



January 22, 2021

Dear Our Lady of Mercy Families,

Once again, our sincere gratitude goes out to our families for continuing to follow the safety protocols. Thus far, your discretion and judgment has been outstanding and it has helped to maintain a safe school environment for all of us.

Thank you for your continued support. *Let's work together to ensure the safety and health of all!*

"The world's faith depends on Christian Unity; in fact, the Lord asked that we be one 'so the world might believe' (Jn 17:21). The world will not believe because of our convincing arguments, but because we have borne witness to that love that unites us and draws us near."

- Pope Francis

COVID SAFETY REMINDERS

1. *Continue with the **Daily Health Checks** and stay home if any of the symptoms are present.*
2. **Dropping Off**
 - *While on the school grounds, all adults must respect the order of the PHO to maintain 2 meter physical distancing, wear a mask and stay in their designated zones.*
 - *Please remind your child that they must line up at their classroom door. Before school is not a time to be playing or running around.*
3. **Entering The Building**
 - *All adults who enter the building to complete their Parent Participation Hours must use the scanner and check their temperature before checking in.*
 - *All adults must go out the front door and are not permitted down the hallway.*
4. *If parents have a question we would prefer you either phone or email the office to reduce the number of adults in the building.*
5. **After School Pick Up**
 - *Children are to go straight home and are not permitted on the school's playground.*
 - *Students are to be picked up by 3:15*

SCHOOL DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP

Please note, parking across the street from the school on Henley in between 10th and London is **NOT RECOMMENDED**. There have been many close calls while dropping off/picking-up students. Our children's safety **ALWAYS** comes first. Please ensure that you use the school parking lot when dropping off or picking up your child(ren).

Furthermore, there have been a number of complaints from the Henley Street neighbors regarding our OLM parents. Please remember that you represent our school. Be kind and courteous when dealing with the neighbors.

NO RIGHT TURN ON HENLEY FROM 3:00pm

Please note that you cannot turn right onto Henley from 10th Avenue from 3:00pm-6:00pm. Police will issue violation tickets.

YOUTHCAT PROGRAM

The YouthCat Program runs after school, on school days only, from 3:00pm-6:00pm. The cost is \$12/day. For ease of reference, here is the registration link <http://ourladyofmercy.ca/parent-info/youthcat/>, the form is also available on our website on the forms page.

WHAT TO DO WHEN MY CHILD IS SICK OR AWAY?

When your child will be away from school, it is **Ministry mandated** to call or preferably email the office before 9:00am to report the absence, please also cc your child's teacher. If you email to report the absence, you do not need to send a written note when your child returns as the email notification is sufficient. If you call to report the absence, please send a note listing the dates and reason for the absence.

NEW: If your child has been absent from school for any reason, on the first day back to school please return a signed, Daily Health Check form to your classroom teacher. (See attached form)

LOST AND FOUND ITEMS

In the last few months we have found and accumulated numerous lost items in particular School Uniforms. Most of the items have no names on them or names of children no longer going to the school. Can you please check and see if your child is missing a sweater/cardigan or any other school uniform items. Any items not claimed by Friday, March 12th, 2020 will be donated to Goodwill or the Used Uniform Store.

REMINDER – LABEL SCHOOL UNIFORMS

Every year items of school clothing are brought to the lost and found in the school office. If there is no name on the clothing we do not know who to return the item to. As all students wear the same uniform, it is important to put your child's name on their uniform so it can be returned to the rightful owner. We will only keep items that are not labeled for 2 weeks. If unclaimed after that time, they will be donated for Used Uniforms.

Here is the link for Mabels Labels which is a great way to label your child(ren's) clothing/items.

<http://ourladyofmercy.ca/2020/08/mabels-labels-fundraising-campaign/>

LAST CALL FOR KINDERGARTEN FOR SIBLINGS FOR 2021/2022

If you have a child ready for Kindergarten for the 2021/2022 school year, please remember to return the form to the school no later than Friday, January 15, 2021. If you do not submit a form **WE CANNOT** guarantee a spot for your sibling child.

WINTER WEATHER CONDITIONS

With the cold days of winter upon us, please remind your child(ren) to wear clothing appropriate for the weather, (ie. boots, warm jacket, mitts, toques). Students will go outside to get some fresh air during recess and lunch breaks.

In the event of inclement weather, such as snow, we will notify parents regarding any school closure. Information can also be found on our school website www.ourladyofmercy.ca.

All emails will be sent out via SeeSaw from your classroom teacher by 8:00am. Please do not tie up the school and parish telephone lines by trying to call these offices. If you do not receive an email from our school, then the school is open.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY – NO SCHOOL

Please note that there will be no school on **Monday, January 25th** as the staff will be attending a workshop that day.

LIST OF IMPORTANT DATES

January 25 th , 2021	PRO-D Day
February 11 th & 12 th , 2021	Catholic Educators' Conference – No School
February 15 th , 2021	Family Day
March 12 th , 2021	Last day of school before Spring Break
March 15 th – 26 th , 2021	Spring Break
March 29 th , 2021	School re-opens
April 1 st , 2021	Noon Dismissal
April 2 nd , 2021	Good Friday
April 4 th , 2021	Easter Sunday
April 5 th , 2021	Easter Monday
May 21 st , 2021	PRO-D Day
May 24 th , 2021	Victoria Day
June 24 th , 2021	Last Day for Students