



St. Michael CHS

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Tracy O'Brien - Principal ~ Laura Mackler - Vice Principal

WELCOME BACK MUSTANGS! FIRST DAY INFORMATION

Please note the first day of school date has changed. It will be a staggered start, depending on grade.

Friday, September 4th – No students

Tuesday, September 8th – Grade 7s in the building

Wednesday, September 9th – Grade 7, 8 and 9s in the building

Thursday, September 10th – Grade 7 – 12s –all grades in the building

We are so excited to welcome all of our staff and students back to school! We would like to extend a special welcome to all of those entering St. Michael CHS for the first time. We know you will enjoy being a part of our school and we look forward to meeting you!

This “Back-to-School” newsletter is packed with a lot of information and will serve to safely transition all students into St. Michael CHS this fall. We have included information for both 7 and 8, as well as high school. Please make sure that you carefully read the section that applies to the grade(s) your child(ren) is/are entering. For a complete outline of the school day and expectations, please review the CDSBEO re-entry plan on the CDSBEO website at www.cdsbeo.on.ca/cdsbeo-re-entry-plan/.

What happens if I’m a 7/8 student that has opted for online instruction?

Students that have chosen online distant learning will be part of the CDSBEO Virtual School. Classes will start on Monday September 14th. Please watch your email for further details.

What if I’ve chosen online distance learning (as a high school student)?

You will be part of your regular teacher’s class via Microsoft Teams or Brightspace/D2L. It is important to know that you will need to be online starting at 8:00 am. It’s very important that you check your school email regularly (go to www.mycdsbeo.com and choose the OUTLOOK icon) to hear from your teacher to see if they are using the Teams or Brightspace platform.

Grade 7 and 8 Mustangs

We have compiled a list of questions and answers to help with your transition. Please read these carefully to help with those first day routines.

Masks? Masks are mandatory for all students in our school. It’s highly recommended that students come with a clean Ziploc bag to put their mask into if necessary (ie – going outside for gym).

Where do I go when I get off the bus?

Grade 7s

All Grade 7 students will enter the building using the closest door to the bus loop. You will get off the bus and go to the right of the building. Staff will be there to direct you into the correct door. This door will directly take you to the Grade 7 and 8 hallway. Masks must be worn when entering the building and for the duration of your time in St. Michael CHS.

Grade 8s

All Grade 8 students will enter the building through the doors that enter into the atrium. You will get off the bus and proceed further down into the courtyard and enter the building at the far atrium doors. Staff will be there to direct you into the correct door. Masks must be worn when entering the building and for the duration of your time in St. Michael CHS.

Where do I go once I'm inside?

With your mask on, you will go straight to your Period 1 classroom. Teachers will meet students as they arrive and direct students to their homerooms. Grade 7/8 students will receive their timetables on the first day of school. Teachers will hand this out.

What if I'm not taking the bus and I am being dropped off?

If you're being dropped off you will enter via the main doors at the front of the building, near the main office. Please note to all drivers dropping off, the front of the school will be a busy spot in the morning and this is considered a school bus zone, so please be patient and use caution in this area. All Grade 7 and 8 students can then proceed to the Grade 7 and 8 wing and go directly to your classrooms.

What about my bus at the end of the day?

It is VERY important that students coming in on a bus in the morning remember their bus number so they know which bus to get on at the end of the day. Please make note of the bus number! This way it will be easier to find after school.

What time do the school doors open in the morning?

The building will remain locked until 7:45 am. Please note that if you arrive before this time you are unable to get in the building. Students are encouraged to arrive no earlier than this, as there is no supervision until 7:45.

Can I hang out in the halls once I get to school?

Due to new guidelines students must go directly to their Period 1 class. The cafeteria is closed and common areas to gather (hallways, atrium, foyer) cannot be used. It is important you go directly to your classroom.

Students in Grade 7/8 In-Person Instruction

The school will be divided into classroom/homeroom cohorts. Students will attend school 5 days per week on an adapted time schedule. Students will begin at 8:00 a.m. and end their day at approximately 12:05 p.m. All students are expected to participate in 60-minutes of synchronous online learning in the afternoon via Microsoft Teams from 1:00 – 2:00 pm.

What happens at the end of the day - 12:10?

You will leave via the doors you entered through in the morning. If you are a bus student, you will proceed immediately to the bus loop and find your bus. If you are a walker you may leave immediately following the school day and head home. If you are being picked up, please proceed to your pick up area.

I am a Grade 7/8 parent that wants my child to stay until 2:10 every day. What does this mean?

A detailed email has already been sent out to parents regarding this. Any further questions please contact the school.

Do I need to wear a uniform to school?

Yes, all students must wear a uniform to school. As the year progresses, we will look to incorporate Spirit Wear and Casual Days, however, we will announce when these will take place once school has started.

What does the 7/8 timetable look like?

8:00 – 9:00 – Period 1

9:00-10:00 – Period 2

10:00-10:05 – Break

10:05-11:05 – Period 3

11:05-12:05 – Period 4

For students staying for the afternoon:

12:05-12:30 – LUNCH

12:30-1:00 – Outside Recess

1:00-2:00 – Period 5 ONLINE class in regular classroom

2:00-2:10 – Pack Up and Dismissal (students must be picked up at this time)

For students going home for the afternoon:

1:00-2:00 – Period 5 ONLINE class via Microsoft Teams with your Period 5 teacher

Will there be athletics this year?

At this time there is a hold on athletics and extra-curriculars. We recognize the importance of these extra-curriculars, but we must adhere to the guidelines set out by our local health unit. When it is safe to do so, we will resume our regular routines.

Will parents be allowed into the school?

At this time, parents and visitors are not permitted in St. Michael CHS, unless a meeting has been scheduled with our Principal, Ms. O'Brien. Should this be the case, all visitors must assess for Covid-19 symptoms prior to entry. Those exhibiting symptoms of Covid-19 will not be allowed in the building.

Will students still be able to practice fire drills and lockdown drills?

Yes, students will still have opportunities to practice all safety drills. Students will practice a modified version of each drill and will maintain social distancing while doing so.

How will we pay for items this year?

Any items that need payment this year, such as Casual Days, yearbooks, Spirit Wear etc. we will be using School Cash Online only. We will not be collecting cash this year as we are trying to eliminate as many house to school contact surfaces as possible.

Student Timetables – when will I get mine?

Students will find out their room number and teacher(s) as they arrive on their first day.

Grades 9-12 Mustangs

We have compiled a list of questions and answers to help with your transition. Please read these carefully to help with those first day routines.

Where do I go when I get off the bus?

Grade 9/10s - You will enter the school via the doors that take you into the gym (get off the bus and go to your left).

Grade 11/12s - You will enter via the doors in the courtyard that take you into the front foyer, beside the art room.

Where do I go once I'm inside?

With your mask on, you will go straight to your Period 1 classroom. The room number is listed on the timetable that was sent to you via School Messenger (parent email). ***Please note, for various reasons teachers aren't necessarily in the room that you might normally associate them with. You will need to look for room numbers and not the teachers' names on the door.

What if I'm not taking the bus and I am being dropped off?

If you're being dropped off you will enter via the main doors at the front of the building, near the main office. Please note to all drivers dropping off, the front of the school will be a busy spot in the morning and this is considered a school bus zone, so please be patient and use caution in this area. All Grades 9-12 students can then proceed to their Period 1 classroom.

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Can I hang out in the halls once I get to school?

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Students in Grades 9 to 12 In-Person Instruction

Secondary students in grades 9 to 12 will utilize a "Quadmester Delivery Model". This model allows for 2 credits per 9-week cycle. Students will attend every day in the morning to complete period 1 and 2 courses for nine weeks (quadmester). Once the first nine weeks have been completed, students will then begin

period 3 and 4 credits for another 9 weeks. Students will begin their day at 8:00 a.m. and end their day at approximately 12:05 p.m.

What happens at the end of the day - 12:10?

You will leave via the doors you entered through in the morning. If you are a bus student, you will proceed immediately to the bus loop and find your bus. If you are a walker you may leave immediately following the school day and head home. If you are being picked up, please proceed to your pick up area.

Do I need to wear a uniform to school?

Yes, all students must wear a uniform to school. As the year progresses, we will look to incorporate Spirit Wear and Casual Days, however, we will announce when these will take place once school has started.

What does the 9-12 Schedule look like?

8:00 – 10:00 – Period 1

10:00 – 10:05 – Break (staggered by grades)

10:05 – 12:05 – Period 2

12:05 – Dismissal

1:10-1:40 – Synchronous Learning – Period 1 – all students online to meet with their Period 1 teacher

1:40-2:10 – Synchronous Learning – Period 2 – all students online to meet with their Period 2 teacher.

Will there be athletics this year?

At this time there is a hold on athletics and extra-curriculars. We recognize the importance of these extra-curriculars, but we must adhere to the guidelines set out by our local health unit. When it is safe to do so, we will resume our regular routines.

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Student Timetables – when will I get mine?

Student timetables will be emailed directly to parents using the email address we have on file. Timetables will be sent out prior to the first day of school. Students should familiarize themselves with their timetable and their assigned classes. We will have staff on hand to help all new students to safely find their way to their first period classroom.

