



École Gerald McShane School

6111 Maurice-Duplessis,
Montreal-North, QC, H1G 1Y6
T: 514.321.1100 F: 514.321.1448



October 1, 2019

Dear Parents / Guardians,

We've had a successful first month of school! We are off and running and gearing up for our Halloween activities. October will be a wonderfully busy month!

1. **STAIRS ON MAURICE DUPLESSIS:** Parents are asked NOT to stand on the stairs or on the path between the front door and the school bus drop-off area, particularly during afternoon dismissal. Staff members must be able to monitor those students who are going to the bus area. Thank you for your cooperation in ensuring the safety of all students.
2. **PROGRESS REPORTS:** Progress reports will be distributed on **Tuesday, October 15th** following the Thanksgiving holiday. If you have not received it by **Thursday, October 17th**, please advise the school via a note in your child's agenda.
3. **APPROPRIATE USE OF APPS:** Some teachers use apps in order to communicate with parents on a regular basis. Please be reminded that these apps are for pedagogical uses only and parents should not be using them to communicate with each other. If communication with another parent is required, please be reminded that it must be used in an appropriate manner and must be directly related to the students.
4. **FEES:** School fees and lunch fees are payable immediately. Payments can be made via cheque (please indicate child's name and grade on back) or by cash.
5. **BREAKFAST VOLUNTEERS:** Start time for any parent who would like to volunteer their time preparing breakfast is 6:45AM. I apologize for this omission on my earlier memo.
6. **SPORTS JERSEY DAY:** We're celebrating the start of the hockey season by showing our team colours! Students are encouraged to wear their favorite team jersey or t-shirt on **Wednesday, October 2nd**. (It does not have to be a hockey team)
7. **LOCKDOWN DRILLS:** We have begun practicing our lockdown drills and will continue to do so at various times throughout the year. Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter.
8. **HAIR:** Please be reminded that long hair **MUST** be tied at all times. Hair elastics are available at the Main Office if necessary. Please encourage your child/children to keep their hair tied at all times. In addition, please stress the importance of **NOT** sharing hair products (combs, brushes, etc.) or hats/caps. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.



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9. **HEALTHY LUNCH & SNACKS:** In keeping with the EMSB's Healthy Schools Policy, parents are asked to ensure that their child's lunch is composed of healthy options, including but not limited to fruits, vegetables, and whole grain products.
10. **ABSENCES:** Please call the office to report a child's absence as soon as possible. Messages can also be left on the school voicemail.
11. **PPO VOLUNTEERS:** PPO is always looking for helping hands for various activities throughout the year. If you would like to volunteer and have not yet indicated your intention, please do so via your child's agenda. Remember, in working together, we can help make this year a memorable one for all students.
12. **REMINDERS:** Please be reminded that **Monday, October 14th** is Thanksgiving therefore both the school and the Daycare will be closed. In addition, there will be **NO SCHOOL** on Monday, October 21st because of Federal elections however, Daycare will be open.
13. **GOVERNING BOARD:** Our next Governing Board meeting will be held on **Wednesday, October 9th at 7PM in the Conference Room.**

Preschool Parent Corner

Every month, I will provide preschool parents with fun tips and suggestions to continue to promote a happy and smooth transition into both pre-kindergarten/kindergarten and school. At times, I will also be providing general information about events in the community for families with young children.

The Maison culturelle et communautaire de Montréal-Nord offers French **storytelling sessions** entitled; "**Il était une fois**" for children between the ages of 3 and 5 and their families. The activity is held one Saturday per month from 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. The next dates for the storytelling sessions are *October 19th, November 16th and December 14th*. To register, please call 514-328-4000 ext. 5626. The room number for the sessions will be provided at the front counter in the lobby upon arrival.

To find out more information about additional activities offered, be sure to stop by the library counter for their Fall 2019 program.

"Every child is a different kind of flower, and all together make this world a beautiful garden"- Author unknown

Candice Madden
Kindergarten Transition Agent, Student Services Department, EMSB.

Thank you,
Ms. C. Chilelli
Principal