

# — WELCOME — BACK TO SCHOOL

**Hello Ontario PS Families,**

## **WELCOME TO THE 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR!**

On behalf of the staff at Ontario, we would like to welcome back all our returning students and families. For our students and families new to Ontario, we are excited that you will be joining us this year.

We are looking forward to a new school year filled with possibilities. We know that this year will be full of new learnings, new experiences, new opportunities, and new friendships. There is a great deal of information in this week's parent communication and we appreciate the time you are giving to reading all this information!

The first day of school brings life back to the building, such as seeing smiling students eager to share their summer tales and hearing excitement in the air as students settle into their new classrooms. Thank you to Mrs. Stup and her team for their excellent job getting the school ready to greet our students.

Our amazing Ontario team of educators and support staff are here to create an inclusive, safe space where everyone feels like they belong, as we begin our 2023-24 'Learning Journey' together!

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

We encourage our families to visit the following:

['DSBN Welcome Back to school – Elementary Students'](#)

webpage (go to DSBN.org). You will find resources and answers to some questions you may have as you prepare for your child's return to school.

### Morning Arrival 8:45am-9:05am

- **Yard supervision begins at 8:45 am.**
- We kindly ask you to ensure your child arrives at school when there is supervision.
- Primary students enter the yard on the right side of the school by the bunker. Junior/Intermediates will come in on the left. There will be signs in the morning to help guide students. Teachers will be outside tomorrow as well holding signs to help students find their teacher.
- Kindergarten students will be greeted by a Kindergarten team member at the gated section at the front of the school upon arrival.
- Grade(s) 1-8 students will remain on the yard until the start of the instructional day (9:05 am)
- Kiss & Ride- Enrollment has increased by about 40 students. If you use the Kiss & Ride, please pull up as far as possible and watch for staff to direct you. Students should exit the vehicle on the side closest to the school for safety reasons. Please do not stop mid way through the line and allow your child to exit as it causes a back up on the road. Please remember that our school was not designed for car drop offs. It's not ideal and we encourage walking or riding the bus if your child is eligible.

### Grade 1-8 Dismissal 3:25 pm

Dismissal will look similar to last year, **our dismissal bell rings at 3:25 pm:**

- Kindergarten dismissal: K1 (Phillips/Elliott) , K2 (Norton), will be dismissed from the gated area at the front and K3 (Simpson/DeRuiter) & K4 (DaEira/Maddalena) to the right of the gated area by the bunker.
- Parents/Guardians/Caregivers who are picking up their child(ren) in grades 1-8 are to wait at the left side of the school at 3:25 pm., remain on the grass and a staff member will direct them to you.
- Bus students will be supervised and will be walking with a staff member to our bus loading zone to board their bus.
- Walkers will be dismissed by their teacher.

## Fitness and Nutrition Breaks

### Morning Nutrition Break:

10:45 am -11:05 am (Primary/Intermediate Nutrition Break & Junior Fitness Break)

11:05 am -11:25 am (Primary/Intermediate Fitness Break & Junior Nutrition Break)

### Afternoon Nutrition Break:

1:05 pm -1:25 pm (Primary/Intermediate Nutrition Break & Junior Fitness Break)

1:25 pm -1:45 pm (Primary/Intermediate Fitness Break & Junior Nutrition Break)

## Attendance

Attendance is taken twice daily. **Please help us to ensure the safety of our students by reporting your child's absence or if they will be arriving late to school.** Students who arrive late to school (morning or afternoon) must report to the office. Please do your best to arrive on time. It's important that students don't miss instructional time or interrupt a class with a late arrival.

How can I report my child's absence or late arrival? Whether it's an illness, a medical appointment or other important event, there are times when students may need to be away from school. Using the [Safe Arrival](#) system (you can find

information on the DSBN website for Safe Arrival info), parents will be able to report daily absences, and even schedule absences in one of three ways:

1. Call toll-free before bell time: 1-866-606-5567
2. Logging on to the web portal (<https://go.schoolmessenger.ca/#/account/login>). Using this website, you can set up your account to report and schedule absences.
3. Using your smartphone or tablet. Simply download the SchoolMessenger app. The app is compatible with both Apple and Android devices.

Please report all absences prior to bell time for the current day. If your child has an upcoming appointment, you can also schedule future absences by using one of these three methods.

### **Student Verification Information Forms**

During the first week of school, you will receive a computer printout of your child's information on file. Please check this and make any changes, fill in any missing information, and return it to the school promptly. In the interest of health and safety, it is important that students' medical and personal information is updated each year. Please let us know if any of the information changes during the school year to ensure we have the most up-to-date contact information.

### **DSBN Elementary School Year Calendar**

Click [HERE](#) for the school year Calendar.



# 2023-2024 ELEMENTARY SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

- First and Last Day of School
- Holiday / School Closed
- Professional Development Day

September 2023							October 2023							November 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7				4	5	6	7
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30		

  

December 2023							January 2024							February 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6						10	11
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29		

  

March 2024							April 2024							May 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6						15	16
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31	

  

June 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

### RECOGNIZING DAYS OF SIGNIFICANCE

The DSBN believes in building a culture of appreciation and inclusion, where students know they are valued, respected and celebrated. In addition to this school year calendar, there is also a calendar for **Days of Significance** that occur throughout the year. This calendar highlights culturally-relevant events and tools to cultivate young minds to embrace their genius, appreciate our differences and disrupt oppression so we all can live harmoniously.

Please visit [www.dsbni.org/equity/days-of-significance-calendar](http://www.dsbni.org/equity/days-of-significance-calendar) to view this calendar and resources.

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## Prevalent Medical Conditions



## I Matter At DSBN

If you have a child with a prevalent medical condition (Anaphylaxis, Asthma, Diabetes, and/or Epilepsy or others) we want to make sure we have a current Plan of Care to support your child. All parents of children with prevalent medical conditions are asked to fill out the new Plan of Care and submit to the school. If your child had a plan of care last year, forms will be sent home on Tuesday.

In addition, You can download the forms here

[dsbn.org/prevalent-medical-conditions](http://dsbn.org/prevalent-medical-conditions).

For more information, please contact the school.

## Communication

**Beginning this week, we will send out a Friday email updating the community about important information for the following week. The feedback given last year was that parents found it easier to have weekly reminders. As well, we will be adding a calendar feature to our school website with current events.**

Thank you,

Mrs. B. Falardeau & Ms. S. Plat