

August 28, 2020

Dear Christ the King students and families:

We are pleased to report that the first full week back to school has gone quite well! Thank you for supporting your children as they transition back to full-days of learning. Students seem to be adapting well to the new ways of interacting in our school; our hand washing routines and transitions have become more efficient. That being said, we will still appreciate reminders for students to keep their hands clean, to themselves, and away from their faces. Also, it is important to note: students seem to be happy to be back at school 😊!

Here are some important things to know as we head into September:

Upcoming Emergency Drills

Each year, staff and students must practice what to do in specific emergency situations. Here are the days on which we will be reviewing procedures and practicing our response to an emergency. Feel free to discuss these with your children beforehand:

- Thursday, Sept. 3 – Fire Drill
- Thursday, Sept. 10 – Lockdown Drill
- Thursday, Sept. 17 – Earthquake Drill

Sick Child Protocols

As you are well aware, all parents/guardians are asked to do health screens each morning before sending students to school. We need to be vigilant about keeping sick people at home and healthy people at school. That being said, we also want to be reasonable and understand that some ailments are not caused by infectious illnesses. Occasionally, a student may show some symptoms of being sick while at school. Here is how CKES office staff and administration will respond when there is concern that a child may have come to school sick. These are general policies that should apply in most circumstances:

- Sneezing, coughing, runny nose, headache, aches/pains – If a child shows **only one** of these symptoms, we'll be questioning for secondary symptoms. If two or more symptoms are present, the child will be sent home. If there is only the one symptom, the child may stay at school.
- Fever, sore throat, vomiting, diarrhea – the child will be sent home as soon as possible.
- Allergies or health conditions will be taken into consideration.
- If it is deemed the child is not sick, he/she will be sent back to class.
- If we deem the child is sick, they must wear a mask and a parent will be called to pick him/her up.

Non-Medical Mask Use in Schools

Yukon Education has recently distributed a document entitled “Guidance on Non-Medical Mask Use in Schools.” The document states: “It is recommended that students age 10 and older (Grade 4 and up) wear non-medical masks in school settings where physical distancing cannot be maintained. Masks are not specifically recommended for students under the age of 10, however they may choose to wear a mask if they wish. Schools will decide where masks should be worn by students within each school setting. They may consider having students wear a mask in the following situations:

- Riding or lining up for the school bus
- Walking in hallways and corridors
- Other situations when in close contact with other students or staff

Students do not need to wear a mask in a classroom setting if they are physically distanced from each other.” The document is attached for your reference. If families choose to wear masks, it will be wise to review the steps about how to put on and remove a mask safely, as well as how to clean masks.

Given these guidelines, teachers may encourage students to wear masks or face shields in certain situations. However, while recommended, masks are still not mandatory. The Covid-19 virus is spread through saliva droplets, and so wearing a mask protects the people close to you by keeping your germs to yourself. If a student does not want to wear a mask, he/she must be physically distanced. Since our classes are in cohorts that do not mix, and we are also maintaining hand washing routines and cleaning surfaces, the risk of virus transmission remains low. Masks are a final layer to be considered after other mitigations.

Again, thank you for being a wonderful school community! If you have any questions or concerns, please email or call.

Sincerely,

Jeanette Gallant

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