



JMSS School Update – Sunday, September 13, 2020

This message will cover the following 6 information items:

1. We Did It! Feedback from Week 1: September 8 to 10
2. Parking & Student Drop-off
3. What to Expect Week 2 - September 14 to 18: Dates, Cohorts, Classes and Remote Learning
4. COVID19 Prevention Protocols
5. Timetable Questions: An Update from the JMSS Guidance Team
6. OSTA: Student Transportation Update

We Did It! Feedback from Week 1: Sept 8 to 10

It was wonderful to have students return to JMSS classrooms this past week. Thank-you to JMSS parents and students for following our COVID safety protocols. Students successfully navigated designated entrances, stairwells and directional traffic plans in our hallway spaces. In our classrooms, students respected physical distancing, used the hand sanitizing stations, and wore their masks. They also endured their first “same class for the full day” learning experiences. I am very proud of our students for their optimistic approach to the school year, and for their contribution to helping prevent the spread of COVID19.

Parking & Student Drop off:

Thank-you to all families who have migrated student drop-off to the parking lot adjacent to the Walter Baker Centre Arena. Last week we noticed that some families were still using the Malvern Circular driveway, and the parking lot by doorways B and C. Moving all student drop-off traffic to the designated area by the WBC Arena helps reduce vehicle traffic in areas that are heavy with student foot traffic. When our elementary students return to school at Jockvale Public School this week, it will be increasingly important to keep all other parking lots free of family cars. We acknowledge this parking plan is a change for many families. We appreciate your support to help keep our JMSS students safe.

What to Expect Week 2 - September 14 to 18: Dates, Cohorts, Classes and Remote Learning

This week, we established two cohorts:

Cohort A: Students with Last Names A to La & **Cohort B:** Students with Last Names Le to Z
Where students live within the same household, but have different last names, we have worked with families to assign the students to a common Cohort.

This past week, students attended their Period 1 class. The week of September 14 to 18 Cohort A and Cohort B will attend on alternating days. Students will attend their period 3 class, and will begin Remote Learning on the days that they are at home.

The schedule for the week will be as follows:

Date	Cohort	Learning
Monday Sept 14	Cohort A	Attends school – Period 3 class
	Cohort B	Home for remote learning – review classwork from P1, Week 1
Tuesday Sept 15	Cohort A	Home for remote learning 9:05am to 12:55pm – Virtual Check-in and attendance 1:50pm to 3:05pm – Remote Support Period https://sites.google.com/ocdsb.ca/jmsslearnathome
	Cohort B	Attends school – Period 3 class
Wednesday Sept 16	Cohort A	Attends school – Period 3 class
	Cohort B	Home for remote learning 9:05am to 12:55pm – Virtual Check-in and attendance 1:50pm to 3:05pm – Remote Support Period https://sites.google.com/ocdsb.ca/jmsslearnathome
Thursday Sept 17	Cohort A	Home for remote learning 9:05am to 12:55pm – Virtual Check-in and attendance 1:50pm to 3:05pm – Remote Support Period https://sites.google.com/ocdsb.ca/jmsslearnathome
	Cohort B	Attends school – Period 3 class
Friday Sept 18	Cohort A	Attends school – Period 3 class
	Cohort B	Home for remote learning 9:05am to 12:55pm – Virtual Check-in and attendance 1:50pm to 3:05pm – Remote Support Period https://sites.google.com/ocdsb.ca/jmsslearnathome

On the days that students are home for Remote Learning they will use this link: <https://sites.google.com/ocdsb.ca/jmsslearnathome> to access the JMSS Learning at Home Portal

Once they arrive at the portal they will choose the remote support classroom that corresponds with their period 1 Subject area. For example, a student who has Grade 10 English Period 3 in Quadmester 1 will enter the “English” Classroom. When a student enters the virtual classroom a teacher will take their attendance.

While they are at home students will engage in school work that has been supplied by their Period 3 teacher. Students will find this work in the Virtual Classroom that their classroom teacher has created for them (Google Classroom or OCDSB Virtual Learning Environment). Teachers will be introducing students to their virtual learning spaces when they meet face-to-face this week.

Over the course of the day, students will be able to visit the remote support classroom to ask questions, and receive support from the teacher supervising the remote support classroom.

Please Note: Cohort B will not be expected to engage in their Remote Support Classroom on Monday. We want all students to have an opportunity for face-to-face learning in advance of having to log on to the Remote Support Classroom, and their Teachers Virtual Classroom space. As a result, Cohort A will begin their Remote Learning Program on Tuesday, September 15. Cohort B will begin their Remote Learning Program on Wednesday, September 16.

COVID19 Prevention Protocols:

We had a visit from our Ottawa Public Health Nurse who reinforced the importance of mask wearing and hand hygiene. Our nurse also emphasized the importance of staff and students staying home when they are ill. Families are asked to screen their children daily, and to keep them at home if they are displaying any symptoms. For your reference here is the link to the [OPH COVID 19 Screening Tool for School](#)

We also reviewed our school response protocol for when a student falls ill at school, and for when there might be a potential or confirmed case of COVID connected to our School. If a student falls ill while at school:

- The student will notify the teacher who will contact the main office, or if a teacher observes a student who is displaying COVID symptoms, they will contact the office.
- The student will be brought to the main office, and will remain in an OPH approved isolation room until parents can arrive to take their student home. While students are in the isolation room, they will be supervised by our JMSS Vice Principals.
- When the office team contacts parents they will ask them to come to the school right away to pick their child up. They will also be asked the following questions:
 - How did your child travel to school today (eg: walk, OC Transpo, yellow bus etc)?
 - Does the student have siblings who live with them in the family home, who attend other schools?
 - Are there pre-existing medical conditions that could contribute to the symptoms the student is experiencing?
- We will work with the family, and where necessary Ottawa Public Health to plan an appropriate response and follow-up.

Timetable Questions: An update from our Guidance team:

The Quadmester system, and cohorting of student's means we need to approach timetable changes differently than we have in the past. This will help us to maintain classroom bubbles, and aid with contact tracing. As mentioned in earlier messages, Guidance counsellors will consider course changes for the following reasons:

1. Missing prerequisites
2. Pathways for post-secondary programs
3. Extenuating circumstances

The last day to change a course based on the criteria above will be the day before the new quadmester starts. Students requesting a timetable change should complete the form available on the [JMSS website](#) (please note, we aim to have this form available by the end of the week).

OSTA: Student Transportation Update

Last week we were able to start the distribution of Presto cards to eligible students. We continue to receive Presto Cards from OSTA on an almost daily basis, and will distribute them to students through their classroom teachers. Students must remember to [register their Presto Card](#). This will help us to recover or replace the card in the event that it is lost.

Following a press conference on Friday, September 11 OSTA announced that multiple yellow bus routes have been cancelled and current routes changed due to a severe driver shortage.

Please review your child's information on the [Parent Portal](#) and then check the posted list on the website to confirm the route's status. The list will be updated daily with any morning cancellations. <https://bit.ly/2ytUMrw>. We have been informed that JMSS bus route V179 has been cancelled.

Have a Great Week!

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We acknowledge that John McCrae Secondary School rests on unceded and unsurrendered Algonquin Territory. We thank the Algonquin Nation for hosting us and recognize their enduring presence on this land.