

Principal: Mrs. D. Penney  
Vice-Principal: Mrs. R. Shea  
Secretary: Mrs. M. Hosfeld  
Reception: Mrs. L. Orr  
Tel: 519-352-3137  
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**SAFE ARRIVAL:** For the safety of all, students must **NOT** arrive at school before **8:40am.** when supervision begins. After 8:40 am., students will enter the school and go directly to their classrooms where they will be supervised. There will be **No morning outdoor playground access.** Dismissal is at 3:15 pm. Buses load at 3:10 pm.

**Opportunities for Community Involvement:** Stay tuned for information regarding opportunities to participate in the Parent groups: Booster Club and Home and School. Stay tuned for information regarding

<https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>

**Daily Screening Tool: To be completed by each student before entering school every day**

## News from *the Creek*

# SEPTEMBER 2021

### Welcome Back! What to expect on your first day of school at the Creek!

We are so excited to be back at school! – we are thrilled to welcome all of our students back to our school again! We wish to extend a giant welcome to the new students and families who have joined us at ICRPS this year.

We are eager to begin a new school year where we can work together to support growth and learning for all. Together, we strive to continuously improve the educational opportunities available to all students. At Indian Creek, we are working hard to create conditions to inspire and support learning at every level. While this year may look different, student well-being, safety and student success continue to be our goal for each and every one of our students.

### Entrance and Dismissal Procedures for Students

To ensure the safety of students, parents, and staff, we will have entrance and dismissal procedures to support social distancing measures. Each morning at 8:40 am, the doors will be opened, and your child will proceed to their supervised classroom. Due to Covid protocols, parents will not have access to the school building unless by appointment. If dropping off items, please use the intercom and the secretary will assist you. **Students Entering the Building: Main doors** will have signage with teacher names to help direct **Primary, Junior, and Intermediate** students through the front doors. **Mrs. Johnston's and Mrs. Garrow's FDK** students will be greeted at the **rear fence entrance gate** behind the **new Child Care area.** (Use the front walking path to go around daycare to the rear fence gate entrance or enter using Holland Street. **Mrs. Case's FDK** students will enter and exit at the **Child Care front entrance gate.** Staff will be there to greet and help guide the students. Having students enter and exit using different doors allows for social distancing.

Students who normally enter via the back playground of the school will enter as they previously did, through the back doors (Intermediate area) which will be open from 8:40-9:00 am.

**All Senior Kindergarten students** will begin full-time attendance on **Tuesday, September 7, 2021.** **Junior Kindergarten students will have a staggered entry,** beginning Wednesday, September 8, with **half of the students attending for one day, staying home the alternate day.** The remaining Junior Kindergarten students will attend on Thursday, September 9. **All Kindergarten students will attend daily beginning Friday, September 10.** If your child has an older sibling or a bus buddy, they may take the child to his/her classroom

**Parking Lot** You may find the parking lot especially busy during drop off and pick-up times. During peak times, you may need to drive around the loop more than once but please do not stop in the loop, blocking traffic. The bus lane is for buses only. The Child Care driveway and parking is for Child Care staff and families only. The church across the street has generously agreed to allow our families to park there during busy times. We will have staff helping to direct traffic and keep the children safe, please be patient.

**Reopening and Operating our Schools Document:** [September 2021: https://www.lkdsb.net/Board/covid-19/reopening-operating-our-schools/Documents/LKDSB\\_Reopening\\_Operating\\_Our\\_Schools2021.pdf](https://www.lkdsb.net/Board/covid-19/reopening-operating-our-schools/Documents/LKDSB_Reopening_Operating_Our_Schools2021.pdf)

**Covid Protocols** Please keep in mind that our goal at Indian Creek is to keep everyone safe. **Masks:** The Public Health Unit and the Ministry of Education require all Elementary students from Grade 1 to Grade 8 to wear masks indoors. FDK masks are optional but recommended. Masks are not required for students when they are playing outdoors but they must wear them when travelling between indoors and outdoors. When outdoors, students may keep their mask in their pockets, in a fanny pack, clipped to their clothing or using a breakaway lanyard. As masks tend to get dirty from wear, it is recommended that fabric masks are washed daily with soap or detergent in hot water. It is recommended that your child come to school with more than one mask as masks tend to get very moist.

**Hand sanitizer** has been provided to all classrooms and teachers will be requiring students to use prior to entering/leaving the classroom and between hands on activities. Students are welcome to bring their own unscented sanitizer for their personal use in a small, manageable plastic container.

**Lockers** will not be used at this time. Students will be keeping their belongings in the backpacks in the classrooms.

**Hepa Filters** have been provided to each classroom to ensure good quality air for all.

## Student Absences

Regular school attendance is extremely important to the success of all learners. As hard as it can be some days, starting the school day on time is equally important. **Automated safe arrival calls:** The LKDSB has implemented an automated attendance messaging system for ICRPS. The system will notify parents/guardians if your child has been marked absent and the school has not been notified of the reason for the absence. To follow-up, we will contact the parent/guardian phone numbers and email addresses that we have on file. We ask that you use School Messenger to inform the school of absences. You can help by ensuring that the school has your most updated contact information (updated email information is especially important). **Parents/Guardians are now asked to please use SchoolMessenger** in one of the following three ways to report your child's absence or late arrival: **Option 1:** Set up an online **SchoolMessenger** account and login to schedule and report absences or late arrival. To create your account or login in click here.

<https://go.schoolmessenger.ca/#/home>.

**Option 2:** Download the free **SchoolMessenger** app (blue) to your smart phone or tablet to schedule and report absences or late arrival. Click here to Download the app for Apple devices. <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/schoolmessenger-infocenter/id978894818> Click here to Download the app for Android devices.<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.schoolmessenger.recipient>

**Option 3:** Call the LKDSB toll-free Attendance Reporting number 1 (844) 487-3695 and follow the prompts to report your child's absence or late arrival. **For your security it is recommended that you set a PIN.** Your PIN must be private and not shared with your child. **Please sign up now** so you are ready to use School Messenger to report any absence.

## Allergy Alert

Please note that in accordance with existing policies, our school is peanut and nut free. Also, kiwi fruit and shellfish are not permitted in the building due to anaphylactic allergic reactions experienced by some of our staff and students.

**Technology:** Students and parents should review the Responsible Use Of Technology guidelines to ensure that students are aware of their responsibilities when using the internet and LKDSB devices. <https://www.lkdsb.net/Board/PoliciesRegulations/Policies/Responsible%20Use%20of%20Technology.pdf#search=responsible%20use%20technology>

**CELL PHONES & ELECTRONIC DEVICES** All electronic devices, such as cell phones, media players, digital game devices, walkie talkies, computers and cameras are not to be used while the student is on school property before, during, or after school without the permission of school personnel and only for educational purposes. Cell phones are to be kept in backpacks while at school unless the student has permission from the teacher for educational use. When carrying a personal electronic device, it is the student's responsibility if lost, stolen or damaged. At no time will students use electronic devices for digital, audio or video recording without permission from the teacher. When students need to contact home/parent, it is important that he/she notify school staff rather than use an electronic option, to ensure staff are aware. During nutrition breaks students are not to be using electronic devices, they are to be stored in backpacks. The focus is always responsible use of technology, and to encourage student physical activity and socialization opportunities during nutrition breaks.



Students should bring a labeled, re-usable water bottle to school each day as classroom taps and water fountains are not accessible for drinking water. There are limited bottle refilling stations for student use.

### Communication between Student, Parent and Teacher

Communication between home and school is key to your child’s success. If you ever have concerns or questions, please reach out to your child’s teacher. Each classroom teacher will have an electronic platform where information will be shared. Classroom teachers will send home information informing you of how to access their Google Classroom or SeeSaw platform soon. Please look at your child’s classroom’s online learning platform regularly to view tasks, activities, assignments, and homework.

**Medication** If your child needs prescription medication administered during school hours, please contact the office for an “Authorization for the Administration of Oral Medication” form. It must be completed by the parent/guardian and signed by a pharmacist or physician and forwarded to the principal for each school year. Updates to the school are required whenever the physician directs a modification of the prescribed medication. We cannot administer any medications without this completed form. If your child is required to carry their medication with them (EPI-Pen, inhaler), please contact the office so we can ensure that their Individual Medical Plan is up to date and accurate.

Indian Creek is in Zones 7 & 8. Listen to the radio for bus delays and cancellations or check <http://www.schoolbusinfo.com> for regular updates. If buses are cancelled in the morning due to fog, they will run in the afternoon. If buses are cancelled in the morning due to snow and icy road conditions, they will not run in the afternoon and parents and guardians must make arrangements for picking up students at the end of the day.

**School Snack Program:** ICRPS will is not able to offer a breakfast program at this time, but we will provide each classroom with an emergency snack bin with fruit and approved cereal and crackers for our hungry students.

### 2021-2022 School Calendar

September 1 & 2 PA Days September 3 & 6 Holiday October 8 PA Day October 11 Thanksgiving	November 19 PA Day Dec. 20-Jan. 2 Christmas Break January 31 PA Day February 21 Family Day	March 14-18 March Break April 15 & 18 Easter Holiday May 23 Victoria Day	June 10: PA Day June 28: Last Day of School June 29: PA Day
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### Stay Informed/Stay Up-To-Date Regarding School News, Sign up for *Office Remind*



Indian Creek Road Public School uses Remind to send communications from the office. This is a separate Remind from one that your child’s teacher may use. It is an outgoing system only. Updates regarding newsletters and school events will be sent to parents from the office using this app. Please contact your child’s teacher or the office for instructions on how to sign up for Remind Office.

