here. As a student shared with me on Thursday, "Mr. Harrison, even though we all have masks on we can still see each other smiles!" Now that's what I call a positive outlook- it was the best thing I heard all week!

Next week we will build up to our full student population (by Wednesday) and work hard to ensure that the calm, positive and safe start we had this week is sustained. We thank you for your support, your trust and for sharing your wonderful children with us again!

Brian Harrison

The Week Ahead...

Mon. Sept. 14th Day 5	School for students in SK only and JK -Gr.8 students in Group A
Tues. Sept. 15th Day 1	School for students in SK only and JK -Gr.8 students in Group B
Wed. Sept. 16th Day 2	School for all students
Thurs. Sept. 17th Day 3	
Fri. Sept. 18th Day 4	

Quick Hits...

Transportation...families of students who access bus transportation are reminded that bus routes and pick up times are often adjusted from school year to year (and sometimes, even within a school year). We do our best to keep parents updated at our end but do want to stress the importance of checking the [School Busy City](#) website to ensure that they have the most accurate stop location and pick up/drop off times. We also suggest that students be at the pick up location 5 minutes before the scheduled pick up time.

School Access...it has been wonderful to welcome back our families and we are happy that we have so many of our students back at school! We want to pass along a friendly reminder that; even though we appreciate our parents, we are unable to allow them to access the school building. If you do need to pick up your child, you may call ahead and we can have them ready for pick up; or use our door buzzer system to let us know you are here and we will send them out to you.

Lunch Routines...this week we reviewed our lunch routine with all students and want to stress that, due to health and safety concerns, students will not be permitted to leave school premises for lunch and parents will not be able to drop lunches off for students. We do have a limited selection of pre-packaged snack items to offer students who do not have a lunch; but do want to stress the importance of ensuring that each child leaves for school with their lunch and snacks each day.

September @ Black River Public School

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	August 31	1 PA Day	2 PA Day	3 PA Day	4	5
6	7 Labour Day	8 Day 1 No classes for students	9 Day 2 No classes for students	10 Day 3 School for students in SK and Group A (Gr.1-8)	11 Day 4 School for students in SK and Group B (Gr.1-8)	12
13	14 Day 5 School for students in SK and Group A (JK- Gr.8)	15 Day 1 School for students in SK and Group B (JK-Gr.8)	16 Day 2 School for all students	17 Day 3	18 Day 4	19 Rosh Hashanah
20 Rosh Hashanah	21 Day 5	22 Day 1	23 Day 2	24 Day 3	25 Day 4	26
27	28 Day 5 Yom Kippur	29 Day 1	30 Day 2	Oct. 1 Day 3	Oct. 2 Day 4	Oct. 3

Please remember to check our school [website](#) calendar for current updates and information.