

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Dear Families,

It is hard to believe that September is coming to an end! Life at Markville is again busy with students and teachers in classes, teaching, learning, and participating in a safe manner. I am so proud of our students! They arrive every morning, keeping physical distance, sanitizing their hands, and keeping each other and everyone safe.

Now that we are more familiar with what our days look like, I would like to share with you some of the similarities and differences between our virtual classrooms of last spring and today's virtual and in-person classrooms, specifically related to teaching and learning, attendance and participation, and assessment and evaluation.

1. Model of Teaching and Learning
 - in the spring, students were taught and learned remotely
 - now, some students have selected to learn through the hybrid model (a combination of face-to-face and remote learning), while others have opted to attend Virtual School (fully remote learning)
2. Teaching and Learning Style
 - in the spring, all courses were taught mostly asynchronously (recorded lessons and/or independent work)
 - now teaching and learning in online courses is done synchronously (live teaching and learning)
3. Attendance and Participation
 - in the spring, students learned from home
 - now students are expected to attend every morning for 150 minutes of
 - face-to-face instruction
 - in the spring there was flexibility accessing materials and participating in class
 - throughout the day
 - now students are expected to attend live, in real time when classes are
 - scheduled
 - in the spring, attendance was not taken
 - now attendance is taken daily in both face-to-face and online classes
4. Assessment and Evaluation
 - In the spring, all marks were relative to the mark achieved on March 13 (final
 - marks could only be the same or higher than the one on March 13)
 - now assessment and evaluation are ongoing, and part of the mid-term and final
 - mark (similar to the process we had prior to the pandemic)

I hope this description may answer some of your queries regarding the learning happening in classes, both in the building and from home. If you have any questions regarding Virtual School, I encourage you to contact your children's teachers there. If you have any questions for us, please do not hesitate to contact our teachers, or a member of the administration team, Ms. McAlpine, Mr. Vlachopoulos, or Ms. Obadia. Keep healthy and safe!
Patricia Obadia