

SEPTEMBER 2020 • LETTER OF THE MONTH EAST HILL SCHOOL



Dear Families,

On behalf of our entire staff at East Hill School, we are happy to welcome you to the 2020-2021 school year. We have full confidence in the dedication of our teachers and staff and look forward to a successful opening.

EMSB schools will be reopening on August 31st. The health & safety of our students, staff, and parents is our priority. We ask that you monitor your children for symptoms and contact us if your child is sick.

We would like to remind you that in accordance with Direction de santé publique, if your child:

- has symptoms of COVID-19, such as: fever, dry cough, shortness of breath, tiredness OR
- lives with a person who has symptoms of COVID-19 or is in isolation because of COVID-19 (confirmed case or contact) OR
- has travelled outside of the country in the last 14 days

then, he or she must stay home. Please contact the COVID-19 info-line at 1-877-644-4545 immediately and follow their instructions.

Rest assured that once students arrive, we will also be taking their temperature and monitoring for any symptoms. Should any students exhibit any symptoms, an isolation room has been established to quarantine the child and prevent the spread amongst our students & staff. Our caretakers will also be cleaning & disinfecting the school regularly.

- We will be welcoming back the students on August 31st, 2020 at 7:45AM. Dismissal will be at 2:48PM.
- As students arrive on the first day, they will notice **six** areas designated by coloured bunched balloons that will span across the Upper Parking Lot, Kindergarten Yard & Park at the front of the building.

IMPORTANT

Letter of the Month & Calendar will always be emailed to parents on the last school day of the month and will also be available on East Hill's website.

<http://www.emsb.qc.ca/easthill/>

When receiving the letter of the month and calendar, please take careful note of all dates since you will not receive any written notices other than those indicated in the Letter of the Month.

Upcoming Events

Orientation Nights – 7:00PM

Meet your child's teachers:

September 9th Levels 3-4-5-6

September 10th Levels K-1-2

Gov. Board General Assembly:

September 15th

Volunteer to be a member or come elect the parent representatives on the committee

Home & School Meeting:

September 30th

School Picture Day:

On **September 30th**, bring your best smile!

September 30th is also Attestation Day!

Attestation Day is very important for our school. Based on the students' presence on that day the school and school board are allocated government funds for the entire school year. **It is of the utmost importance that your child attend school unless he/she is very sick.**

- Each level will have a designated colour to mark their meeting area. See below:

Level 1: Red
Level 2: Yellow

Level 3: Blue
Level 4: Green

Level 5: Orange
Level 6: Purple

- Following a brief welcome activity, students will discover their new homeroom for 2020-2021. Each homeroom will then head inside & will begin the day with a walkabout of the building, where they will learn of the increased health & safety procedures that will be instilled at East Hill.

For an overview of the increased health & safety procedures that will be instilled at East Hill, **see the next page...**

- Mandatory hand washing upon entering the building/classrooms
- One-meter distancing between students & staff as they move around
- Masks to be worn when walking about in common areas - and when social distancing cannot be respected
- Modified traffic patterns in hallways and common areas to avoid contact (following directional arrows & signs)
- Although each classroom is considered a 'bubble', students will still be asked to respect some social distancing in the classroom. Moreover, we are looking into placing a plexiglass in the front of each desk, in order to ensure the safety of all students & staff.
- At snack time & throughout the lunch period, each child will first clean their desk area with Clorox wipes. Then, all students will be provided with a paper placement to cover their eating surface. Again, they will be asked to wash their hands before they begin eating.
- Should a child need to leave the classroom for whatever reason, hand washing will be possible at various stations throughout our school.
- Rest assured that all measures equally apply to those students who will be part of the Daycare program at East Hill.

For the moment, these are most important health & safety practices that will be put into place. We will be in contact with you again to share further details regarding recess, specialist subjects, transportation, etc.

You can continue to count on our team of dedicated teachers and professionals to create a rich learning environment, where all students will feel safe to explore, discover and thrive. The safety and well-being of our students is our utmost concern. We thank you for the trust you instill in us as we care for your child on a daily basis.

We look forward to **an exciting** and engaging school year.



Libby Amato
Principal



Cynthia Canale
Vice-Principal



At East Hill, we step it up!



IMPORTANT REMINDER

SCHOOL HOURS • SEPTEMBER 2020

The Ministry of Education continues to request that the elementary schools offer two 20-minute recesses per day.

Therefore, here is the schedule of the day:

7h45 School Starts
9h55 Junior PRE-K & Recess
10h15 Senior & KDG Recess
11h35-12h35 Lunch Period (30 mins Play + 30 mins Lunch)
13h20 Junior & PRE-K Recess
13h40 Senior & KDG Recess
14h45 End of school day for PRE-K & KDG
14h48 End of School Day

Morning Arrival

School starts at **7:45AM**. Understand that late arrivals are recorded in the student's file.

The Loop

Cars are NOT to access the PARKING nor the LOOP between 7:35AM – 8:00AM when school buses are present.

Drop-Off Area

Keeping the students' safety in mind, parents must either drop off their children in **the park area next to the school on Marcel-Raymond or let them walk up to the school from Perras.**

REMEMBER: NEVER stop your car in front of the school, in front of the park entrance or in the middle of the street and NEVER double-park on Perras or Marcel-Raymond!

NEW THIS YEAR → An additional supervision post will be added by Marcel-Raymond. Our goal is to facilitate the drop-off process for parents, so that the flow of movement & safety of all students remains a maximum priority.

Remember – this is a joint effort! Every child's safety should be our first and foremost priority and courtesy should follow!

Parents' TO DO List

Fill & return the important forms you will receive shortly:

- Student Information Sheet
- Emergency Health Record
- Lunch Program Form
- Milk Program Form
- Notice to Parents regarding fees for workbooks and consumables

Dismissal Routine Form:

Please complete & return the form ON OPENING DAY (August 31st) to your homeroom teacher.

School Agenda:

We ask that you read through the front pages of the agenda with your child and **together sign the first page** acknowledging that you have done so. The plastic pouch at the front of the agenda is used by teachers to place notices sent to parents. **We ask that you check the pouch each evening.**

Hot Meal Services
Services starting Sept. 14th, 2020

Merenda

Traiteur scolaire

Easy to order online!

www.traiteurmerenda.com

Please note that in an effort to reduce plastic waste, we have asked Merenda to remove water bottles as a beverage option from their menu. As a result, we strongly encourage students to bring in reusable water bottles.

ACCOMMODATION BUSSING:



With the current Covid-19 situation, the Minister of Education has announced that transportation services will be limited to 2 students per bench for a maximum of 48 students per bus instead of the usual 72 students. As a result of this new information, the EMSB is required to make some adjustments to some of the transportation services offered to our students.

Given the limited number of students permitted on the bus, priority will be given to the students who are eligible for Transportation Services, as per the Transportation Policy.

- **Pre-Kindergarten** and **Kindergarten** students residing more than 0.6 km from the school in their distinct boundary;
- **Elementary students** residing more than **1.4** km from the school in their distinct boundary.

In the case of your child who would normally receive accommodation bussing, services **will not** be offered at the start of the school year as in the case with previous years. Requests may not be reviewed before mid-October or until the EMSB can ensure that all students who are eligible have received bussing services. Please note that in some cases the EMSB may not be able to offer accommodation bussing for the 2020-2021 school year until such time that the Ministry's directives remain in effect.

Once the regular routes are finalized and assigned to the students who are eligible, the EMSB will be sending you a second email with a list of available bus stops. Once received, we ask that you fill out the accommodation form and submit your request. **Until then, please refrain from contacting your school regarding this subject, as they will be unable to provide any additional information.**

Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, we have been faced with many challenges. However, our goal is, and always will remain, to ensure the health and safety of our students. We will continue to put forward our best efforts to accommodate and provide transportation services to as many students as possible, while in keeping with our policies and procedures.

Should you have any concerns or inquiries, please do not hesitate to contact the Transportation Division at schoolorg@emsb.qc.ca.

IMPORTANT:

In our June memo to parents, you may have noticed that accommodation request dates were pre-emptively schedule for August 26th, 27th & 28th – as they have been in previous years.

In light of the information above, please note that the accommodation request dates planned for **August 26th, 27th & 28th HAVE BEEN CANCELED. NO ACCOMMODATION REQUESTS** can be accepted until further notice.