



Welcome Back to school for 2018-2019 at Stittsville Public School!

We are excited for another great year of learning and fun at SPS! We have many new students and some new faces on staff as well. Welcome to:

We would like to invite you to drop by and say hello to our new and returning staff at our upcoming ***Meet the Teacher next week on Thursday, September 13th from 4:30 to 5:30 pm. More news about this will be coming from school council as well!***

As we settle in for another year of learning and growing, we invite parents and guardians to join us in helping all of our students meet with success at school. There are many ways you can be involved and one of the most important is through regular communication back and forth between home and school. Your child's teacher will send home information about the best ways to communicate with him/her. We would also appreciate having your up to date contact information in the office, so if your home, cell or work numbers, addresses or e-mails have changed, please update the information on the verification forms going home in September or give us a call throughout the year at 613-836-2818. To help our environment we will be sending all future newsletters by e-mail through our *School Connects* e-mail system. If you don't have access to a computer and would like a hard copy of the newsletter each month, please contact our office and we would be happy to print and send home a copy.

Another way to support learning and be involved in your child's education is through School Council. Council plays a crucial role in providing feedback, fundraising and suggestions for improving the learning environment for even greater student achievement at SPS. **We invite you to join us at the first school council meeting being held on Tuesday, September 11th at 7:00 pm in the school library. Council will be holding elections for open positions at this meeting.**

Our enrolment is 687 students this year and in the next two weeks we will be reporting our enrolment numbers to the Board. If our numbers are higher or lower than projected **there is always the possibility that changes to staffing may require us to re-organize classes and teachers** at the beginning of October. We will let you know if any changes are required.

If you have any questions, concerns, suggestions or compliments – please don't hesitate to give your child's teacher or myself or Vice-Principal Kondric a call. We make it a priority to be sure your child is safe, progressing in their learning and feeling that they belong at SPS. In collaboration with SPS families and School Council we can make that happen.

Vice Principal Kondric and me, along with the Stittsville Public School team, thank you for your ongoing support and we look forward to working with you during the year ahead.

Catherine Donnelly, Principal

Re: Medical Alert

Many students in our school community have life-threatening allergies to food products such as peanuts and tree nuts. The implementation of Sabrina's Law in May 2005 requires that we take all reasonable precautions to support and protect students with these allergies.

We want to include the wider school community in the awareness that cross-contamination is a critical safety factor for all students with life-threatening allergies. Deaths that occur are generally caused by cross-contamination, for example the student with the allergy inadvertently touches a trace amount of the food left on the hand of a friend, a desk, a book, or other classroom object. Students are asked to bring snacks and lunches that are "free" of peanuts and nuts, meaning they do not contain nor have they come in contact with these foods. Please check the labels before sending food to school. Involve your child in selecting snacks that are peanut and nut free.

In rare cases, an allergic reaction may be caused by scent. Please ensure your child has thoroughly washed their hands and brushed their teeth if peanut butter, Nutella, or another similar type of food has been eaten in the morning at home.

In order to ensure the maximum health and safety of all our students, we thank you for your cooperation in this matter. Together we can look forward to a wonderful year, and assure parents of children with these allergies that we are doing our utmost to support their family.

End of Day Dismissal this week

Students who walk with a parent/guardian or get a drive home from school will meet their parents/guardians at 3:00 p.m. in the gym from Tuesday, September 4th until Friday, September 7th, 2018, just until we get everyone familiar with dismissal routines. Bus students will be assisted in getting on the correct buses. Students who walk home on their own will be dismissed from the gym at 3:00 to walk home. Starting the week of September 10th, students who walk with or are picked up by a parent/caregiver, can meet their parent/caregiver at one of the entry points to the school as arranged by parents/guardians - for example the front of the school, the bike racks, the north and south pathways. We ask that parents do not wait on the yard.

School Cash on-line

Parent Handbook/School Website and Calendar

If you are looking for information, check out our website which includes a parent handbook, school calendar newsletters and more! As always, if you have any questions, concerns or are wondering about something school related, please give us a call – we are here to help!