



# September 2021 Sunset Park Newsletter

Welcome Back to School 2021-22!

We would like to take this time to introduce the Administrative team at Sunset Park: Kim Pauli is Principal at Sunset Park and is also working as a System Principal of Student Well-being this year. That means Tammy Hyatt is stepping into the role of Principal part-time, and also remains our half-time Vice-Principal. We welcome Mr. Rob Roy as our other Vice-Principal at Sunset this year.

We are so lucky to have a dedicated team of educators who will work hard to ensure a quality academic program, while also focusing on student equity and well-being. We know that school start-up this year has presented a number of challenges for our families. Know that we will do our utmost to ensure the health and safety of our students and staff members. Please be sure to check our school website for regular updates and important information. Our monthly newsletter is sent by email and is also available on our website (link below).

Updates are also often posted on our Sunset Park Facebook page.

<https://www.nearnorthschools.ca/sunset-park/>

## CLASSROOM PLACEMENTS

Please be aware that our student numbers continue to be strong at Sunset Park and we are currently housing approximately 400 students. There is always a possibility of reshuffling in the first few weeks of school. [Staff members work hard over the course of June and August to place students in classrooms based on their understanding of the needs of individual students as well as group dynamics.](#) We know that moving students after they start in a particular class can be upsetting but we work hard to support students through changes. Our class sizes are mandated by the Ministry of Education and we have to adhere to the numbers we are given. We can never predict exactly how many students we will have in each grade before school starts, so there is sometimes movement after the first week of school. [We work hard to create classroom settings that will maximize learning opportunities and we appreciate your support in supporting your child as they begin a new school year.](#)

Be more involved in your child's school! Join our School Advisory Council (SAC) and help our school with fundraising, school events, and initiatives. Meetings are held 5 times a year. We welcome the contributions of our entire Parent Community.

For more information, please contact Mme. Hyatt at [Tammy.Hyatt@nearnorthschools.ca](mailto:Tammy.Hyatt@nearnorthschools.ca) or call the school for a Nomination Form to be emailed to you.

### **COVID Safety Updates and Reminders:**

#### **Masks/Screening:**

Students have been doing an outstanding job wearing their masks! Just a reminder that masks are optional (but strongly recommended) for our JK/SK students. They are mandatory for students in Grades 1-6. Masks must be worn indoors at all times (unless eating) and on school buses.

Staff will be wearing Level 1 Medical masks throughout the entire school day.

\*\*Please ensure your child's [Covid Self-Screening](#) is completed before coming to school each day.

#### **Parents and Visitors:**

While Sunset Park can welcome essential visitors, **we are not permitted at this time to allow parents into the building.** For this reason, it is imperative that students come with all that they need for a day, such as their lunch. We recommend sending your child with a change of clothes in a plastic bag that could be stored at school in case they get wet in a puddle or have a lunch-time spill. As you may recall, Sunset used to keep a number of clothes on hand to lend to children, but we are no longer able to lend out our clothes or indoor shoes. Parents who are dropping students off/picking them up must do so via our Kiss N Drop area and remain in their vehicles.

#### **Students Who Become Ill at School:**

According to Health Unit regulations, students exhibiting COVID-like symptoms must be placed in isolation and will be sent home. At the time that a student is sent home, parents will be given clear instructions on how to proceed. Further questions can always be directed to the Health Unit COVID 19 Call Centre at 1 800 563 2808 (Option 5).

#### **Daily Tracking**

Principals are required to report to the Ministry of Education any confirmed cases of COVID 19. Parents will be notified if there is a confirmed case in the school on our school website. This will be done in a confidential manner. More information about school reporting of COVID 19 can be found here:

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/covid-19-cases-schools-and-child-care-centres - section-5>

## **STUDENT INFORMATION:**

### **PLEASE KEEP US UPDATED**

Early this week you will receive an envelope with important paperwork to fill out for the beginning of our school year. Please follow the directions on each page and return the completed forms to the school as soon as possible.

If your child has a medical condition (i.e. allergies, asthma, diabetes, etc.), please be sure to let the school know if they aren't already aware or if something has changed over the summer. Even if a condition has not changed, please be sure to complete the required forms that will be sent home or call the office to request that forms be sent for you to complete.

As well, please be sure that the school is aware of any custody issues by providing the office with the most updated paperwork. Please know that we can only adhere to Orders and Agreements if we have them in our possession. If arrangements change throughout the year, it is very important to provide the office with the most up-to-date information. Thank you for your support!

### **Special Dates for September:**

**September 24<sup>th</sup>: Terry Fox/Kristin Heasman Memorial Walk (more information to follow)**

**September 30<sup>th</sup>: National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (Orange Shirt Day)**



### **Other Notes:**

**Pizza Days will start in October! We are planning for two days (Wednesday, October 13<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, October 27<sup>th</sup>) Stay tuned for more details on the process for ordering!**

**A date for Our Fall Picture Day with LifeTouch will be coming soon!**