École Golden Ears Elementary

Start Up Information

September 2022

Welcome back everyone!

I hope you had a wonderful summer and were able to relax, rejuvenate and have some fun. Christina and I are looking forward to welcoming you back and working together to create a great year at Golden Ears!

**Staffing Updates:**

Please welcome our new/returning colleagues as you see them around the school in the coming days:

* Katelyn Dionne-Clark (EA)
* Taylar Clifford (K Weds. With Nicole)
* Melissa Gentes (Gr. 7 LFI)
* Estelle Keeler (Support)
* Jin Young Lim (LHS)
* Kyra Lutsch (EA)
* Jessi McLean (K Transition EA)
* Regis Montgomery (Gr. 3)
* Courtney Mosterd (EA)
* Hannah Nicholl (CCW; Tues/Fri/alternate Wed)
* Karlee Reich (Gr. 6 LFI)
* Amanda Russell (Prep)
* Connie Sherren (Clerk)

The following positions have been posted and will be filled this week:

* 0.8 Support
* 0.2 K (Jenny)
* 0.2 K (Rebecca)

We will also have student teachers joining us to complete their 405 practicums from September 26-November 29:

* Julee Bassetto (with Nicole)
* Esther Ryu (with Marie)
* Sydney Weeks ( with Karen)

A big “thank you” to our custodial staff for getting our school prepared for our new year.

Unfortunately, the portable is still a work in progress and should be delivered September 12th.

Until such time that Michelle can move into her new portable, her class will be in the Multipurpose Room. This means prep will be provided in teachers’ classrooms (or outside weather permitting) until the portable is ready.

**Week 1 Overview:**

The format for this first week will be similar to the September 2021 start-up. All returning students will go back to their classroom from last year and be dropped off and picked up from this location. You are welcome to collaborate with your grade groupings if you want to plan activities together.

**New students** will go to the Library Tuesday afternoon with Ms. Chudy and Ms. Wiens and will be placed with grade-level peers on Wednesday (before recess). Please expect a new student or two to be brought to your classroom and added to your attendance list for the remainder of the week.

**Teachers’ prep time** for the first week will be provided on Tuesday, September 6 from 10:00-11:50. Prep schedules are attached for quick reference. Prep teachers and grade 6/7 teachers will be assisting with our new grade 1’s for the first week.

**Christina and I are providing breakfast** on Tuesday and will be offering coffee, tea and a selection of breakfast items (baked goods, fruit etc.) to ease you into the first day and connect with colleagues.

**Support teachers** will be assisting new and current students with special needs in settling back into school routines. They will also be working on collecting documentation to submit for new ministry designations.

**EA’s** will be following their temporary schedules.

**September 6th- Our first day is as follows:**

8:30-9:45 Staff Meeting

9:45-10:00 Recess

10:00-11:50 Teacher prep/EA material and resource preparation

11:50- Lunch Break

12:30-Students arrive (previous classes/new students to library/LFI to new classes)

1:00- Intermediate Assembly in Gym

1:45- Primary Assembly in Gym

2:20 Dismissal

**For the week:**

We will be **completing attendance on paper**. Class lists will be in teachers’ mailboxes. Please complete attendance carefully, mark present or absent and indicate if you hear a student has moved. Please send attendance to the office BEFORE 1:00 (or 9:00 on subsequent days) so we can start to get a sense of our school numbers.

Extra Gr. 4-7 **school supply lists** are on the school website or available at the office for students to pick.

**Planners** will be distributed once students are in their classes for this year.

All students will go to their previous year’s classrooms with the following changes:

* **Mrs. Valouche’s grade 6’s** (from last year) will go to Mr. Stevenson’s room (rm. 1009).
* **Ms. Qually’s K’s from last year** will stay in Ms. Qually’s room (rm. 1007) with Ms. Morrow/Devantier.
* **Ms. Leier’s K’s from last year** will go to Mrs. Birch’s new room (rm. 1012) with our Prep teachers.
* **Mrs. Cacchioni’s K’s from last year** will be in Mrs. Valouche’s classroom (rm. 1006) with Mrs. Valouche.
* **Ms. Birch’s K/1’s from last year** will be in Ms. Birch’s old classroom (rm 1031) with Mrs. Cruickshank.
* **Ms. Rankin’s 3/4 class** will be met by Ms. Montgomery (rm 1027) in the courtyard.
* **Ms. Hiebert’s class** will be met by Ms. Hiebert outside the MRP door in the courtyard.
* **Late French Immersion** students will be asked to line up outside the courtyard and will go directly into their new classes.

This information will be shared with parents and signs posted to help guide them. We will also remind parents about our school hours returning to 8:30-2:20. This information will be posted on the school website and a reminder sent to parents through the Parent Portal.

Teachers, please review and discuss our school Code of Conduct with all students. Please promote responsibility, citizenship and conflict resolution/WITS. Some areas to focus on include:

* respecting all adults who work in the school
* being a positive role model, doing your part for the environment, be polite, be safe and listen to all staff members
* Washrooms- keep it clean, wash hands, give people privacy.
* Hallways- keep hands and feet to self, move quietly, be mindful of others, their property and bulletin boards.
* Outside- treat others and the environment with respect; review “Outside Play Expectations” and "Golden Ears Turf Field Routines & Rules” as appropriate for your grade level; email to follow

Other items:

* Please find the Recess Supervision schedule attached; this will start Sept. 7.
* Laura, Christina and support teachers will be helping guide students to classes and new students to the library in the mornings.
* We will review class configurations Tuesday and Wednesday beginning at 2:30. Please listen to the PA announcement for your grade level as the “placing” teacher (i.e., for last year’s class).
* Our goal is to finalize class placements and move into our new classes as soon as we get the go ahead from the district. If parents ask, this timeline is necessary so that the district can determine where additional spaces are needed across the district.

Christina and I are looking forward to an exciting year at Golden Ears Elementary! If you have any questions, please come by the office, call us or send an email.

Sincerely,

Laura and Christina