

LeBlanc, Amanda

From: LeBlanc, Amanda
Sent: Monday, August 26, 2019 6:05 PM
Subject: Welcome back to school

Hello Maple Leaf families. It is that time of the summer when the weather starts to change becoming cooler in the morning and at night, and the days aren't quite as long as they were at the start of the summer break. This is one of the signs that it's time for your children to come back to us! We are excited to have our students return next week on Tuesday, September 3rd.

This message is brief. We needed to communicate a few items prior to the first day of school.

Firstly, it is with mixed emotions that I share the promotion of Mrs. Linnet Richmond. Mrs. Richmond served our Maple Leaf PS community for the last 2 years as Vice-Principal. Her hard work and skill has earned her a promotion to the position of Principal at Hartman PS. Many of you have partnered closely with Mrs. Richmond and you will know her as a knowledgeable, caring, trustworthy and passionate educator who always puts the needs of our students first. We know she can never be replaced but we certainly wish her all the best as she continues her journey supporting the families at Hartman. Coming to Maple Leaf as Vice Principal is Ms. Julie Scott. Ms. Scott comes to us an experienced Vice Principal from Richmond Rose PS. She has a strong background in special education and taught as a SERT and in various community classes in TDSB prior to coming to YRDSB. Please reach out and introduce yourself to Ms. Scott.

Our process on the first day is the same as it has been for a few years. Teachers are eager to meet everyone outside in the rear yard at 8:45 a.m. on Tuesday. Our Kinders will meet in the Kindergarten yard. Senior Kindergartners stay with us for the full day on Tuesday and our Junior Ks are here just for a shortened visit on the Tuesday but stay for the whole day on Wednesday. Grade 1 to 8 teachers will be in the rear yard on the tarmac, with grade 1 and 2 teachers closer to the Primary doors or the playscape, then as we move across the yard towards the basketball courts the teachers will be in order of the grades they are teaching all the way up to grade 8. At 8:45 staff will be mingling and connecting with you and the students until the 8:55 bell rings when they will announce the students on their class list. Teachers will greet their parents/caregivers and share some routine information; they will make sure you know where their students are to enter the school at 8:55 daily and where to exit at 3:30. They can help you make arrangements so that older siblings know where to meet younger siblings if they are walking them home. We will have other staff outside also to help out if there are any glitches.

Please keep your email contact up to date so that you receive communication in a timely fashion. If you prefer a paper copy of school news, please request and we will send one copy with the youngest student in the family. School news is always posted on the website. Our school calendar is linked to the home page of the website <http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/mapleleaf.ps/Pages/default.aspx>. Soon to be added to the calendar is our first School Council Meeting on Tuesday, September 17th 6-7:30 p.m.. We hope you will consider coming out to join us. Thursday, September 26th is the evening we will host families for our Meet the Teacher event; please hold this date in your calendar.

Our Student Nutrition Program will be up and running on Wednesday, September 4th. We are always looking for volunteers to help out in the mornings at 8 a.m.. Perhaps you or someone you know is interested in getting involved; if so, just let us know.

The transition back to school can be one that causes some students worry. Whether you love, hate or are indifferent about going back to school, it's something every student has to prepare for. Kids Help Phone offers tips to make the transition from summer vacation to a new school year easier. Here is the link for you: <https://kidshelpphone.ca/get->

[info/kids-help-phones-ultimate-back-school-guide/](#) . There is also information for our students who have just graduated and are transitioning to high school. This site is a terrific resource and is well worth a look through with you children.

We are pleased to remind everyone that we have Before and After Care opening in the school for children in JK through age 12. Social Enterprise for Canada Child Care Services is offering licensed learning programs consistent with Ministry of Education policies, pedagogy and curriculum. SEC provides an environment that reflects their belief that children are strong, capable and competent. Hours: 7:00 a.m. to the start of the school day and 3:30 to 6:00 p.m.. If you would like information, please call Deb Duncan at 289-841-5328 or email Deb.Duncam@socialenterprise.ca. There are spaces available.

We are looking forward to seeing you all very soon. Enjoy the long weekend ahead.

Sincerely,

Amanda LeBlanc

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Make kindness your daily modus operandi
And change your world. Annie Lennox

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