

St. Dorothy Express

September 2019



First week of school

September 3rd, is the first day of school for Grades 1-6. Students in Pre-K and K are starting progressively over the next few days, with all preschool students attending all day on Friday, September 6th. The excitement of a new school year is in the air!

I would like to acknowledge the excellent work put in by the staff to prepare the school for the arrival of the students. From the energetic organization and support of our school secretary, Ms. Jennifer, to the magnificent preparation of the building by our caretakers, Mr. Mike and Mr. Angelo, to the teachers and support staff who have been working so hard to set up classrooms, workspaces, daycare, and common areas for the students, BRAVO! We are fortunate to have such a dedicated staff at St. Dorothy School!

Welcome Back Activity

A special welcome back activity, animated by Dynamix, will take place for all students during the afternoon of September 6th. We are looking for 8 parent volunteers to help out with activities. Please contact the school secretary if you are interested.

New Staff Members

Please join me in welcoming new staff members who will be working with us at St. Dorothy this year:

- Ms. Adriana Di Benedetto Bilingual Kindergarten (replacing Ms. Antonella Terriaca)
- Ms. Christina Maalouf Grade 5 and Grade 6 English

As well, I welcome back all returning staff members. We will work together to create a healthy and vibrant school culture for everyone at St. Dorothy this year.

Agendas

Student agendas will be distributed to all students Grades 1-6. You will find the school's rules and regulations and other pertinent information at the front of the agenda (Pre-K and K will find this in the info package handed out the first day). **Please read these pages with your children.** In the "Code of Conduct" section, there is a page requiring a parent/guardian signature and your child's signature. ***Grades 1-6, please make sure to hand in this section to your child's homeroom teacher.***

Absences

If your child is absent, **please make sure to call the school as soon as possible in the morning and leave a message on the answering machine with the reason for the absence.** You may also email the school by writing a brief message at the following email address: st.dorothy@emsb.qc.ca

Late Arrivals

Parents/guardians are reminded that being late for school is **not acceptable** and should only occur in exceptional circumstances. Please help us in teaching our students the value of punctuality. **A pupil who is late must report to the secretary for a late slip, before proceeding to class. All late arrivals will be recorded in the child's file. Repeated absences will be followed up with parents/guardians by the school principal.**

Early dismissals

Should it be necessary for your child to be dismissed early, a written request is required and must be presented to the office.

Bus Transportation

It is imperative that bus students always carry their bus pass with them in order to board the school bus. It is expected that students on the bus will conduct themselves appropriately in order to ensure their own safety and the safety of others. If your child received a bus pass and is not using it, kindly return the pass to school.

Important Safety measures in the school yard

Morning supervision in the school yard starts at 7:50 a.m. Children are not to enter the yard before this time, and parents/guardians are reminded to wait on the sidewalk. Please do not accompany your child (ren) into the school yard. If you wish to supervise your own child, then you may keep him/her with you on the sidewalk until the bell rings. Thank you for your cooperation.

Snack Program and Milk Program

The snack and milk programs will start on Monday, September 16th. Each student will receive a snack and milk at snack time. These programs are provided at no cost to parents/guardians.

Hot Lunch Suppliers

Last June, Governing Board approved *Le Doral* as our hot lunch supplier. The menu was already sent home and this lunch program will start on Monday, September 16th.

MEES Hot Meals will be offered once again this year; the program will be starting on Monday, September 16th. (Info has been sent home today in your child's information package).

Breakfast Program – Volunteers Needed!

This excellent and cost effective program will be starting as soon as new volunteers are in place to ensure the program runs smoothly. Please let the school secretary know if you are able to volunteer any mornings for food prep, distribution, and/or clean up. More information to follow re: start date.

Base Daycare

September is about welcoming new children, new routines and new educators. I want to welcome back Ms. Sandra Petrillo, Daycare Technician and Ms. Maria Zavaglia and Miss Stefanie Stagno, Daycare Educators.

Once everyone is settled in, parents will be receiving invoices for the month of September with the due date indicated. Please make sure to respect the deadline. All cheques must be addressed to St. Dorothy Daycare, and if you wish to pay cash you may contact Ms. Sandra to make arrangements. The afterschool B.A.S.E Activities will soon be starting. A memo will be sent home with more information. If you have any questions or concerns do not hesitate to call Ms. Sandra (514) 381-1488.

Family BBQ Night September 13th

Parents/guardians and children are invited to attend a Family BBQ from 5-7 p.m. This event will replace the usual Curriculum Night, with activities for the children and opportunities for families and staff members to meet in a fun and informal setting. Parents/guardians will also be given opportunities to see their child(ren)'s classrooms. A letter will be sent home with more information, along with your child's grade level Standards and Procedures, before the event.

Parent volunteers will be needed to help with the BBQ that evening

I hope to meet as many families as possible on September 13th!

Annual General Meeting September 13th

This meeting is open to all parents/guardians and will start at 7 p.m. after the BBQ. To establish this year's Governing Board, 4 new members will need to be elected. If you are interested in being a candidate, please send in the form that is being sent to you today in your child's information package.

Playground Refresh Project Saturday, September 21st

In 2010 our main school playground was built, financed by a KaBOOM grant and organized by volunteers from Forrester's Financial. This year St. Dorothy School has received a grant from KaBOOM to refresh the school playground. In collaboration with volunteers from Forrester's Financial, we are looking for parent volunteers to help out with tasks such as adding mulch under the play structure, painting picnic tables, benches and planters, repainting the game lines on the asphalt, and clearing weeds. Children under the age of 16 will not be permitted to participate in the work, but there will be supervised activities for children and lunch will be served for everyone. More info to follow. *If you know now you would like to help out that day, please let the school secretary know and how many from your family will attend.*

Attestation Day

It is of utmost importance that your child(ren) attend school on this day. The number of students attending St. Dorothy for the purpose of government funding is established according to the number of students present that day.

School Pictures

Please take note that school pictures will be taken on Thursday, October 10, 2019. The purchase of school photos is optional. Retakes (individual portraits only) will only for students absent on October 10th.

On behalf of the staff of St. Dorothy School, I wish you a successful 2019-2020 school year!

Denise Maroun, Principal