

# A heartfelt Welcome back and Hello to our Viscount Families!

We are excited to welcome students back to classes with the hopes that everyone had a relaxing and rejuvenating summer break! We know that beginning another school year holds questions and maybe some anxiety around change and what is to come in the days ahead. Please know, that we will do our best to make sure that students feel comfortable and supported as classes begin this September.

#### Your Child's Teacher

Please be advised that the parent portal is now open. Once in the portal you will be able to see the teacher that is assigned to your child. Please note that much work and preparation has been put into developing our classes. All parents were invited back in the spring to make placement requests for their child. These were all taken into consideration during class building. Until we have a better understanding of our classroom numbers we are unable to make and further changes at this time. If you do have a further request, this could be looked at if we are in a position to re-organize our classes in a few weeks.

A complete list of our school staff will be posted on our school website in the next week.

## **School Day Details**

The first day of school for all Grade 1-8 students will be on Wednesday, September 6, 2023.

Students are asked to be in the back playground no earlier than 9:00 am. This is when supervision begins. At this point, staff will be outside to welcome students. Staff will have a sign with their name and grade so that students will be able to identify their teacher. Once teachers have their class, students will proceed inside, at which point parents and caregivers will be asked to leave the playground. Parents will not be able to accompany their child to their classroom.

We also ask that parents **do not** park in driveways or block driveways or park in our staff parking lot.

School hours will continue to be 9:15AM – 3:35PM.

At the end of the day, parents are welcome to enter the back playground and wait on the blacktop for their child to be dismissed by their teacher.

## **Kindergarten Students**

Parents will be notified of JK visits which will be held on Wednesday, September 6<sup>th</sup>. All kindergarten students (JK and SK) begin their full day on Thursday, September 7<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Buses**

Families who are eligible for busing will receive a message to declare their intention to use transportation.

School buses will load and unload at the front of the school. Please be sure to register with the HWSTS to be notified of late buses.

Requests for Courtesy transportation will not be available until the end of October. Parents can apply for courtesy transportation but there is no guarantee that there will be available spots.

More information will be available on the HWSTS (Hamilton Wentworth Student Transportation System) website.

### **School Parking Lot**

The school parking lot is for staff parking only. Parents **cannot** park to drop off or pick up their children. Please park on the side street and walk your child to the playground.

#### **Under Construction**

I would like to take the opportunity to provide you with details regarding construction at Viscount Montgomery that is currently occurring. Our school gym is under construction and will be closed for the next few months. We are excited to see our new gym floors, paint, lights and RTU replacement. Our corridor ceilings also went through a renovation during the summer months receiving new lighting and ceiling tiles.

Please note that although construction will continue throughout the upcoming months, the safety of staff and students will be ensured.

Please reach out to the office if you have any question, but please also note that the first few days are extremely busy with new student registrations. We will return your call or email as soon as we can. Thank you in advance for your patience!

We continue to focus on ensuring the safety and well-being of our students and staff, as we prepare to welcome our Viscount families in September.

Sincerely,

Mr. D. Fede Principal