

August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Dear Parents / Guardians,

I hope that you have all had an opportunity to have a restful, and relaxing summer. I would like to welcome everyone to Sacred Heart School for the 2020 – 2021 school year! It will be so exciting to have our staff and students back in the building beginning in September.

The Ministry of Education has determined that schools will be given an additional two days of preparation on September 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020 in order to ensure staff have received orientation and training in the new routines that will be present at all schools governed by the Ministry of Education across the Province of British Columbia. At Sacred Heart School, we are going to welcome our staff back on September 8<sup>th</sup> for this preparation and training and will **welcome our students back to September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020**. For Kindergarten parents, please note, that you will receive additional documentation outlining a gradual entry program that will allow for smaller groups to be welcomed into the school. This decision has been made in order to ensure that we have every opportunity for our staff to provide a safe and caring learning environment for all of our students, and a safe work environment for our staff.

You will find attached documentation that outlines the new health and safety measures that will be in place for the duration of time that the Ministry of Education remains in Stage 2 of the restart plan. It is important that all parents / guardians review this information in detail, in order that they can best prepare their students for the transition back into school in September. It is important you take the time to review this information with your child(ren) as it will ensure a more safe and enjoyable return to school. When students arrive on September 10<sup>th</sup>, they can expect their classroom teachers to also spend significant time teaching them the new routines and expectations of safe and hygienic behaviour at school. This will be done in order to support the conversations that have already occurred at home.

It is also important that parents / guardians return the “Health Check Agreement Form” that has been provided in this package prior to student arrival on September 10<sup>th</sup>. This can be sent to the office via email at [sacredheart@cispg.ca](mailto:sacredheart@cispg.ca).

We remain in truly unprecedented times given the circumstances of COVID-19, and how it has shifted our society in the past months. As we enter into a new school year, we will face many unknowns and will need to react and change in different ways. We appreciate all of our families understanding and patience, as there will undoubtedly be changes as the year unfolds. However, please rest assured, that we are prepared for these changes based on the variety of stages that have been presented by the Ministry of Education in order to maintain our high level of service that our families expect.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please reach me by phone at (250) 563-5201, or by email at [bmaclea@cispg.ca](mailto:bmaclea@cispg.ca). I look forward to seeing all of our returning families and welcoming our new families as we begin the 2020 – 2021 school year.

Best regards,



Bryan MacLean

Principal