•Website: <u>www.stjude.ca</u>

January 7, 2022

Dear Parents,

I would like to update you on the changes to our routines at St. Jude School considering the new restrictions from the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health, and the BCCDC.

- To avoid crowding in our hallways before and after recess, our primary and intermediate classes will make a change to their daily routine where students will be limited in accessing hallways.
- Primary students will use their classroom exterior exit door for the start of first recess and lunch recess. Primary students will enter by grade when returning into the school at the end of recess. This will reduce crowding in our common hallway.
- For the end of day dismissal, we need students and parents to leave right away. All parents are asked to keep on their masks when on school grounds.
- We will continue to go outside for recess as this promotes better health for the students. Only in extreme or unsafe conditions will students be kept inside. Please ensure your child is dressed for the weather with boots, gloves, toques, and a winter coat.
- Teachers and Education Assistants have spent these past few days creating plans for possible absences due to Covid19. Classrooms are also ready to transition to online learning should that become a reality. **Parents must be ready for a quick transition to online learning should the health authority or school authority deem it necessary.**
- Classrooms have been set up so that students are not facing each other. In Kindergarten, where individual desks are not available, plexiglass has been set up on the tables.
- Students are to carry 5 to 10 extra masks in a Ziplock bag in their backpack. Students are to carry extra masks in their backpack so that we can limit the number of students coming to the office.
- Sports and Orchestra will continue as usual. No sports tournaments are allowed at this time, but league and single exhibition games are permitted. Practices will happen next week but no games will happen until after January 16, 2022.
- There will be no spectators at our sports events.

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- Parents do not have access to the main hallways or classrooms while school is in session and all visitors must report to the office.
- We will continue to clean and disinfect surfaces frequently.
- Proper hand hygiene will be continued.

It is important that families help protect our school community by doing the following:

- Perform a daily health check of your child and if they have symptoms do not send them to school
- Get your child vaccinated vaccination remains the best defense
- Have your child wear a mask and make sure they have extras in their backpack this is an expectation for our students
- Make sure that your child is ready to go outside each day
- Be sure to leave the parking lot right away once you have picked up your child

We are soon approaching two years of living through Covid19 and in this time we have learned to adapt and be flexible. We have also worked hard to maintain a safe school environment by following the recommendations of health authorities and through your cooperation and effort, we can continue to deliver a safe learning environment for all.

The next few weeks will demand each of us to be flexible and resilient.

Sincerely,

Chris van der Pauw

Principal St. Jude School