



VICTORIA SQUARE PUBLIC SCHOOL  
50 PRINCE OF WALES DRIVE, MARKHAM, ON. L6C0K2  
(905) 910 - 0036    victoria.square.ps@yrdsb.ca

## January News

January 13, 2022

The weather has turned colder and winter is here! Ensure your children come dressed for the weather as we go outside for recess, even down to -20C!

### Important Dates

Date	Event
Jan 14	PA Day, No School
Jan 17	Return to F2F school <b>**Please return ALL borrowed laptops - some classes now have zero laptops in stock.</b> (Those staying hybrid may hold onto them for the class)
Feb 4	PA Day, No school
Feb 21	Family Day - No School

### School Model Change Requests

As we return to school on Monday January 17, it is assumed that the model your children are in was the same as when we ended for winter break in December, **UNLESS** you have emailed the school to make a request to change. We understand that many are concerned about COVID-19 and want to move their children to an online model. Please note, all online is **hybrid** meaning that the same homeroom teacher is teaching both children in school and online. If you wish to switch your model (either way) please email the school at [victoria.square.ps@yrdsb.ca](mailto:victoria.square.ps@yrdsb.ca) to request.

Please note: you cannot switch day by day. Once a model change is granted it will remain (either F2F or Hybrid) until you formally request the change again. Please email the school for changes and allow 1-2 days for changes to be made.

### Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) Kits

In the coming week, we expect to receive Rapid Antigen test kits to send home again to all in person students. These are to be used when an individual is symptomatic. Please note the 5 or 10 day isolation period must still be adhered to. See below for more details on isolation requirements. More details on RAT and PCR testing to come soon.

### COVID Confirmation and Screening

All Parents/Guardians of elementary students must complete the [on-line self-assessment COVID-19 School and Child-Care Screening Tool](#) on a daily basis, prior to their child entering the school. To report your response you must complete, using your child's Google Apps login the [Confirmation Form](#) (<https://covidscreening.yrdsb.ca/>)

### School Safety - Masking

All students from K-8 **MUST** wear a cloth or surgical type mask at school. If you do not have masks, we will provide to your child. Adults at drop off/ pick up are also asked to wear a mask outside due to crowding.



**What if someone in my household has COVID symptoms?**

It will take everyone’s cooperation to help keep the school safe and open.

First, visit the below website: [www.ontario.ca/exposed](http://www.ontario.ca/exposed)  
 This is for anyone who feels they may be exposed to COVID.

**Highlights:**

**SYMPTOMS**

- Individuals experiencing **one or more** common symptoms, or **two or more** other symptoms are presumed to have COVID-19 and must isolate (regardless of vaccinations status)

Common symptoms (1 or more)	Other symptoms (2 or more)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fever/chills</li> <li>• Cough</li> <li>• Shortness of breath</li> <li>• Decrease/loss of taste or smell</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Runny nose/nasal congestion</li> <li>• Headache</li> <li>• Extreme fatigue</li> <li>• Sore throat</li> <li>• Muscle aches/joint pain</li> <li>• GI symptoms</li> </ul>

**SELF-ISOLATION: SYMPTOMATIC/CONFIRMED CASES**

	Symptomatic individual is fully vaccinated OR under 12 years of age	Symptomatic individual is 12 years of age or older AND not fully vaccinated or immunocompromised
Symptomatic/confirmed case	Isolate for <b>5 days</b> from symptom onset <b>and</b> must be fever free with symptoms improving for 24 hours (48 hours if gastrointestinal symptoms)	Isolate for <b>10 days</b> from symptom onset <b>and</b> must be fever free with symptoms improving for 24 hours (48 hours if gastrointestinal symptoms)
Household contacts	Household members must isolate while the symptomatic/confirmed case is isolating. If a household member develops symptoms, they begin their own isolation period beginning from their symptom onset date	

- Individuals with a positive RAT can return to work/school once symptoms have resolved and self-isolation is complete



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## ISOLATION WITH OTHER SYMPTOMS

- Individuals with a symptom not listed below or **only one** of the following symptoms should isolate until symptoms have been improving for 24 hours (48 hours for gastrointestinal symptoms)
  - Runny nose/nasal congestion
  - Headache
  - Extreme fatigue
  - Sore throat
  - Muscle aches/joint pain
  - GI symptoms
- Household members do not need to self-isolate

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### Additional Resources:

[www.york.ca/safeatschool](http://www.york.ca/safeatschool)

[www.york.ca/COVID19](http://www.york.ca/COVID19)

[www.york.ca/COVID19Positive](http://www.york.ca/COVID19Positive)

[www.york.ca/infectionprevention](http://www.york.ca/infectionprevention)

[www.ontario.ca/exposed](http://www.ontario.ca/exposed)

**Please ensure you do the daily screening and adhere to required isolation precautions**



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### **Inclement Weather Days**

For the 2021-2022 school year when an IW Day is announced:

- Information is communicated through: local media outlets, the Student Transportation Services website, School Transportation Hotline: 1-877-330-3001, the Board's website and Twitter account and on the Board and school's voicemail recording.
- Please have alternate child care arrangements planned for IW days when schools are closed to students.

### **Online Library Resources**

Did you know that we have access to online library, books and other resources?

[Download these instructions](#) and get reading from home!

### **Food Drive 2021**

Thank you for your tremendous support of the food drive! We raised a TRUCK FULL of food for the food pantry! In these trying times, the recipients are grateful and thankful for your support.

### **French Immersion Registration**

Students in SK this school year are eligible to register for French Immersion, Grade 1 (\*Those living west of the 404 would need to register for French Immersion at Michaelle Jean PS. For ALL registrations, please let the school office know at [victoria.square.ps@yrdsb.ca](mailto:victoria.square.ps@yrdsb.ca). The information presentation is [available online here](#). Registration begins Jan 14, 2022. Deadline is Feb 4 and is not first come, first serve. Registrations after Feb 4 are considered late. See the [online information presentation](#) for more details.

### **Mental Health Newsletter**

We know that returning to school during this pandemic has taken a toll on all our mental health. Please see [this newsletter on Mental Health](#) from the board for strategies and suggestions to help during this time.

### **Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit (CRCB)**

Are you struggling during this pandemic with the lockdowns/shutdowns? There may be money and support available to help. Please see [this memo for the federal benefit for families and caregivers](#).

### **Tamil Heritage Month**

This month is Tamil Heritage Month. Workshops for families are available on Jan 29, 2022. See [this flyer for more details](#).

**Stay safe! Looking forward to seeing everyone Monday, Jan 17, 2022**

Sincerely

Mr. Ko                      Mrs. Brown  
Principal                  Vice-Principal