



First Day of School - Information for Elder's Mills Families

WELCOME to our NEW & RETURNING Families!!!

We are looking forward to seeing you all on Wednesday, September 7th and hope that you are too! We have been working hard to ensure a safe, smooth return to learning and to our building for all!

Please continue reading for information to support the first day of school arrival, dismissal and other routines and expectations.



Teacher and Class:

On September 7th, when you arrive at school, teachers will greet students outside in our school yard. Teachers will have class lists and will assist students (and parents) in finding their classes. Please see below for details.

Arriving on the first day - Where to go:

- Students should not arrive prior to 8:30.
- Staff supervision begins at 8:30.
- When students arrive at school on the first day, they will go to their designated area to meet their homeroom teacher. See the list below for your grade and meeting spot.
 - If it is raining, students will enter the building at the designated doors. Staff will be available to direct students once inside. Adults are not permitted to enter the building.
- At 8:45, the entry bell will ring and teachers will escort their students into the building and to their classes.

| Grade | Area in the Yard | Area if raining (parents are not permitted to enter the building) |
|-------|---|---|
| 2 | Along the paved area at the back of the school | In the gym |
| 3 | Along the paved area at the back of the school - in front of the portables | Enter using the South door and meet in the library |
| 4 | Along the paved area at the back of the school | Enter using the South East door and line up in the hall by classrooms 110 - 113 |
| 5 | Along the paved area at the back of the school | Enter using the South East door, proceed upstairs and line up in the hall by classrooms 221 - 224 |
| 6 | Along the paved area at the back of the school | Enter using the South West door, proceed upstairs and line up in the hall by classrooms 202 - 209 |
| 7 | Along the side of the building (to the East between the tarmac and the grass) | Enter using the North East door, proceed upstairs and line up in the hall by classrooms 210 - 217 |
| 8 | | |

HOW DO YOU GET TO AND FROM SCHOOL AND WHAT TO DO:

BUS: Bus students will be dropped off in the bus loop and directed to the back of the school for entry with their teacher to their classroom.



If your child is eligible for bussing, it is best to put them on the bus right from the first day. Visit <http://net.schoolbuscity.com/> for information on your bus stop location, pickup and drop off times. This information will be available this week. Check regularly for updates. It is recommended that you arrive at your assigned stop 10 minutes early. Please be patient in the first few weeks as it may take longer than usual for the bus to arrive as drivers become

familiar with their riders and their routes. Please direct any requests or concerns regarding bussing to the school email: elders.mills.ps@yrdsb.ca.



Elder's Mills Public School

Soaring on Wings of Character, Community and Diversity

120 Napa Valley Avenue, Woodbridge, ON L4H 1L1

Phone: 905-893-1631; 647-795-7705

Email: elders.mills.ps@yrdsb.ca Twitter [@EldersMills](https://twitter.com/EldersMills)



DRIVE to school by parent/caregiver:

There is no parking for families in the staff parking area during morning drop off and afternoon dismissal times. Families who are driving their children to school will use the Kiss 'n' Ride (enter and exit on Rota Ave) to drop off their children. This is a single lane entry. Students will disembark from the car and staff will support them to the schoolyard. **Please do not leave your vehicle unattended** in the Kiss 'n' Ride. We ask for your cooperation with this to ensure a smooth start to the school day. Please follow road signs and staff directions.

END OF DAY DISMISSAL - COMMUNICATION

Please let the school know how your child will be getting home by completing the form shared here and submitting it by **Friday, August 2nd 12:00 noon.**

CLICK HERE: [Dismissal Routine for My Child](#)

The information gathered will be shared with office staff and your child's classroom teacher to support a safe, smooth end of day routine.

Bussed students will be dismissed to their bus lines. Please emphasize to your child the importance of lining up at their designated bus line during dismissal. This will avoid them missing their bus and having to wait for a parent/guardian to come and pick them up.

Students who get **picked up and driven home** from school will gather in the fenced in area by the Kiss n Ride. Please do not park in the Kiss'n Ride lane and do not leave your vehicle unattended. Staff will be on duty in this area to support student dismissal.

LATE ARRIVAL TO SCHOOL:

You are considered late for school if you arrive after 8:45 a.m. If you are late for school, bring your child to the doors at the main entrance. Buzz the office and a staff member will sign-in your child.

WHAT TO BRING TO SCHOOL:

1. Backpack:

- a. One that is easy to carry and to open (no wheeled bags).
- b. Avoid hanging toys and other items from the backpack.

2. Snack and Lunch:

- a. Easy to open containers
- b. Boomerang snack and lunch - all waste returns home
- c. Ensure your child has enough snacks, food and drink for the day



3. Change of clothes:

- a. Especially for younger students
- b. Recommended to put in a large resealable bag with child's name
- c. Clearly labeled and that can be left at school

4. Refillable water bottle - clearly labeled with child's name.

5. Be prepared for outdoor activities throughout the day:

- a. Dress appropriately for the weather

6. School supplies: If you wish to provide your child's own school supplies (ex. a sturdy pencil case or box, crayons, pencils, erasers, markers or pencil crayons) please understand these are for your own child's use. The school will provide materials needed for daily instructional purposes. Please label everything.

7. Personal items:

- a. **DO NOT** send your child to school with personal items, such as toys and games from home (Poppits, trading cards etc...).
- b. **Mobile phones are discouraged and are not allowed to be used during the instructional day.** At a minimum, cell phones and other personal communication devices **must be turned off and kept out of sight during the instructional day (including recess and lunch).** Should students need to phone home, they may come to the office to use the phone.
 - Please review [YRDSB's Information Technology Acceptable Use Agreement linked here](#).
 - This information will be repeated in the forms requiring parent and student signatures found in the School Start-Up Package that will be sent home next week.



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MEDICATION AND HEALTH NEEDS:



Please provide the office with your child's medication from the first day of school. You may drop off the medication after morning arrival, by ringing the front bell and office staff will greet you to retrieve your child's medication.

If you have not already done so, please download any required medical forms and email the completed forms to Elder's Mills PS <elders.mills.ps@yrdsb.ca>

- [Anaphylaxis Health Care Plan](#)
- [Asthma Health Care Plan](#)
- [Diabetes Health Care Plan](#)
- [Epilepsy Seizure Disorder Health Care Plan](#)
- [Staff Administration of Medication](#)
- [Self-Administration of Medication](#)

For students who are anaphylactic, please send your child to school with 2 epi-pens. One will be kept in the office and the other will remain with your child throughout the school day.

Covid-19 screening and masking:

Staff and students should continue to self-screen every day before attending school using the [COVID-19 School and Child-Care Screening Tool](#).

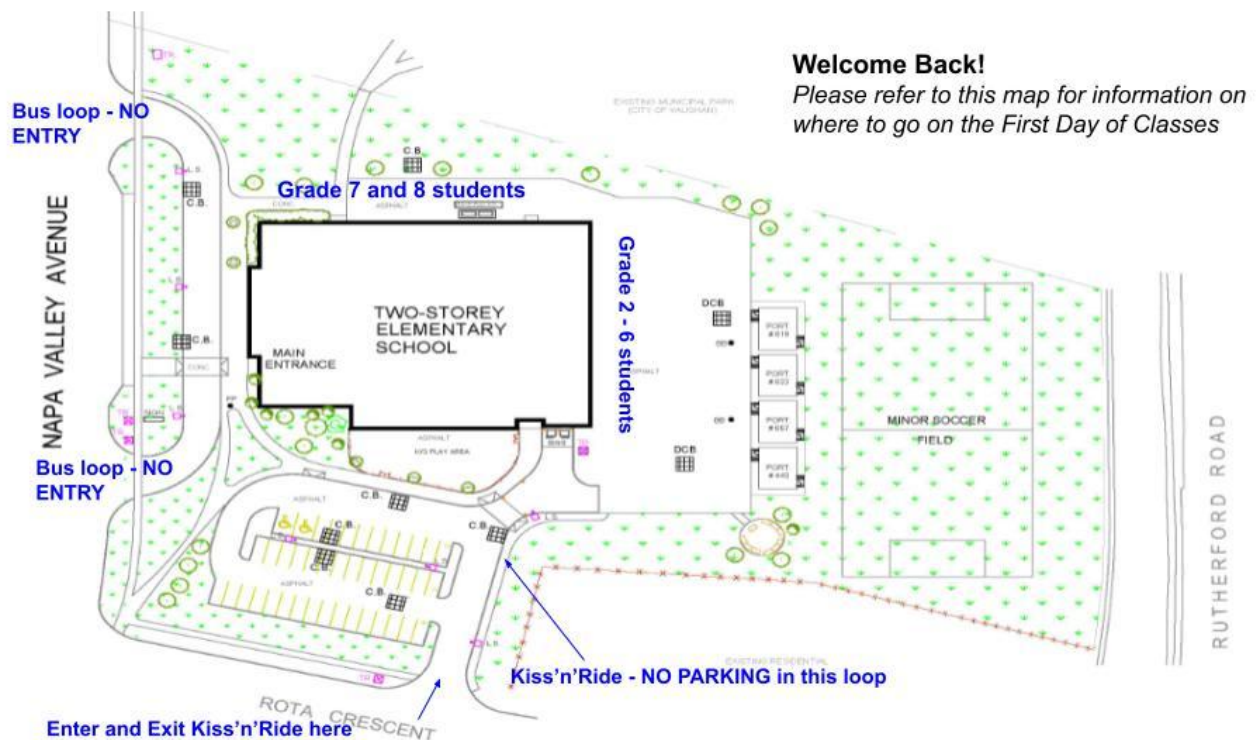
Mask use is optional, except in circumstances outlined in the Covid-19 School and Child-Care Screening Tool. We know that many students may choose to continue to wear their own personal masks and expect that families provide their children with a supply of masks to use.

Individual choices regarding masking will be respected. As a school community we will continue to promote a respectful, welcoming and inclusive environment.

Please refer to YRDSB's webpage; [Health and Safety](#) for further information.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

- Please visit this link on our website: [EMPS Welcome Newsletter](#). This information was shared with new and returning families in June. It contains details about our school hours, Safe Arrival & Attendance and other items to support a smooth start to this school year.
- Expect to receive the School Start-Up Package between September 7 - 9. Please review, sign and submit the forms in this package as soon as possible after receiving them.



On behalf of all staff at Elder's Mills PS, we look forward to seeing you on September 7th!

Eugenia Korinis

Principal

Omari White

Vice-Principal