



# Silver Pines Public School

## *A Message from Administration...*

Dear Families,

We hope that all of you are well and healthy. This week we were able to engage our Student Ambassadors in lunch time meetings to discuss online challenges from a student perspective. We look forward to working with these young ambassadors and empowering them in their leadership roles. We have been working diligently to try and stay connected with our community while staying at home. Our teachers have been working tirelessly to adapt their teaching programs and practises to an online platform and we are happy to say that almost all of our students have been in engaging in their learning while at home. Of course, we are all looking forward to the day that we can return to our classrooms.

Along with virtual learning, comes different obstacles and challenges. We sincerely appreciate the partnership we have with you in supporting your children with any barriers to their learning while at home. On page 3, 4 and 5 of this edition, we have included some information about parent support. We strongly encourage parents to give their children as much independence as possible while they engage in their learning with their classrooms. They need to feel that they are alone with their classmates and teacher during synchronous learning.

Of course, we also encourage your continued support in assisting young students in navigating the Google Classroom to find assignments or get started on their work. We recently sent a [Parent Questionnaire](#) to gain some insight on how we may be able to support you with the Google platform. Thank you to all who have completed this questionnaire. We will be reviewing your feedback shortly in hopes of providing some additional resources and support. If you have not had a chance to complete the [Parent Questionnaire](#), please do so by Monday, January 25th.

Please stay home, stay safe and have a good week.

Yours in education,

*Jeff Laughlin & Shauna Small*



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**Vice Principal: Shauna Small | 905.508.7303**  
**Superintendent: Liz Davis | 905.884.4477**  
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Kindergarten registration for the 2021/2022 school year starts on Friday, January 15th 2021.

### Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration for September 2021 begins Friday, January 15 for the 2021-22 school year. Children who turn four or five years old during 2021, live within the school boundary and whose parents/guardians are public school tax supporters will be eligible to register for Kindergarten.

There are several ways you can register for Kindergarten:

**Online** - Families can access the online Kindergarten registration information at [www.yrdsb.ca/kindergarten](http://www.yrdsb.ca/kindergarten). It is recommended that families use a laptop or a desktop, rather than a mobile device to complete this registration.

**By email** - Families can download the [Elementary School Registration Form](#) at [www.yrdsb.ca/Kindergarten](http://www.yrdsb.ca/Kindergarten) and email the completed form to their school email address. Email addresses can be found on the [school website](#).

**By phone** - Families can request support from the school Principal/Vice-Principal to complete the registration form on their behalf by collecting the required information by phone. Families can request an interpreter, if needed, during this phone conversation. Call your local school.

Please note, at this time, under our [health and safety protocols](#), we cannot accept in person registrations.

Once you have completed your application, the school will contact **once students are back in the building** to make an appointment to review and verify the [required documents](#).

Our Kindergarten programs are caring and welcoming where children learn through exploration, play and inquiry. You can learn more at [www.yrdsb.ca/Kindergarten](http://www.yrdsb.ca/Kindergarten). We look forward to welcoming our new students and families to the school.

### **ATTENTION SENIOR KINDERGARTEN PARENTS: FRENCH IMMERSION REGISTRATION INFO**

#### **Registration**

FI registration will begin on January 15, 2021. Parents or guardians of Senior Kindergarten students entering Grade 1 in 2021, and wishing to enrol in the FI Program, can email or call their home school office and indicate their intention to enrol. The home school will notify the French Immersion school, and the French Immersion school will contact you by phone or email to collect any necessary information. You are asked to register by February 5, 2021. Registration during this period is not first come, first served.

#### **Late Registrations**

Late registrations are those submitted after February 5, 2021. Late registrations will be treated on a first- come, first-served basis and will be considered subsequent to registrations received during the registration period should overflow be necessary.



## Part A: Expectations for Use and Behaviour (Specific to Online Learning)

When participating in “real time” synchronous teaching and learning, **students and families** are agreeing to the following:

- Use only Board Approved Platforms and Synchronous Learning Tools;
- Follow [YRDSB Appropriate Use of Technology Policy and Procedures](#);

Adhering to all rules of conduct and behaviour for the regular classroom, as they also apply to the virtual classroom, including but not limited to:

- participating in ways that are inclusive, considerate and respectful to all;
- not engaging in racist, hateful or discriminatory practices (including but not limited to anti-Black racism, anti-Indigenous racism, antisemitism, Islamophobia, homophobia, transphobia); and
- immediately reporting any racist, hateful, discriminatory or inappropriate behaviour to a teacher or trusted school staff member.
- Participation in synchronous sessions is limited to students only. Parents/Guardians may assist and support their child logging into or accessing learning platforms or digital tools. In all cases, parents are reminded of the importance of student independence in learning.
- Parents/Guardians and students are to refrain from:
  - Recording any aspect of a Google Meet or Zoom session (including pictures, voices or video) using internal or external recording devices;
  - Distributing/posting any recorded, copied or distributed materials in any way, including to all social media platforms;
  - Taking photos or screenshots of anything other than when given explicit permission or direction by the teacher to do so (e.g., a visual used for instructional purposes that won't be reposted later);
  - Editing or manipulating materials in any way; and
  - Sharing/distributing links to Google Meet and Zoom sessions provided by the teacher.



## Part B: Informed Consent for Participation

**Parents and students** need to be aware that:

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- Portions of synchronous sessions may be recorded by the teacher:
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- Recordings that are made for learning purposes (e.g., the ability for students to access learning material at a later date) will be posted/accessible within the digital classroom and may include student voices, but no student pictures, names or other personal identifiers;
- 
- Where teachers record a segment of a synchronous learning session for individual assessment purposes, or for classroom management purposes, the recording will not be shared, posted or accessible to students; and
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- All one-to-one synchronous interactions (video and/or audio) between a teacher and a student will be recorded, but not shared/posted or accessible to students .
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- At times, transcripts of closed-captioned notes are needed to support students with Individual Education Plans. In these instances:
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- There is a written record of what was said during a lesson or class discussion;
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- There is no personal identifiable information captured (i.e., no student pictures or names or other personal identifiers);
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- The transcript is not posted to the learning platform, but shared only with the student(s) who requires it; and
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- These notes are used by the student who requires them in accordance with their Individual Education Plan and are used for concept attainment and executive functioning purposes only.
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## **CBC In the news....**

Ottawa

**Kids at home for 2 more weeks? Here are some creative, practical tips for parents**

[Kids at home? Creative, practical tips for parents](#)



Google Classroom



## Google Platform Tips for Parents and Students

### Logging into Google Chrome

- [Tip sheet](#)
- [Screencast video](#)

### Accessing GAPPS Email

- [Logging into the Student GAPPS Email](#)

### Accessing Google Classroom

- [Tip sheet](#)
- [Screencast video](#)
  - [Mandarin](#)
  - [Tamil](#)
  - [Urdu](#)

### Accessing Google Meet Through YRDSB Online Learning Platforms

- [Tip sheet](#)
- [Screencast video](#)

### Accessing Google Meet Through Google Classroom

- [Tip sheet](#)
- [Screencast video](#)

### Accessing and Turning in Assignments

- [Tip sheet](#)
- [Screencast video](#)

### Using Google Translate with Google Meet

- [Tip sheet \(PDF\)](#)
- [Screencast video](#)

## [Technical Issues/FAQ's/Troubleshooting](#)



Google Classroom

## Tips for Families to Support Online Learning



Teachers strive to work in partnership with home to support student learning and well-being in culturally responsive ways. Parents and families know their children best; as we transition to this new online learning context, please find some considerations below for supporting your child(ren) from home.

### Establish and Maintain Routines

Help your child(ren) set regular hours for their school work using a calendar or checklist of required tasks per day. Expectations for daily tasks are important but do not have to be rigid and need to work for your family context. Customize your child(ren)'s schedule to fit their needs, as well as those of your family. Routines such as bedtime, nutrition, hygiene and physical activity are important. Establish these parameters from the beginning to build habits of success. At the end of the week, review which routines worked well and which may need to be adjusted moving forward.

### Monitor Communications from your Child's Teacher(s)

Consider logging into online classrooms regularly to see announcements and lessons/activities posted by your child(ren)'s teacher and continue to communicate with the teacher as needed. Students are to do their best to complete work on time and meet deadlines and can connect with their teacher during the teacher's scheduled office hours when they need support.

### Encourage Physical Activity and/or Exercise

Research shows that increased physical activity has a positive effect on cognitive functioning, health, well-being and learning. Remind your child(ren) to move and exercise. Take breaks from the learning when needed and get outside if possible. Consider an online physical challenge and/or exercise class.

### Start/End Each Day With a Learning Check-In

Regular check-ins with your child(ren) will help them to process instructions, organize their work and proceed with the learning for the day. Engaging with your child(ren)'s learning can help support learning skills and work habits needed for successful online learning.

### Find a Physical Space for Learning

We encourage families to help their child(ren) find a space(s) to work that supports sustained concentration, reading/listening/viewing and where they can check-in with them (consider using headphones where possible/appropriate). It is also important to remember that many children benefit from a 'flexible learning space,' meaning one where they can rearrange things or move to a different space depending on the type of work they are doing (e.g., move to a couch or beanbag chair for reading).

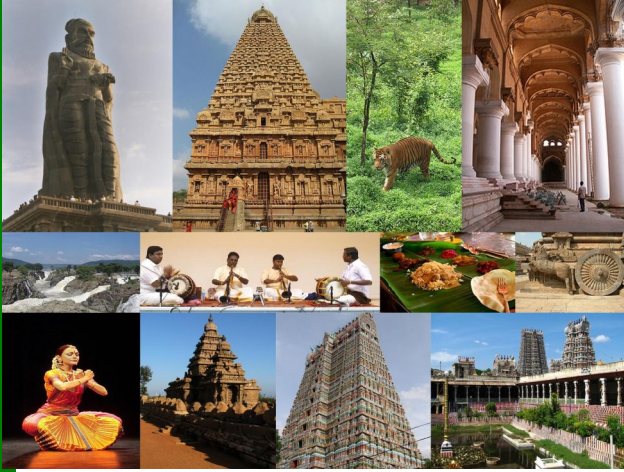
### Remain Mindful of How your Child is Feeling

Online learning is new for everyone, so it's important to monitor and support your child(ren)'s well-being in this new context. Children may need help managing the worry, anxiety and range of emotions they may experience. Access [mental health and community support resources](#) as needed.

### Support Digital Citizenship

Keep your child(ren) connecting online socially but be aware of their online interactions and the total amount of time they spend online. Monitor and set parameters for your child(ren)'s use of social media and the platforms they use. Remind your child(ren) that the rules of the classroom apply online too. They must be respectful and appropriate in their online communications. Online interactions should continue to align with the board's Digital Citizenship policy. Follow the [YRDSB Guidelines for Acceptable use of Technology](#).





January  
is  
Tamil  
Heritage  
Month



○ Full Moon  
28 Full Moon  
(19:18 UTC) The Moon will be located on the opposite side of the Earth as the Sun and its face will be fully illuminated. This full moon was known by early First Nations peoples / Native American tribes as the Full Wolf Moon because this was the time of year when hungry wolf packs howled outside their camps. This moon has also been known as the Old Moon and the Moon After Yule. (Sea and Sky)

# Diversity is our Strength!



**Buddhism**  
25 Honen Shonin Memorial Anniversary of the death of Honen Shonin, the founder of Jōdo-shū the first independent branch of Japanese Pure Land Buddhism), in 1212. (Mahāyāna - Jōdo-shū)



#WeRemember  
#NousNousSouvenons

International Holocaust Remembrance Day  
Journée internationale dédiée à la mémoire des victimes de l'Holocauste

WJC WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS | CIJA



**Buddhism**  
28 Mahāyāna New Year  
Mahāyāna New Year is celebrated for three days from the first full moon day in January. (Mahāyāna)

**BUDDHIST NEW YEAR**

- Celebrated on different days in the world
- Celebrated for three days
- For Theravadin countries from first full moon of April
- Mahayana countries it is the 1st full moon of January
- Tibetan Buddhists celebrate the new year in March



**Judaism**  
27 Eve of Tu B'Shevat  
Observance begins at sundown.

