

## Rideau Update August 31

Dear Rideau Parents and Guardians,

Our staff was back at school today to begin 3 days of training before beginning to welcome students on Thursday. Before school starts, families will be receiving a phone call from one of our Rhino Staff members, letting you know your child's teacher, reminding you of your staggered entry days, and where to meet when you arrive in the morning. Please review your meeting (muster) spots with your child, particularly if they are taking the bus on the first day.

A few other reminders to help make the first few days smooth and safe for everyone:

- We are trying to keep our yard as safe as possible for everyone before and after school. Parents may help their child find their muster spot, but please say a quick 'goodbye' and exit the yard. At the end of the day, parents may meet children at their muster spots, but are then asked to clear the yard after school.
- Kindergarten parents are asked to drop off and pick up at the gates to the kinder yard from the main yard (near the Toronto St. gate). Due to numbers we must try to keep our kinder yard free of parents.
- Masks are now mandatory for all students. If younger students have difficulty with masks, staff will take a supportive, teaching approach to help them build tolerance for their mask. We will not take punitive action against young children who are not able to wear a mask. Label all masks with your child's name.
- Screen your child for signs of COVID daily before school, and if they have symptoms, do not send them to school. Students who develop symptoms at school will need to be picked up.
- Please send a water bottle with your child every day, as all fountains have been disabled - bottle filling stations are still operational.
- Indoor shoes are not necessary for sunny, dry days in September, but will be needed if boots are worn on rainy days. If you do send indoor shoes, they can be left at school. Label everything!
- If you need to pick your child up early for any reason, please do so before 3:15. After that, classes are beginning to get ready for dismissal, and some will already be outside as we stagger our exit for distancing. If you come after 3:15 to sign them out, you may be asked to wait for their regular dismissal time.

Finally, we continue to look for yard supervisors for recess and nutrition break duties. If you are interested and available, please contact Mme Zelmanovits at [zelmanovitg@limestone.on.ca](mailto:zelmanovitg@limestone.on.ca)

We can't wait to see everyone later this week to start another great year at Rideau!

G. Seiveright, Principal

