



Alliston Community Christian School

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Making a Christ-centred education relevant & accessible

Friday, August 14, 2020

Dear Parents,

As the exciting days of summer transition to the enthusiasm for returning to school, I welcome your family back to thinking about school! God has protected our community, and we are so thankful for that. It has been such a blessing to meet some of you again in the school or around town—we are blessed as a community.

A School Startup Workday is planned: September 5, 2020 from 8:00AM -2PM . If you can help with [anything on this list](#), please come down.

Attached you will find our Safe Return to School Plan, also in the form of a letter. That's the one you have all been waiting for!

Our school theme this year is “Be Transformed – Think Biblically, Live Differently”. It just excites me to read that! We'll focus on Romans 12:2: “Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.”

We are thankful to welcome several new families to the school. We hope and pray that you will feel loved and welcomed by our community soon! There has been quite a bit of interest from other families considering ACCS too! Please pray they would be able to join us.

We are blessed with a capable and energetic team again. Allow me to highlight just a few changes:

- Mrs. Jessica Aelick (Tuesdays and Fridays) and Mrs. Elaina Gillard (Mondays and Wednesdays) are our new front receptionists / admin assistants. Mrs. Watson will continue to cover for the reception area while she does “the books” on Thursdays.
- Mrs. Erin Leung will be assisting as a volunteer, primarily in the library

In terms of curriculum changes or highlights, I would just mention this:

- Amidst all of the turmoil of the last six months, the Ontario government has launched a K-8 update to the Mathematics curriculum. We plan to implement the changes as they are rolled out.

With this, I invite you to join hands, hearts and minds to make ACCS a thriving and energizing place for our youngsters, our teachers and our families. We value what you have already poured into your children, and we look forward to building on that with you. We humbly anticipate God's blessing on this partnership. It will be a different start but we are confident that we will stand strong together and make a great year of it!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'R. Sommer', is written over the printed name.

Mr. R. Sommer, Principal

Dates to Remember:

Did you know you can subscribe to the school calendar so that all school events are automatically on your smartphone? Go to <https://tinyurl.com/ACCS-Cal> You'll love it! Don't worry, it will fill up.

Maintenance and Cleanup Day Saturday, September 5, 2020 from 8:00 am till 2:00 pm. Check [the list](#) to see where you could help and sign up if you can pitch in.

First Day of School - Tuesday, September 8, 2020 at 7:55 am

"Welcome Back to School" Social - This would normally be the highlight for the community, but this year we have to cancel this event. Double the food next year!

Opening Assembly - On the first day of school, students will go directly to their classes. We hope to find a way to have an outdoor assembly for a short opening, weather permitting. Parents are welcome to stay for that.

"Back to School Chapel" - The usual Back to School Chapel will be outdoors on the second week, Wednesday, September 16, 2020, at 8AM, weather permitting. Parents welcome.

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION & MATERIALS

2020/21 School Year



Note: The following are general requirements and routines. Some matters will be addressed further in the Safe Return to School Plan.

General Information:

1. **Shoes:** All students must have outdoor footwear appropriate to the season, as well as indoor footwear, which is also suitable for use in the gymnasium. Indoor shoes must have non-marking soles. Please test all shoes before purchasing as some say they are non-marking but do leave a mark. For safety reasons, students must have proper athletic shoes that tie up or fasten with Velcro for any game or activity in the gym at all times, not just gym class. Bare feet are not allowed and neither are boarding shoes or fashion sneakers. They must have proper tread and shock absorbing soles. Students will not be allowed to participate without proper footwear.

Please note - out of respect for our custodian and to ensure the long life of our carpets students are asked to change into indoor shoes upon entering the building. Please make sure that your child has indoor shoes available on the first day of school.

2. **Dress Code:** When purchasing clothing for your children please keep the school's dress code in mind. We encourage a spirit of modesty as a reflection of who we are as Christians. Clothes need to be appropriate for the activity. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.
3. **Agendas:** All students in grade 1/2, 3/4, 5/6, and 7/8 will be required to use an agenda. When used properly agendas are a great strategy to assist students with organizational and management skills. It is also a great way for parents and teachers to communicate regularly. In order to obtain maximum success, it is crucial that parent, child and teacher work closely together. The initial agenda will be provided at no charge; however, if students lose their agenda, they will be required to purchase another copy for \$5.00.
4. **Junior Kindergarten Program:** Students will meet on Tuesday, Wednesday and Fridays OR all 5 days.
5. **Healthy Eating & Exercise:** As a school we will continue to emphasize healthy eating and exercise as part of a healthy and God honouring lifestyle. As such, for morning snack all students will be asked to make healthy food choices such as fruit, vegetables or protein. Please keep this requirement in mind when packing your child's lunch. We also recommend that parents continue to supervise older students while packing their lunch to ensure that they have packed a balanced lunch. Please remember that all food items must be peanut and nut free.

As well, we encourage students to engage in physical activity during morning and lunch recess by providing a variety of outdoor equipment.

6. Arrival & Dismissal Routines:

School begins at 7:55 am. Children should arrive by 7:50 am in order to be here in time for their class. Any students arriving after the 7:55 am bell will be marked late. Students may be dropped off after 7:45 am.

The school day ends at 2:40 pm. Students can be picked up by an adult from the north entrance. Please make sure your child is picked up no later than 2:45 pm.

When picking up or dropping off your child by car, please follow the arrows by entering in the north entrance and exiting through the south exit. Please also park in the marked spaces in the parking lot. Please do not park in the "no parking" zone across the front of the school. In the morning students may be dropped off at the front entrance. In the afternoon students need to wait by the North entrance and be retrieved by an adult.

Changes in transportation must be reported through a note to the classroom teacher or through the office. Students may not leave with another adult without parental permission.

If your child needs to leave school early for whatever reason, please try to do this during recess or lunch. The coming and going of students during lesson times is very disruptive for the teacher and the rest of the students. Your cooperation in these matters is greatly appreciated.

7. Information Package: When the school year resumes in September, each family will be asked to fill out an information package. A revised school family address and phone directory will be put together when the pertinent information is received from all families in the school.

8. Vision & Hearing: Parents are strongly encouraged to have the vision and hearing of their children checked on a regular basis, and to report any changes to the school. 80% of learning occurs by visual means. Children often do not know they cannot see as well as other children, since sight is a personal experience. One in ten children develops hearing problems at some time. Persistent ear infections or fluid in the middle ear can interfere with normal hearing. Since hearing loss is invisible, most people do not understand its implications. It ranks second to the common cold as the most frequent health problem in children. If the classroom teacher perceives a problem with your child's hearing or vision, she will let you know as well.



Grade Specific Information:

Junior (T, W, F or 5-day) and Senior (5-day) Kindergarten:

Students should each have a backpack (normal size please, not toddler size) for carrying items home. A change of clothing to be left at the school (T-shirt, sweater, pants, 2 pairs of underpants, and 2 pairs of socks) should be sent during the first week. Students must also have a pair of non-marking indoor running shoes. If your child does not know how to tie their shoelaces yet, please purchase **Velcro** shoes. Please **ensure that all of these items are labeled**. Each student is asked to bring in one box of Kleenex and a box of plastic spoons for the classroom. Students need a blanket or towel to lie on at rest time. The size should be large enough to lie on and wrap over the child.

- Please keep your child's toys at home, except for Show and Share days.

Our healthy snack will be before the first recess (9:35 am). Please pack a snack and a regular lunch for your child each daily. Paper cups are available for water at school. **All snacks must be peanut and nut free.**

Grades 1 and 2:

Please send in 1 box of Kleenex and 1 box of plastic spoons to be stored away for classroom use throughout the year. Grade 1 students should bring a change of clothes, to be left at school, just in case of an accident. If your child cannot tie their shoelaces, please purchase shoes with Velcro. Students should bring a healthy snack for the morning nutrition break and a healthy lunch each day.

Grades 3 and 4:

Each student will need the following at the beginning of the year:

- 36 pencils
- set of pencil crayons (at least 12)
- pencil sharpener that contains shavings
- 4 black or regular blue pens
- 3 red or other colour pens
- 4 highlighters (different colours)
- 4 good erasers
- scissors that your child feels comfortable using
- 30cm ruler with mm/cm
- 3 large glue sticks
- set of fine or medium tip markers (not permanent)
- 1 set of ear buds or headphones
- 2 boxes of Kleenex
- indoor shoes

Please also see the note regarding agendas, gym clothes (none required this year) and shoes under the "General Information" section. Thank you for your help.

Grades 5 and 6:

Each student will need the following at the beginning of the year:

- 24 pencils
- pencil sharpener that contains the shavings
- 12 blue or black pens
- 3 red (or other colour) pens
- 3 highlighters (different colours)
- set of pencil crayons (at least 12)
- 3 glue sticks
- 3 bottles of white out
- 4 good erasers
- pencil case
- geometry & math set
- calculator
- scissors
- a 30cm ruler with cm/mm on it

Please make sure all items are labeled with the student's name or initials.

Grades 7 and 8:

Each student will need the following at the beginning of the year:

- a good geometry set (with clear lines on the protractor)
- highlighters
- ruler
- white out
- one large three ringed binder or two small binders
- one package of dividers (5)
- two packages of 100 sheets of lined paper (one for classroom, one for personal)
- 24 pencils
- two erasers
- ten blue pens
- 1 large glue stick
- pencil crayons
- a pair of scissors
- sketch/drawing pad (can purchase at Dollarama)
- pencil case and a calculator (a simple one with a square root function)
- a "beaner" to keep their locker door closed.
- Please bring in three boxes of pencil crayons
- Kleenex to start the year

Students may not use an iPad or cell phone as a calculator.

Please see the note regarding agendas, gym clothes (only for 7/8 this year) and shoes under the "General Information" section. Thank you for your help.

PLEASE NOTE: ALL STUDENT MATERIALS, ESPECIALLY AT THE PRIMARY LEVEL, MUST INCLUDE THE STUDENT'S NAME.