

Absences

Students' Absences

If your child will be absent or will be coming in late, please notify the school **before 8:30 am**, stating the reason. Your call will help reduce the number of phone calls that the school must make. If we have not received a call about your child's absence, we will contact you to ensure your child's safety. Note that in order to facilitate matters, **all requests for homework should be made before 9:00 am**. Please arrange for the work to be picked up at the office or brought home by a brother, sister or a friend.

As per School Board Policy, your child must bring in a signed and dated note explaining the reason for the absence when he/she returns to school.

Each absence from school hinders a child's progress. Regular attendance fosters good work habits. As well, one day's absence is, in fact, more than one day's work. Upon his/her return, the student must catch-up on the previous day's teaching and must put in more than one day's effort and work. This is especially difficult for students with academic difficulties. As much as possible, parents are asked to schedule medical and other appointments after school hours or on pedagogical days, thereby minimizing loss of school time.

We urge parents not to plan family vacation during the school year, except during the holiday periods marked on the calendar. Taking a child out of school at other times is disruptive. Please inform the administration in writing if this is inevitable. **Kindly note that teachers are not required to provide work for your child's time out of school.**

Arriving to school on time is vital. A student who is regularly late is regularly missing the same subject. Teachers often place the teaching of core subjects (English, French, Math) early in the morning when the students are usually most attentive. These, then, are the subjects in which students repeatedly lose teaching and learning time.

Sick Students

While it is important for students to be in school, sick children are not prepared to focus on teaching and learning. **If a child is running a fever or has been sick early in the morning, do not send him/her to school.**

If parents have determined that their child is well enough to attend school, then the student will be sent outdoors for recess or at lunch time since the school is not equipped to supervise sick children indoors. As well, doctors point out that children with minor ills and colds benefit from being outdoors in the fresh air. **Should there be a medical reason for a child to remain indoors, we require parents to provide us with their doctor's note.** Provisions for supervision will be made for these rare occasions.

