

“Where Everyone Matters & Everyone Belongs”

September
2020

Dear Rouge Park Families,

We hope you and your loved ones are all safe, healthy and well. We realize that this is a very different September start to the school year, and are working with the Rouge Park team to ensure a sThe Rouge Park staff have missed seeing our students and families in person at school. We look forward to reconnecting everyone soon, and to a new and wonderful school year. Ms. Durrani and Ms. Baines will be holding a virtual informational meeting for families tomorrow evening through MS Teams. Please use the link below to join us if you would like to.



Wednesday, September 9 at 6:00 p.m. -

Please click on the link below to join this Information Session. (See the Parent Login to Microsoft Teams document attached).

[Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)

[Learn more about Teams](#)



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Supported Entry Schedule for Elementary Students

As previously communicated in the letters emailed to families, in order to provide staff and students with a supported entry to the 2020/2021 school year, the following is an outline for the first and second weeks of attendance for students:

Grades 1-8

GROUP A	GROUP B
<p>Students with Last Names Beginning with</p> <p>A-L</p>	<p>Students with Last Names Beginning with</p> <p>M-Z</p>

Students will return to Rouge Park based on this calendar:

Monday September 7	Tuesday September 8	Wednesday September 9	Thursday September 10	Friday September 11
<p>LABOUR DAY</p> <p>NO SCHOOL</p>	<p>STAFF ONLY</p>	<p>STAFF ONLY</p>	<p>Gr. 1-8 Group A (Last names A-L)</p> <p>All SK (Year 2) Students</p> <p>All Community Class Students</p>	<p>Gr. 1-8 Group B (Last names M-Z)</p> <p>All SK (Year 2) Students</p> <p>All Community Class Students</p>
Monday September 14	Tuesday September 15	Wednesday September 16	Thursday September 17	Friday September 18
<p>Gr. 1-8 Group A (Last names A-L)</p> <p>All SK Students</p> <p>JK Students Group A (Last names A-L)</p> <p>All Community Class Students</p>	<p>Gr. 1-8 Group B (Last names M-Z)</p> <p>All SK Students</p> <p>JK Students Group B (Last names M-Z)</p> <p>All Community Class Students</p>	<p>Gr. 1-8 All Students</p> <p>All SK Students</p> <p>JK Students Group A (Last names A-L)</p> <p>All Community Class Students</p>	<p>Gr. 1-8 All Students</p> <p>All SK Students</p> <p>JK Students Group B (Last names M-Z)</p> <p>All Community Class Students</p>	<p>All in-person students attend school full day.</p>

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Class Placements:

System communication to families via broadcast system to inform families Edsby will be available with this information Wednesday, September 9
Families will be able to view EDSBY and see their child's teacher name

No changes to Class Placements will be made.

First Day of School Routine

When students arrive at school on their first day, they should already know who their teachers are and the room number.

Our teachers will be standing outside at the back of the school with a sign to indicate their name and class. Students will line up, following physical distancing guidelines and will be led in by their teachers. Students in Grade 4-8 should be wearing their masks at this time.

Kindergarten students will be met by the teacher, DECE and an EA for each class in the Kindergarten play area. Parents are asked to remain outside of the play area and leave the school promptly once your child has been received safely.

Inclement Weather First day plans:

In case of inclement weather (rain), staff will be at each of the two entrances at the back of the school to direct students to their meeting spots.

Gr 1, 2, 3 and 4 - Enter through Door B (East side of the tarmac), meet in the gym (lined up in front of their teacher, physically distanced) and be taken to their classrooms

Gr. 5-8 Enter through Door A (closest to the field) and will go directly to their homeroom classes where they will be directed by their teachers and other support staff.

Kindergarten - DECE, Teacher and Educational Assistants will receive the students at the Kindergarten Play Area and support them to enter their classrooms directly

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Return to School Reminders (please see Reopening Plan on YRDSB website for more details:

[Link](#))

Parents/guardians are to provide their child(ren) with 3 personal face coverings (a mask) to bring with them to school daily. This is a requirement to help to reduce the spread of respiratory droplets and to protect others.

- **In Grades 4 to 8**, students will wear cloth masks or disposable masks while in school.
- **In Kindergarten to Grade 3** cloth masks are strongly encouraged for students.
- If a student does not have a face covering, they will be provided a non-medical mask by the office.
- **Any student experiencing COVID-19 symptoms is required to remain home (the use of a mask in this situation is not an acceptable alternative).**
- Once our students enter the school, it is highly recommended they remain at school until the end of the school day. Exceptions will be granted for medical/family appointments supported by *Ms. Durrani*.
- Please ensure your child brings their lunch and snacks required for their day at school. Lunch drop-offs will not be available, including access to lunch delivery services. (No pizza lunch service this year)
- Until further notice, visitor(s) are not to enter the school during hours of operation, unless identified through a prearranged exception. When a parent/guardian needs to meet with the Principal in person, the meeting must be scheduled in advance and Health and Safety protocol will be adhered to.

Student Pickup During School Hours

- Parents/guardians need to pre-arrange pickup with the office.
- Office staff will record outgoing students in the ‘Sign-In/Out’ binder.
- Parents/guardians must ring the front door buzzer when they arrive at school and a staff member will come to the door to meet them.
- Parents/guardians are not to enter the building. Please ensure you have self-screened before coming to the school.

Technology:

If you have not already done so, please call the school to arrange a 5-minute appointment to return borrowed technology (Chromebook and charger). If you’re not available **tomorrow**, please book a time for **Thursday or Friday** to bring it back. We need to clean and restore the tech before redistributing it to our students. Thank you! 905-350-0005 Ms. Draper/Ms. Khan

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This year, we have new health and safety measures in place to help keep students and staff safe from the spread of COVID-19. Everyone, including families, plays a critical role in supporting health and safety in our school communities.

Every day, please

Screen your child for symptoms of COVID-19 and keep them home if they:

- Feel sick or have symptoms of COVID-19
 - Have been in close contact with someone who is sick or has confirmed COVID-19 in the past 14 days
 - Have returned from travel outside of Canada in the past 14 days
-
- Provide multiple snug and comfortable **masks (at least 3)** for your child, so they have back-ups ready. We suggest separate bags to store clean and dirty masks and a pouch or fanny pack to hold them. Wash cloth masks daily.
 - Review and practice proper **hand washing** techniques at home, especially before and after eating, sneezing, coughing, and adjusting a mask or cloth face covering.
 - Pack a full **water bottle** and practice providing a **litterless/boomerang** lunch and snacks daily. Sharing of food is not allowed and garbage will be sent home to help keep our schools clean. Please remember that lunches **cannot** be dropped off at school.
 - If you send **school supplies**, such as crayons and scissors, please store them in a labelled pencil case and inform your child to avoid sharing.
 - Dress your child in **weather appropriate clothing**; they may be spending more time outdoors.
 - Make sure your information is current at school, including **emergency contacts** and individuals authorized to pick up your child from school. When they are sick, pick up your child promptly.
 - Follow your school's **local protocols**, including drop off and pick up protocols and using the designated entry doors.
 - Remind your child of **physical distancing** and following the flow of traffic and other measures in place at school.
 - Limit **personal belongings** being brought to school - students/parents to assess their backpacks for extraneous items daily.
 - Please be **patient and flexible** as we adjust to these new measures to help keep everyone safe.

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Elementary Virtual School

The Elementary Virtual School runs separately from Rouge Park and is staffed with Administrators and teachers from across the system. If any of your children are registered for virtual learning, you should be hearing from an EVS teacher tomorrow by the end of the day tomorrow. **Registration for the virtual school is not available at this time. More information regarding any requests will be sent to families directly from the YRDSB.** If you have requested a change from F2F (Face-to-Face) to the virtual learning model, all we can do for you at this time is to document your request as part of a waitlist. If you completed the survey for F2F learning, your child has been assigned to a homeroom; therefore, if he/she does not come to school on any of the expected days, please contact Ms. Draper and Ms. Khan, our office secretaries to inform the school of their absence on a daily basis.

Prayer Room

A reminder to families that we have a **Designated Prayer Space** available at school. Please speak with your child’s teacher if your child needs to access this area.


School Assistants:

We are in need of School Assistants. This is a paid position where you would be **supervising students indoors and outdoors from 12:00–1:00 pm from Monday through Friday**. Health & Safety training and proper PPE would be provided for those interesting in supporting the school as a School Assistant. Please email Ms. Baines and Ms. Khan if you would like to apply for the position. More information is available on the YRDSB website under ‘Careers.’

<http://www.yrdsb.ca/Careers/Pages/default.aspx>

School Council Meeting

In collaboration with the Rouge Park School Council Chairs, we will be hosting a School Council meeting for interested community members on **Tuesday, September 22 via an online platform, such as MS Teams**. More information to follow. We are looking forward to connecting with you soon. Thank you!

For regular updates and school or Board-related information, please visit our website or follow us on Twitter [@RougeParkPS](https://twitter.com/RougeParkPS). 

Thank you,

Fawzia Durrani & *Vivienne Baines*

Principal

Vice Principal

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September 2020 – Trustee Greetings from Allan Tam, Trustee, Markham, Wards 4 and 5

As we begin a rather different start to the school year, I want to take this opportunity to welcome all new and returning students and families. Whether you are returning to school in person or participating in remote, online learning, we look forward to welcoming you into safe, inclusive and engaging learning spaces.

Staff members have been working hard over the summer months with the Ministry of Education and public health experts to develop a [reopening plan](#) that prioritizes the health, safety and well-being of our students and ensures that important [health and safety measures](#) are in place.

Please know that whatever learning model you chose, we will continue to provide your children with high quality education, and to support their learning, achievement and well-being. Our school staff are prepared to help your child transition back into our learning environments, and we will continue to partner with families to support your child’s success.

We know that families have many questions about what to expect as their children return to school. You can find information about what to expect at the start of the school year on the Board website, including frequently asked questions that you may find helpful at www.yrdsb.ca/school-reopening.

As your school board trustee, it is my role to advocate for quality public education in York Region, and to ensure that our students remain at the centre of all of our decision making. The [Board of Trustees](#) makes [policy](#) and [budget](#) decisions, and communicates with the public, among other [responsibilities](#).

We are also responsible for setting direction for the school board, through our [Multi-Year Strategic Plan](#). This plan sets out four priorities: Foster Well-Being and Mental Health, Build Collaborative Relationships, Champion Equity and Inclusivity, and Empower Ethical Leadership.

The relationship that we have with families is important, and I will continue to keep you informed of our work and priorities. You can also find the [message from the Chair of the Board](#) on the Board’s website. You are welcome to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

I hope you have a great start to the school year and wish you a happy, healthy and successful year ahead.

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Kiss and Ride:

Please be very careful when driving slowly through our parking lot and kiss and ride. There will be students, families and staff members walking in this area and safety is the number one priority for everyone.

If you need to park, use the parking lot, NOT the Kiss and Ride lane. Do not exit your car when in this lane and there should be no idling as we need to keep traffic moving safely.

Also, please do not use the Bus Loop at any point during the school day.

Rouge Park LLC

Ms. Russell and Ms. Maggiras established the virtual **Rouge Park PS Library Learning Commons (LLC) in the spring**. This website will be continually updated with resources for students and families. Click the link to join the [Rouge Park LLC](#).

Rouge Park PS LLC

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