

Good Afternoon Montcrest Families,

I wanted to send a quick email as numbers continue to significantly escalate in Ontario and the GTA.

As I stated in my previous video address, families with children in JK - Grade 3 should be preparing children to wear masks to school if they aren't already doing so. We will be in touch with you directly around next steps in the coming days. In the meantime, we will continue to practice in class and are arranging video sessions with Nurse Nicole, our RN consultant. Continued conversation with your children *in all grades* around the importance of masking and distancing supports our efforts here at school and assists in delivering a consistent message.

We are conscious and appreciative of the extreme caution that our Montcrest families have been practicing when children are feeling symptoms or when a family member is unwell. A few of our colleague schools are starting to see cases and cohorts and classes are required to self-isolate. We must recognize that schools doing everything right are still seeing cases across the country. I am grateful for your continued vigilance in keeping sick and under the weather children at home, as this is key to continuing to keep our community healthy. If you are in doubt, please contact me at 416-262-1180.

There are sites where you can book appointments for COVID-19 tests for children under the age of 14 who are presenting with symptoms. This allows you to avoid the lines (for the time being). Results seem to average about 48-72 hours, although some families have had to wait longer. Parents have reported quick turnaround times at St. Mikes & Michael Garron Hospitals as examples.

If you find yourself keeping a child at home, please advise your classroom teachers as soon as possible so that they can ensure your child is set up and ready for MGM.

We continue to monitor the situation closely and will keep you apprised of changes and tweaks to policies as we move ahead.

As always, reach out with questions or concerns.

Take care and thank you for your time.

Warmest wishes,
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