



YENNADON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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July 5, 2023

Dear Parents of New Kindergarten Students,

Welcome to Kindergarten at Yennadon Elementary. **We will begin the year with a gradual entry process.** Gradual entry promotes a safe and healthy start to full time attendance and allows children to gradually understand routines, make friends, connect with teachers, and feel comfortable at school. It also provides parents with comfort and reassurance that their child's adjustment needs have been well considered.

Your child will have an opportunity to work with all the kindergarten teachers on the first two days of school. This gives the kindergarten students an opportunity to meet with the different kindergarten teachers and to work with a variety of classmates from different groups. It also gives the kindergarten team an opportunity to meet all the children, to get a sense of their learning styles, and to create balanced classes. **Please refer to your Parent Portal message for your child's group and see the attached calendar for more details.**

Your child is either in the AM (Morning) or PM (Afternoon) Group.

At Yennadon Elementary, our West Coast Recess means that we go outside each day rain or shine. Inside days are reserved for more extreme weather conditions. Please ensure that your child is prepared for all types of weather. Also, please note that your child's **school supply fee for Kindergarten is \$55** (payable in September to your child's teacher or via the Parent Portal).

There is **no school** for new Kindergarten students on **Tuesday, September 5th**. You will be contacted regarding a specific scheduled appointment if necessary.

Wednesday – Friday, September 6th – 8th

Things your child will need:

- a backpack, large enough to easily fit a lunch and books, labeled with your child's name on the outside
- one healthy **snack** (peanut/nut/seed free)
- a cloth bag, labeled with your child's name, containing one full change of clothes, including underwear, socks, pants, and a top (to be kept in the backpack for the first week of school)

- inside shoes, labeled with your child's name or initials, Velcro or slip-on runners with non-marking soles
- appropriate outdoor wear for Recess (boots, raincoats, umbrellas, hats)

Instructions: **Morning Group attends 8:30 – 11:05am and Afternoon Group attends 11:45am – 2:20pm.** Please meet at the back outside Gym doors of the Yennadon Annex at the beginning and at the end of your child's time.

You will know your child's teacher by Friday, September 8th. You will receive instructions via the Parent Portal how to sign-up online for your child's intake meeting. Please sign up for your preferred time (on either Monday or Tuesday), otherwise a time will be provided for you. If you know in advance that you need a specific time, please call the school and speak to the vice-principal, Mrs. Meyer, and we will try to make suitable arrangements.

Monday and Tuesday, September 11th and 12th

Intake Meetings will take place in your child's classroom. It is important that we meet with each child and his/her parent(s). Please be prompt in arriving and leaving for your meeting. You will have a chance at this time to ask any questions and give any additional information to your child's teacher. Please mark these dates/times on your calendar.

Wednesday – Friday, September 13th – 15th

Things your child will need:

- same as above, plus
- one healthy **snack** and one **lunch** (peanut/nut/seed free)

Instructions: **All students will attend from 8:30am – 1:30pm.** Please meet at the front/back of the Yennadon Annex at the beginning and at the end of your child's time. Please either stand in the sectioned off waiting area at the front of the Annex or on the field close to the Annex fence at the back. As part of the gradual entry process, we will be spending time teaching the children lunchtime routines, such as washing hands, sitting while we eat, opening containers, and discussing healthy food choices. The children will have an opportunity to integrate with the rest of the school for lunchtime play. Kindergarten teachers will be working alongside lunch hour supervisors to ensure the safety of all children.

Full Days Begin Monday, September 18th

Regular school hours begin this week: **8:30am - 2:20pm.**

No Parking or Drive-Through at the Annex

There are concrete barriers across the parking lot leaving only one handicap parking stall available. The purpose of these barriers is to remind everyone that the **Annex parking lot is closed to parents for parking during morning drop-off and after-school pick-**

up times. The barriers also provide a safe area for pedestrians to stand/wait in the morning and after school. In addition, the remaining parking stall is for valid handicap parking only.

In the morning and after school, we ask that you **find parking in the neighbourhood and walk to drop-off/pick-up your child**. Please remember to be mindful of our neighbours when you park your car in the neighbourhood. We sometimes receive calls from people when driveways are partially blocked by parked cars.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation. We look forward to seeing you soon!

The Kindergarten Teachers

Kindergarten

2023

Sun.	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat.
Refer to Parent Portal Message for Group						
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
			AM – 8:30-11:05 PM – 11:45-2:20 Annex Gym Bring Snack	AM – 8:30-11:05 PM – 11:45-2:20 Annex Gym Bring Snack	AM – 8:30-11:05 PM – 11:45-2:20 Annex Gym Bring Snack	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	Intake Meetings Parent and child attend at scheduled time	Intake Meetings Parent and child attend at scheduled time	Gradual Entry 8:30-1:30 Front/Back Annex Bring snack and lunch	Gradual Entry 8:30-1:30 Front/Back Annex Bring snack and lunch	Gradual Entry 8:30-1:30 Front/Back Annex Bring snack and lunch	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	Full Days Begin 8:30-2:20					
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
		Individual Student Photos				
Oct. 1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (no school)	District Non-Instructional Day (no school)				

AM or PM – Your child attends for one of these time periods Sept. 6th, 7th, and 8th.

Gradual Entry – All Kindergarten students attend 8:30am – 1:30pm Sept. 13th, 14th, 15th.

*Please note: Your child will start each of the first three days of school in the gym of the Yennadon Annex but will be interacting with a variety of kindergarten students and working with each kindergarten teacher. **You will know your child’s teacher by Friday, September 8th. You will receive instructions via the Parent Portal how to sign-up online for your child’s intake meeting.**