

WIND CHILL AND OUTDOOR RECESS

We have had a number of questions regarding the cold temperatures and whether students would be sent outside for recess. In general, students from Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8 are expected to go out for every recess unless the principal/vice-principal decides that weather conditions are so poor that it would be detrimental for them to be outdoors. Students are to come to school ready for winter and prepared to be outdoors for a period of time. Please know that we always monitor the weather and, in extreme conditions e.g. wind chill; we keep the students indoors or shorten the recess breaks.

We often receive requests from parents asking us to keep their children indoors during recess times because they are not feeling well. Unfortunately, we do not have the staff or facilities to supervise students who are sick or still recovering from an illness. Students with heavy colds, etc., which are serious enough to prevent them from participating in physical education, recesses or other outdoor activities, should remain at home until their condition improves. This will likely benefit the students concerned and prevent the spread of this illness to others.

Please make sure that your children are dressed properly for our invigorating winter days. It is advisable for students to bring extra pants and socks. A change is often necessary due to the wet and cold weather of the winter months. To avoid adding to our clothing collection in the Lost and Found, please be sure to label all articles of clothing. Boots, hats, mitts/gloves, scarves, and snow pants for the younger children will help make recess an enjoyable time.

Exceptions are made on an individual basis for children who may need to remain indoors for an extended period of time because of a physical condition or recovery from a serious illness or accident. In such cases, a letter from the doctor is required.

Wind chill - Minutes to Frostbite (Environment Canada)
The following are approximate values

Temperature (°C)	-15	-20	-25	-30	-35	-40	-45	-50
Wind (km/h)								
10	*	*	22	15	10 *	8 *	7 *	2 ***
20	*	30	14	10 *	5 **	4 **	3 **	2 ***
30	*	18	11	8 *	5 **	2 ***	2 ***	1 ****
40	42	14	9 *	5 **	5 **	2 ***	2 ***	1 ****
50	27	12	8 *	5 **	2 ***	2 ***	2 ***	1 ****
60	22	10 *	7 *	5 **	2 ***	2 ***	2 ***	1 ****
70	18	9 *	5 **	4 **	2 ***	2 ***	2 ***	1 ****
80	16	8 *	5 **	4 **	2 ***	2 ***	2 ***	1 ****

The wind speed, in km/h, is at the standard anemometer height of 10 metres (as reported in weather observations).

Legend:

- Frostbite unlikely *
- Frostbite possible in 2 minutes or less 2 ***
- Frostbite possible in 3 to 5 minutes 5 **
- Frostbite possible in 6 to 10 minutes 10 *