

Dear Families,

What an exciting first month it has been here at school! It has been so wonderful to have the students back in the building again. How fitting that we celebrate Thanksgiving this month, as it provides another opportunity for us to give thanks for our many blessings. As we look back on the first month we are reminded of how many things we have to be thankful for. With Heartfelt Gratitude:

- ◆ Thank you for following our Twitter account to see our students participating in a variety of activities including Orange Shirt Day, a Terry Fox Walk, a virtual assembly and a variety of outdoor learning excursions.
- ◆ Thank you for completing the Daily Covid-19 check prior to coming to school each morning. These checks, along with increased sanitization practices, are helping keep students and staff healthy.
- ◆ Thank you to families for making arrangements to drop their children off at school as close to 8:50 as possible. We appreciate your flexibility!

We look forward to continuing to count our blessings throughout the month of October!

Mrs. Shannon Hahn, Principal
on behalf of the entire École. St. Henry's Jr. Elementary Staff



Halloween



Students are invited to dress up all day Friday, October 30th to celebrate Halloween. This year, if your child chooses to dress-up, please note the following:



- Students are encouraged to come dressed all day in a costume that is comfortable to wear while seated and while participating in physical education;
- Students that want to change at lunch will need to do so at home. No costume bags will be permitted in the school. If parents wish to pick up their child at lunch to get them changed, please do so during the 11:45-12:40 lunch hour;
- Please keep costumes simple, without extra props (wigs, wands, etc.) or weapons (such as swords and guns);
- No scary or gory costumes; and,
- We encourage students to dress in orange and black if they do not wish to wear a costume.



While we are unable to have families join us in the school, please know that students will participate in a variety of Halloween related activities in their classroom. We thank the SCC for generously sponsoring some classroom events that day! Please note that while we appreciate the offer, we are unable to have families send treats to school for students to hand out to their classmates.



In the days to follow Halloween, please limit the number of treats in the lunches to *one* treat per day. A Halloween treat can be eaten during lunch. Other snack items should be eaten for recess snack.



**St. Henry's Parish Mass Schedule—Saturday: 5:00 p.m. Sunday: 10:00 a.m.
Pastor: Fr. Andrzej Sowa, O.M.I.**

COVID-19 School Testing Information

Monitoring and testing will increase for the reopening of schools and throughout the school year. Enhanced monitoring, flexible universal testing options and focused efforts in schools will help protect our children, teachers, school staff and all residents from COVID-19.

The proactive measures include:

- **priority testing** for teachers and school staff;
- **targeted testing** across school divisions; and
- **Information for parents** on what to do if a child tests positive.

Priority Testing for Teachers and Staff

Teachers and staff will be prioritized for testing.

Teachers and school staff are encouraged to be tested before returning to school and frequently during the school year. This testing will be voluntary, but is encouraged by public health officials. Local Medical Health Officers can provide advice to teachers and school staff on the frequency of testing.

Targeted Testing and Monitoring in Schools

Students will have the option of participating in **voluntary testing** in schools with parental consent.

Schools will be selected based on factors such as population density and specific grade levels. If communities experience a surge in infection rates, schools in those communities will be prioritized for testing.

Testing, with parental consent, may be offered within schools during public health visits for routine childhood vaccinations and/or if there is a cluster of COVID-19 cases within a school.

Information and Resources

Parents will receive detailed instructions with testing options inside and outside of school settings. This information will indicate when and where testing will take place, how results will be received and how to follow-up or find resources in the event of a positive test result.

Public health officials will work with schools and parents to educate students about testing for COVID-19 and infection prevention.

saskatchewan.ca/COVID19

Saskatchewan 

FAQs

What happens if someone shows symptoms of COVID-19 at school?

Students, teachers and staff should never go to school with COVID-19 symptoms.

However, if a student, teacher or staff member displays [COVID-19 symptoms](#) while at school, the guidelines are as follows:

1. They will be asked to wear a non-medical mask and self-isolate in a separate room until they are able to go home. A parent or guardian will be notified that their child is ill;
2. A COVID-19 test is recommended. Without a negative test result, a child can return to school 48 hours after symptoms resolve. Call HealthLine 811 or your family physician to arrange testing; and
3. All areas used by the individual will be identified and immediately cleaned.

Can a student or faculty member return to school without receiving a COVID-19 test?

If a student or staff member does not have a COVID-19 test, they can return to school 48 hours after symptoms resolve. This will help protect all members of the school community. Public health officials will advise when it is possible to return following a positive or negative result.

What happens if someone at school tests positive for COVID-19?

If there is evidence that a child or staff member was infectious while in school and there were specific children or adults who were in close contact, public health will provide medical guidance and information.

What happens if a parent or sibling tests positive for COVID-19?

Anyone living in the same home would be considered a close contact.

People who meet the criteria of being considered a close contact must self-isolate for 14 days from the date of last exposure and self-monitor for symptoms. More information on self-monitoring can be found on saskatchewan.ca/self-monitoring.

If you develop symptoms of COVID-19, call HealthLine 811 for directions for testing.

If someone tests positive for COVID-19 at school, will the entire school have to get tested and quarantine?

Students will be cohorted within classrooms to reduce the number of contacts they have during the school