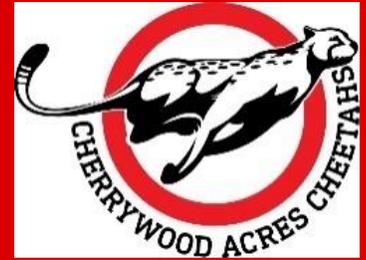


# CHEETAH CHATTER

4635 Pettit Ave.  
 Niagara Falls, ON  
 L2E 6L4  
 905.356-2801  
[cherrywood.dsbnschools.org](http://cherrywood.dsbnschools.org)



September 2020

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

WELCOME TO THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR! On behalf of the staff at Cherrywood, I would like to welcome back all our returning students and families. For our students and families new to Cherrywood, we are excited that you will be joining our Cheetah family this year. A new year is always filled with possibilities. At Cherrywood, we know that this year will be full of new learnings, new experiences, new opportunities and new friendships.

Although things will look different, we will create an amazing, healthy and safe learning environment for our Cheetahs!

There is a great deal of information in this newsletter and I appreciate the time you are giving to reading all this information! If you have not already taken a few minutes to read the [DSBN Parent Return to School Guide: In-Class Elementary](#) guide, please do so. This newsletter will supplement the information in that guide with details specific to our Cherrywood community.

Please visit the [DSBN website](#) and click on the Return to School Updates – Elementary. You will find many valuable resources to prepare for your child's return to school, including a [Welcome to Kindergarten Parent Guide](#), the [COVID-19 Management Plan](#) release by the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education as well as [A Parent's Guide: Preparing for a Mentally Healthy Return to School](#).

The first day of school brings life back to the building, such as seeing smiling students eager to share their summer tales and hearing excitement in the air as students settle into their new classrooms. Thank you to Mr. Adams for the excellent job he has done this summer getting the school ready to greet our students.

I am looking forward to learning and growing along with your children this year! Our amazing Cherrywood team of educators and support staff are here to keep our school safe together!

## PREVALENT MEDICAL CONDITIONS

If you have a child with a prevalent medical condition (Anaphylaxis, Asthma, Diabetes, and/or Epilepsy or others) we want to make sure we have a current Plan of Care to support your child. All parents of children with prevalent medical conditions are asked to fill out the new Plan of Care and submit to the school. You can download the forms here [dsbn.org/prevalent-medical-conditions](http://dsbn.org/prevalent-medical-conditions)

For more information, please contact the school.



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- First Day for K, Gr. 1 and SSP ..... Sept. 8
- First Day Gr.2 and 3..... Sept. 9
- First Day for Gr. 4-6..... Sept. 10
- First Day for Gr. 7-8..... Sept. 11
- Orange Shirt Day ..... Sept. 30
- School Council Meeting ..... TBD

## RETURN OF BORROWED DEVICES

**Did you borrow a Chromebook during the Spring Learn from Home session?**  
 We are asking for you to return the technology to Cherrywood during the first week of school.



**I Matter At  
 Valley Way**

## STAGGERED START – THE FIRST WEEK

To help ease your child’s return to the 2020/2021 school year, DSBN will be implementing a staggered entry return to school for elementary students. **Even if your child is in a split grade class, they will follow the staggered start date for their specific grade.**

Students attending In School learning					
	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
	September 7	September 8	September 9	September 10	September 11
 <p>When does my child attend school?</p>	Labour Day - No School	Kindergarten Grade 1	Kindergarten Grade 1 Grade 2 Grade 3	Kindergarten Grade 1 Grade 2 Grade 3 Grade 4 Grade 5 Grade 6	Kindergarten Grade 1 Grade 2 Grade 3 Grade 4 Grade 5 Grade 6 Grade 7 Grade 8
		Designated Special Education classes will all return on Tuesday September 8.			

## PARENT ROLE IN KEEPING OUR CHILDREN AND COMMUNITY SAFE

The DSBN Daily Parental Screening Agreement will be available on School Cash Online on the first day of School. **As acknowledged in the DSBN Daily Parental Screening Agreement, it is the responsibility of parents and caregivers to assess their children on a daily basis before sending them to school.** Please be sure to sign and submit this agreement promptly through School Cash Online. If you will require a paper copy, please contact the office.

## BELL TIMES AND SUPERVISION

Cherrywood entry and dismissal times will be as shown. Please note that morning supervision begins at 8:45 before school. **DO NOT ARRIVE EARLY.** We will be busy preparing for student arrivals. Bus students are supervised at 3:20 p.m. until they have boarded their buses for home.

Morning Supervision Begins	8:45 am
Day Begins – Period 1	9:00 a.m.
Period 2	9:20 a.m.
Period 3	10:00 a.m.
Period 4	10:40 a.m.
Period 5	11:20 a.m.
Period 6	12:00 p.m.
Period 7	12:40 p.m.
Period 8	1:20 p.m.
Period 9	2:00 p.m.
Period 10	2:40 p.m.
Dismissal	3:20 p.m.

## WHAT DO I NEED TO BRING TO SCHOOL?

We understand that many families like to purchase school supplies. As always, you are welcome to do this but please keep it simple (pencils, erasers, pencil crayons or markers, scissors, and a calculator for our students in Grade 6-8). However, the school will provide all necessary learning materials. As part of our Enhanced Health and Safety program, students will not be permitted to share school supplies. If you are looking to provide your child with their own hand sanitizer, we ask that it is scent free in keeping with our Environmental Sensitivities Policy.

If you need these items, many of our community partners will be providing schools with supplies. Please let your school know.

Please label all items with your child's name.	
Kindergarten	Grades 1-8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ A <b>backpack</b> that is large enough to carry their lunch bag.</li> <li>○ <b>A snack and lunch daily.</b> Consider packing food in containers that can be easily opened by your child. Healthy snacks are encouraged.</li> <li>○ <b>Refillable water bottle.</b></li> <li>○ <b>Headphones</b> to use with technology. Headphones that cover the ears work best. Place headphones in a labeled bag (e.g. a large Ziploc).</li> <li>○ <b>Indoor running shoes</b> that will be kept at school. (e.g. velcro and slip on shoes).</li> <li>○ <b>Outer clothing</b> (e.g., jacket, snow pants, etc.) appropriate for the weather.</li> <li>○ A <b>change of clothes</b> that will be kept in their cubby. Place clothes in a labeled bag (e.g. a large Ziploc bag).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>MASKS</b> - The DSBN will be following all mask guidelines as provided by the Ministry of Education and Niagara Region Public Health.                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Grade 4-8 students will require a non-medical mask each day. Please send a back up mask or two in a labelled Ziploc bag or container, to keep in their backpack.</li> <li>○ Kindergarten to Grade 3 students may choose to and will be encouraged to wear a mask.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>OUTDOOR CLOTHING</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ In addition to fitness breaks, a portion of your child's day will include outdoor learning and breaks for mask relief. Please send your child to school dressed for the weather.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>PAIR OF INDOOR SHOES</b></li> <li>○ <b>WATER BOTTLE</b></li> <li>○ <b>LUNCH</b></li> <li>○ <b>BACKPACK</b></li> <li>○ <b>HAT AND SUNSCREEN</b></li> <li>○ <b>SCHOOL SUPPLIES</b></li> <li>○ <b>HEADPHONES</b> to use with technology, in a labeled bag (e.g. a large Ziploc)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Things my child should not bring to school from home:</b>                      Toys or stuffies.                      Any food containing any nut or nut product.                      Shared foods (e.g., cupcakes, Timbits)</p>	

## ARRIVING AT SCHOOL

Many of our Cheetahs live within walking distance to Cherrywood. We do have some students that arrive by bus. Bus transportation will begin on your child's staggered start date. If your child qualifies for busing, go to <http://www.nsts.ca> for procedures and health and safety guidelines.

Niagara Student Transportation Services is following Ministry of Education protocols.

- If you require transportation, you must complete the Opt-In to Transportation form available in the parent portal
- Opt-In Notice Extended one week to Monday, September 7 at 3:00 p.m. If you do not Opt-In by this new date, transportation will be removed effective the second week of school.
- Students in K to grade 3 are encouraged to wear face masks

When arriving by car, parents are encouraged to utilize street parking where permitted and walk your child to the school entrance gate, if they require support to arrive safely on school property. Please note crossing guards are not available in front of the school. Also, parking on Pettit Avenue in front of the school is not permitted as it is a bus zone. Accessible parking spaces are available in the staff parking lot.

## MORNING ARRIVAL

As students begin to arrive after 8:45 a.m., parents will say goodbye at the school designated drop off areas and staff will direct students to class waiting zones. Due to the need to prevent crowding, and taking up space in the yard, parents will not be permitted on the school yard. There will be designated drop-off and pick-up areas. Our top priority is the health and safety of our students, staff and school community. It is essential we plan for spacing and minimize direct and indirect contacts with staff and other students. Thank you for doing your part to model physical distancing and your help to keep our school community safe.

For the safety and security of all students within our class communities:

- Supervision staff are on duty
- Students must be on time and follow all routines that support the well-being of the whole school.
- Parents are asked to say good-bye to their children at the school yard gates and allow them to enter the school yard to join their friends with the support and guidance of their teachers.
- There designated drop-off/entry zones and pick-up points for grades 1-8 (see details below). Please note Kindergarten drop off and pick up zones are located near the Kindergarten Outdoor Classroom.
- Pick-up and drop-off of students can only happen outside of the school. Parents will not have access to the front foyer, classrooms, and unscheduled visits are not permitted.

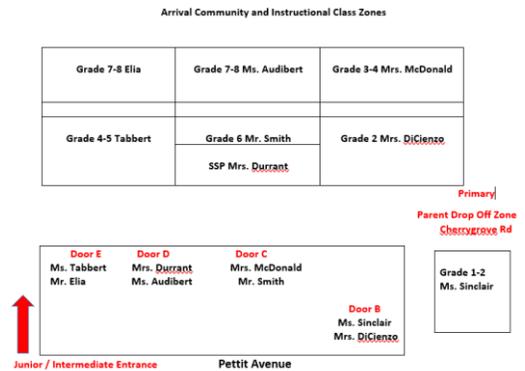
## GRADE 1-8 ARRIVAL

There are two drop-off points for students where parents can say good-bye to their children as they safely enter the school yard:

- The gate located on Cherrygrove Road. We encourage our primary students to enter through this gate.
- The gate located on Pettit Avenue adjacent to the staff parking lot. Students must use the walkway and not cut through the parking lot.

Each class community will have its own classroom zone for arrival, outdoor learning, and daily physical activity. Students will wait in the zone until the bell rings. Students will not be permitted to enter the front doors of the school, as all teachers will be greeting their class communities outside at their class zone every morning. Once children arrive at a school yard gate, they will be greeted by Cherrywood staff members who will guide them to their class zone and support with routines until it becomes more automatic.

On inclement weather days, students will enter through their designated door and proceed to their classroom.



## STAGGERING ENTRY INTO THE SCHOOL

Students will be assigned the same door for entry and exit the entire year, based on their classroom location. This will minimize physical contact and ensure space between class cohorts:

- Kindergarten – Mrs. Jaynes and Mr. Folino’s classes will enter using the red doors closest to our Kindergarten outdoor classroom.
- Ms. Sinclair and Mrs. DiCenzo’s classes will enter through Door B in the primary wing
- Mrs. McDonald and Mr. Smith’s classes will enter through Door C located in rear of the school across from the office.
- Mrs. Durrant and Ms. Audibert’s classes will enter Door D in the rear of the school in the junior/intermediate wing
- Ms. Tabbert and Mr. Elia’s classes will enter Door E in the rear of the school in the junior/intermediate wing

At 9:00, our instructional day will begin and classes may choose to extend their outdoor learning time. We have allocated 20 minutes during this first portion of the day to ensure all classes can enter the building in a manner that allows for physical distancing. Before entering the school, students will be reminded to physically distance and put on masks. Students will go directly to the homeroom classroom where they will wash their hands and/or use hand sanitizer provided. Students will hang backpacks with lunches, indoor shoes and personal item on their seat at their desk. Lockers for grades 1 -8 will be unavailable to start the year to minimize touch surfaces and reduce the need for cleaning.

## KINDERGARTEN ENTRY AND DISMISSAL

Our Kindergarten classes will be using the Kindergarten Outdoor Classroom at the front of the school (Pettit Avenue) for arrival and dismissal. Students are to remain with a parent, respecting physical distancing of others, until a member of our Kindergarten team greets and directs them to the outdoor classroom. If Kindergarten students arrive after the bell, parents will be asked to say good-bye to their child at the front doors and your child will be brought to their classroom by a staff member. In order to minimize direct and indirect contacts with staff and other students, parents will not be able to walk their child to class. If your Kindergarten child arrives by bus, they will be greeted at the bus arrival zone by a member of our Kindergarten team and brought to their designated spot in the Kindergarten Outdoor Classroom.

At the end of the day, students will be dismissed from their zone in the Outdoor Classroom directly to parents/guardians/caregivers one at a time and when the teacher makes direct visual contact with each parent. Bus students will be directly guided to their waiting location by school staff and be monitored until they board the bus, where they will sit in their assigned seat.

## ATTENDANCE

Attendance is taken twice daily. Please help us to ensure the safety of our students by reporting your child's absence or if they will be arriving late to school. Your co-operation in reporting absences or late arrivals will assist Mrs. Desilest immensely. If we do not hear from you, we will call you either at home, on your cell, and your place of employment. Please note that due to starting our days outside, attendance calls may be a little later than usual. Also, all students who arrive late to school (morning or afternoon) must report to the office. Parents will not be able to escort their child into the building. A staff member will meet the child at the front door and will ensure the child gets safely to their class.

How can I report my child's absence or late arrival? Whether it's an illness, a medical appointment or other important event, there are times when students may need to be away from school. Using the Safe Arrival system, parents will be able to report daily absences, and even schedule absences in one of three ways:

1. Call toll-free before bell time: 1-866-606-5567
2. Logging on to the web portal (<https://go.schoolmessenger.ca/#/account/login>). Using this website, you can set up your account to report and schedule absences.
3. Using your smart phone or tablet. Simply download the SchoolMessenger app. The app is compatible with both Apple and Android devices.

Please report all absences prior to bell time for the current day. If your child has an upcoming appointment, you can also schedule future absences by using one of these three methods. Please do not contact the school directly to report your child's absence. For more information, please visit: <https://dsbn.org/safearrival/>

If you are changing your child's pick-up time, the office must know by 2:30 pm as it gets busy near the end of the day and some classes may be extending their learning outside at that time.

## FITNESS AND NUTRITION BREAKS

All students will have two 40-minute breaks each day supervised by staff. In order to maintain distancing outside, during breaks, fitness and nutrition breaks are staggered and therefore your child's break time may be different than their siblings' class. You will receive a class specific schedule for each child from the homeroom teacher. Students will engage in 20 minutes of mask free outdoor time, in their designated classroom community zone. For health reasons, students will not be permitted to bring personal sports equipment to use during fitness breaks.

Traditionally, students in Grade 7 and 8 have had the opportunity to leave school property at lunch, to eat at local business (e.g., KFC, Your Need a Pita, etc.) with parent permission. This year students will only be permitted to leave school property during the second break (12:40 – 1:20 pm) if they are going home for lunch. Parents are asked to notify the school if your child will be coming home during the lunch break and we will send home a form to be signed

At this time, we will not be having any pizza, hot dogs or milk orders and please do not send treats in for classmates. Also, we will be unable to distribute spoons or forks to students so please ensure students have the necessary utensils in their lunch.

## GRADE 1-8 DISMISSAL

In a staggered manner, all students will be escorted by their teacher to their classroom zone for dismissal to parents and caregivers. Primary student parents picking up their child should wait at their designated gate, respecting physical distancing from other. Classes will be dismissed one at a time and teachers will ensure direct visual contact with each parent before dismissing a child. Our Junior and Intermediate classes will be dismissed one class at a time to ensure distancing while exit the Cherrywood property. If an older sibling is to meet a younger sibling, the younger sibling will be waiting on the wall outside the primary classrooms where the siblings can meet up and maintain distancing while exiting the property. In order to ensure distancing at this time, staff will be supervising the rear school yard until all students are safely on their way.

## SCHOOL COUNCIL – LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD!

We understand that the partnership between home and school is vital to your child's success. We would love to have you join our Cherrywood School Council. We need your input. We hold 4 meetings per year. Our September meeting date has yet to be determined. More information to follow.

## DSBN CURRICULAR (PHYSICAL EDUCATION) ATHLETIC PROGRAM FORM

Physical activity is essential for normal, healthy growth and development. Growing bones and muscles require not only good nutrition, but also the stimulation of vigorous physical activity to increase the strength and endurance necessary for a physically active lifestyle. Active participation in physical education classes, which includes games, dance, gymnastics, and outdoor pursuits, provides opportunities for students to develop the skills and confidence necessary to play and work co-operatively and competitively with their peers. Students participating in the curricular (physical education) athletic program must complete a Permission to Participate Form. This form includes medical and personal information needed by a coach/staff member in case of an emergency. The DSBN Curricular (Physical Education) Athletic Program Permission to Participate Form must be completed annually in September and whenever there are any health changes to a student prohibiting or altering their participation in athletic programs. This form must be completed for every student of the DSBN participating in physical education athletic programs. The form will be available through School Cash Online. Parents preferring to complete a paper form are asked to contact the office.

## SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

We know that you have many different priorities competing for your attention each day. To respect your valuable time, we'd like to make it a little easier and less time consuming for you to connect with our school. We are continuing our partnership with School Cash Online, a portal that will give you the ability to keep up with school events using the device most convenient for you.

With School Cash Online, you will be able to approve permission forms and make payments for any items online. Understanding that we're quickly becoming a cashless society, we know it can sometimes be a challenge to find exact change for items and then send it to school through your child's backpack. Using School Cash Online, you'll be able to use your debit, credit card or echeque to make quick and easy payments online. It will also allow you to track payments made and receive an invoice for your purchases.

School Cash Online is a safe, reliable portal that will ensure the security of your information. The system is already active. You can gain access through the School Cash button which has been placed on our school website. We are asking that you click on the button and follow the simple instructions to register. Registration should take less than five minutes. If you registered last year, you do not need to register again!

If you require some assistance registering for School Cash Online, please visit the office and we will be happy to help get you set-up and ready to go!

## IMPORTANT FORMS TO SIGN

The following forms are available through School Cash online beginning September 8, 2020:

- **Daily Parental Screening Agreement**
- DSBN Curricular (Physical Education Classes) Intramural/Athletics Program
- Information Technology Digital Citizenship Agreement: Elementary Students

Please take a few moments to carefully review and complete all forms as soon as possible. If you prefer to complete a paper form, please contact the school and we will send it home. Many thanks!

## CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION SHEETS

The week of September 14<sup>th</sup>, you will receive a computer printout of your child's information on file (**Student Verification Report**). Please check this and make any changes, fill in any missing information, and return it to the school promptly. In the interest of health and safety, it is important that students' medical and personal information is updated each year. Please let us know if any of the information changes during the school year to ensure we have the most up-to-date contact information!

## DSBN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR



### 2020-2021 ELEMENTARY SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

September							October							November									
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S			
		1	2	3	4	5					3-8	3-9	1	2	3	1	4-9	4-10	5-1	5-2	5-3	6	7
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14			
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21			
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28			
27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30								

December							January							February						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
												1	2							
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28						

March							April							May							
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
												1	2	3							
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30	23	24	25	26	27	28	29		

June						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Professional Development Day

Holiday

## MEET THE 2020-2021 CHERRYWOOD ACRES STAFF

Ms. S. Cocco, Principal  
 Mrs. M. Desilest, Administrative Assistant  
 Mr. T. Adams, Caretaker

HOMEROOM TEACHERS		SCHOOL-BASED TEACHING STAFF	
Kindergarten Team 1	Mr. M. Folino Mrs. M. Schmagala	LRT	Mrs. A. Corapi
Kindergarten Team 2	Mrs. E. Jaynes	Teacher Librarian and Prep	Mrs. C. Vaccaro Mrs. M. Nagy
Grade 1/2	Ms. K. Sinclair	FSL	TBD
Grade 2	Mrs. E. DiCienzo	SUPPORT STAFF	
Grade 3/4	Mrs. T. McDonald	Educational Assistants	Mr. A. Abbruscato Mrs. T. Hillhouse Mr. A. Longaphie Ms. H. Webb
Grade 4/5	Mrs. S. Tabbert	Youth Counselor	Ms. C. Dobbin
Grade 6	Mr. C. Smith	Social Worker	Mrs. S. Bennett
Grade 7/8	Ms. S. Audibert	Evening Caretakers	Mr. R. Bevington Mr. B. McAllister
Grade 7/8	Mr. J. Elia	Lunch Supervisors	Mrs. C. Carroll
<p><b>Please note that the staff and class organization is subject to change in September should student enrollment change over the course of the summer.</b></p>			

## AGREEMENTS AND DOCUMENTS

Please inform the school if there are special custody orders for your child. Any relevant custody orders MUST be kept on file at the office. Please ensure that the school always has the most recent custody orders for your child(ren).

## HOW TO COMMUNICATE WITH YOUR TEACHER

To minimize the amount of materials travelling between home and school, electronic communication through email, D2L (Student Portfolios) is encouraged. Your child's teacher will communicate their preferred form of electronic communication. Paper student agenda will not be used this year. At this time, if you would like to meet with your child's teacher, please understand that this will take place over the phone or through a virtual meeting until further notice. Parents are welcome to call the school or email to request a phone meeting time.

## PARENT ACCESS TO THE SCHOOL

One of our goals is to maintain a school environment that minimizes the number of potential contacts for students and staff. For that reason, parents should not enter the school. Pick-up and drop-off of students can only happen outside of the school. Parents will not have access to classrooms and unscheduled visits are not permitted. Please note that ALL visitors must make an appointment with the office prior to entering the school. If you have made an appointment, you must complete the visitor's self-assessment on the DSBN webpage and wear a mask to enter to school.

## WHAT IF I NEED TO GET SOMETHING TO MY CHILD?

If your child has forgotten something that they cannot do without, we will have you ring the bell at the front door and let our staff know who the item is for. As staff member will meet you at the door and will take care of delivery for you. We will see that your child receives it. We kindly request that you wear a mask.

## STUDENT USE OF PHONE

In order to minimize touch surfaces and direct and indirect contact with others, including our office staff, students will not be permitted to use the phone unless it is an emergency. Any after school plans need to be arranged prior to the start of the school day.

Technology is an important part of our program and there will be opportunities for learning using Chromebooks and video equipment. To ensure student safety and appropriate use, we will take on a three-fold approach:

1. Strict enforcement of the DSBN Information Technology Digital Citizenship Agreement (Signed by parents through School Cash Online),
2. Educating students to use technology safely and responsibly, and
3. Ensuring technology from home doesn't come to school without both parent and teacher permission.

Students should not bring valuable personal property to school. Loss and theft are facts of life, and often these lost or stolen articles are never returned to their rightful owner. Similarly, other items may cause unwanted distraction and/or confidentiality or safety concerns. Unless given permission by the teacher to complete school assignments or projects, all personal electronic devices (i.e., cell phones, tablets) must be kept in a student's backpack throughout the entire school day, including nutrition breaks. If any of these items are used during school hours, they will be confiscated and will be returned with the date to be determined as per each offence. Electronic devices are not the responsibility of the school. It is, therefore, best that such items be left at home.

## DRESSING FOR SUCCESS

Everyone has their own unique style and aesthetic. We celebrate students' individuality and respect their ability to express themselves. Our only expectation is that all students come to school dressed appropriately for a learning environment.

When deciding clothing, we ask that all members of our school community are mindful of:

- Health and safety concerns
- The dignity and well-being of all students and staff (i.e. clothing that is free of inappropriate or discriminatory imagery or wording)

## ORANGE SHIRT DAY

Orange Shirt Day is a legacy of the St. Joseph Mission residential school commemoration event held in Williams Lake, BC, Canada, in the spring of 2013. It grew out of Residential School survivor Phyllis Webstad's account of having her new orange shirt taken away on her first day of school, and it has become an opportunity to keep the discussion on all aspects of residential schools happening annually. The initiative calls for every Canadian to wear an orange shirt in the spirit of healing and reconciliation. The date was chosen because it is the time of year in which children were taken from their homes and placed in residential schools, and because it provides an opportunity to set the stage for anti-racism and anti-bullying policies for the coming school year. This year, DSBN will be recognizing this day on Monday, September 30. Please join our school staff in wearing an orange shirt on September 30th

## SO MANY WAYS TO STAY INFORMED AND CONNECTED

In our busy lives, events can sometimes be overlooked. Technology allows us multiple ways to connect with families. The following is a list of ways we use to connect with families to ensure all families are aware of the many events happening throughout the year.

**SCHOOL WEBSITE** - <http://cherrywood.dsbm.org>

Please take some time to visit the Cherrywood Acres Public School website. Our website includes current newsletters, school calendars, code of conduct, school council information, a school year calendar, classroom websites, and bell times.

### **SCHOOL MESSENGER**

Using the School Messenger program, important updates and information will be shared through a phone call and/or email as they become available. If you are not receiving these phone calls and emails, please check your contact information with the office to ensure we have the most current information. In order for School Messenger to be its most effective, it is imperative that we have up-to-date phone numbers and email addresses.

### **MONTHLY NEWSLETTER**

In order to be more environmentally friendly, the monthly newsletter will be posted to the school website and sent via School Messenger through email.