



# OSCAR PETERSON PUBLIC SCHOOL

Principal: Nazreen Freeman  
Vice Principal: Jennifer Briggs

850 Hoover Park Drive  
Stouffville, ON L4A 0E7

Tel: 905-642-1236  
Fax: 905-642-5938

## Welcome Letter from your school Principal: Elementary (Grades 1-8)

September 2, 2020

Dear families,

I hope you are healthy and doing well, and had a restful summer. We look forward to welcoming our new and returning students and families. While we were connecting online, we missed our students and look forward to welcoming them back.

This letter contains important information about the return to school. Please review it. I also encourage families to visit [www.yrdsb.ca/school-reopening](http://www.yrdsb.ca/school-reopening) for videos, frequently asked questions, important health and safety information and more about the school reopening. There is a translation tool on the website that will translate the content into over 100 languages.

### School Return Dates and Procedures

This year, we will be delaying students' return to school to give school staff time to prepare for your child's return. For the first few days of school, we will be welcoming students back in smaller groups to give them additional time to learn and practice our new health and safety measures, and to support their transition back to school after the school closures.

Typically, your homeroom classroom teacher placement is provided on the first day of school. This year, as we finalize the staffing process and timetables for students, we are working to provide you with your child's homeroom class placement before school begins. We will send you a follow up communication with this information. We know that this will help especially with some of our younger students, as well as those with various identifications.

### Grades 1-8

If your child's last name begins with **A-L**, they will:

- Begin school on **Thursday, September 10** (they will NOT go to school Friday, September 11).
- Attend school **Monday, September 14** (they will NOT go to school Tuesday, September 15).
- They will begin attending school every day with their full class on **Wednesday, September 16**.

If your child's last name begins with **M-Z**, they will:

- Begin school on **Friday, September 11**.
- Attend school **Tuesday, September 15** (they will NOT go to school Monday, September 14).
- They will begin attending school every day with their full class on **Wednesday, September 16**.

All students in a community class, with the exception of gifted community classes, will be invited to attend all day, every day beginning on **Thursday, September 10, 2020**. Students in gifted community classes will attend in cohorted groups as described in the sections above.

**When students arrive at school** on their first day, they should go to the back/south side of our school and meet staff on the tarmac area. Classroom Teachers will be holding up name signs so students can easily find their teacher. Further instructions about the specifics of this morning will be sent to families when you receive communication from our school about student class/teacher placements. This will likely be sent out by end of day next week Tuesday (September 8). Our school day starts at 8:50am, but staff will be on duty on the south tarmac daily from 8:35am to 8:50am. Please discuss social distancing with your children as well as the need to start their day wearing masks so they are easy to put on when walking into the school. Students when outside should stand a minimum of 2m apart. Please practice with your children what 2m looks like.

## Health and Safety

We ask families to remember that, as a result of health and safety guidelines:

- On a daily basis, parents/guardians of students under 18 and students over 18 are responsible to review and adhere to the [checklist from York Region Public Health](#). Any student experiencing COVID-19 symptoms **is required** to remain home.
- Where possible, students must maintain a physical distance at all times, as they enter, move through and exit the building.
- Students in Grades 4 to 12 will wear face non-medical masks while in school. Students in Kindergarten to Grade 3 are strongly encouraged to wear masks while in school. Please send your child to school with a mask.
- Until further notice, visitor(s) are not to enter the school during hours of operation unless identified through a prearranged exception.
- We are doing what we can to minimize class sizes. Students will remain with their class throughout the day, including for lunch and recess.
- Floor decals and classroom set-up are designed to minimize close contact.
- Hand sanitizers will be placed at the entrance to the school and in all classrooms and students will wash or sanitize their hands throughout the day, including when entering or leaving the classroom, before and after eating, after using the washroom and after touching shared objects

## Supporting Transitions

We also want to assure you that our caring, skilled and professional staff members are well prepared to support student learning and well-being in this transition back to school. We know that the closures affected families differently, and that some students may not have been able to access learning as regularly, or experienced disruptions in their routines. We will work with you and your child to support your child's mental health, well-being and academics during this transition back to school and to our new school routines.

If you have any specific concerns about your child's well-being or transition back to school, please speak with your child's teacher.

We have a dedicated staff with a strong commitment to student well-being and achievement, and to promoting positive, inclusive and supportive relationships with students, families, staff and community members. We are committed to providing a learning environment where everyone feels safe, welcome and respected.

We look forward to welcoming you and your child back to school.

If you have children in the same household with different last names, and you are placed in a different cohort, please let our office staff know right away so we can rectify this for you.

Sincerely,



Nazreen Freeman  
Principal



Jennifer Briggs  
Vice-Principal