



# Mountainview Montessori School

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• 15225 98<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Surrey, B.C. V3R 1J2 • Phone: (604) 589-1193 • Fax: (604) 589-5000

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*"In our Montessori school we learn together peacefully and responsibly by caring for each other and the world."*

September 3, 2020

Dear Mountainview Families,

We are very much looking forward to welcoming you back to school and we are happy to be sharing more start-up details with you.

This is both an exciting and challenging time as we begin preparing for the safe and supportive return for our students, many of whom have not been with us in our buildings for quite some time. Returning to school may lead to heightened anxiety for students and staff so this will be a time for us to look after one another. We have a strong community at Mountainview that I will work together to support each other and our students in the early days in a calm, caring and connected way in order to maintain our sense of belonging and community. Please know that student safety and well-being are always at the fore front of our planning and organizing.

## **Opening Week Information:**

Welcoming students back during the first week of the school year requires careful planning as we adhere to the **Provincial Health & Safety Guidelines** and we organize students into learning cohorts for their first day of regular classes on September 14.

## **Guidelines:**

**September 8 and 9** \*\*No students are in attendance.

These two days are for teachers to meet with the Health & Safety Committee, review Health & Safety Guidelines, discuss and understand how these guidelines apply to our school site and context, discuss the details of orientation plans for students, solidify student numbers, and prepare for Weeks 1 and 2.

**Student Orientations will occur on September 10 and 11**

**Regular classes beginning on September 14.**

In order to adhere to the Health & Safety Guidelines, on the **September 10 and 11 Orientation Days** students will need to remain physically distanced. We have organized students into **Groups A and B** to allow for physical distancing that will need to be maintained until classes and cohorts are formed and in place for September 14.

- **September 10 and 11 Student Orientation Days** will be an opportunity to reconnect and share Health and Safety information, including discussions around the following: physical contact guidelines, procedures for entering and leaving the school, common area guidelines, walking on the right side of hallways, learning cohorts, recess/lunch, hand hygiene etc. These discussions will continue throughout the first few weeks of school as children become accustomed to new routines and protocols.



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## Student Orientation Days Information:

- **New Grade 1, 4 and 7 students:** look for an email from teachers on Wednesday, September 9th with information on whose class you will be in for the Orientation Days
- Teachers will email class lists to families on September 9 including any final instructions on where to line up
- Students in Grade 1 -7 new to our school will meet on **SEPTEMBER 11 ONLY** – please meet in front of the gym at the cone that says **NEW STUDENTS** ( **GRADE 1 -3 9:00 am – 10:00 am** and **GRADE 4 – 7 10:00 - 11:00 am** on **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11**). We will have information on class assignments organized and available for parents and students by the end of this meeting.

## Students will attend orientation at the following dates and times:

- **September 10 & 11 Student Orientation Days**– for student returning to full time face to face instruction (**students who registered for the Elementary Transition Program DO NOT attend**)
- students who registered for the **Elementary Transition Program** will attend orientation during the week of **September 14** – look for more information to come.

## Group A Student Orientation Day

### Thursday, September 10

- **9:00 – 10:00 Grades 1, 2, 3 Group A students** – please meet in designated areas on the basketball court by the play structure (cones will be set out for each division)
- **11:00 – 12:00 Grades 4, 5, 6, 7 Group A students** – please meet in designated areas on the courtyard at the front entrance to the school (cones will be set out for each division)
- **12:30 – 1:30 Group A Kindergarten students**

Please park in Johnston Heights parking lot and enter our school yard through the back entrance adjacent to the parking lot.

Teachers will be outside to greet you and your child and help you find the line up.



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## Group B Student Orientation Day

Friday, September 11

• **9:00 – 10:00 Grades 1, 2, 3 Group B students** – please meet in designated areas on the basketball court by the play structure  
(cones will be set out for each division)

• **11:00 – 12:00 Grades 4, 5, 6, 7 Group B students** – please meet in designated areas on the courtyard at the front entrance to the school  
(cones will be set out for each division)

• **12:30 – 1:30 Group B Kindergarten students**

Please park in Johnston Heights parking lot and enter our school yard through the back entrance adjacent to the parking lot.

Teachers will be outside to greet you and your child and help you find the line up

As large numbers of students will be arriving at once, we will welcome students in a way that spreads them out. Staff will be outside to greet you and have signs to indicate where you should line up. Students please gather in a manner that maintains physical distancing from each other, as well as other families and staff.

**Grade 1 – 3 9:00 – 10:00 both days**

Parents please park in the Johnston Heights parking lot

**Div 8** in their usual will line up along the wall to building B in front of the stair case

**Divs 9 – 12** will line up near the basketball court (see the cones and look for teachers)

**Div 13** in their usual place in front of their classroom

**Grades 4 – 7 11:00 – 12:00 both days**

**Divs 1- 6** on the courtyard (see cones)

**Div 7** on sidewalk in front of the gym

**Kindergarten (12:30-1:30)** will meet at the back of the school. The teachers will have an A or B sign to indicate where to line up.



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## September 14 – First Full Day of Classes

In order to stagger entry **for the first full week** and to ease any congestion, we will again meet in these designated **Primary and Intermediate** areas and will be using the following schedule for September 14-18th:

**8:30 - 2:30 - Grade 1, 2, 3**

**8:45 - 10:45 - Kindergarten Group A and 12:15-2:15 - Kindergarten Group B**

**9:00 - 2:30 - Grade 4, 5, 6, 7**

Primary and Intermediate students will be dismissed from these designated areas on the first day, and from their regular classroom on remaining days.

### Some additional considerations for this year:

- Students *must* come with their recess snack, lunch and water bottle. There will be no lunch drop off in the school this year.
- To ensure WorkSafeBC procedures are followed, only students and staff are permitted in the building.
- **Parents will not be able to enter the school to drop off lunches or other items.**

Thank you in advance for your understanding.

**Parents please note:** Please do a wellness check of your child before coming to school. If a child becomes ill during the day we will be phoning home and your will have to be picked up promptly.

### School Supplies:

- Students do not need to bring any supplies to the Orientation Day.

#### September 14th

- Intermediate (grades 4-7) supply lists were posted on website. Intermediate Students please bring **only** basic supplies (pencil, eraser, pencil crayons).
- Primary (Grade 1-3) and Kindergarten students – Supplies are not required as they are purchased by the classroom teachers. Parents can pay these Montessori Supply fees (\$45.00 + Planner Fee) on line.

We are grateful for your support and understanding as we work together to provide a safe and welcoming back-to-school experience for your child.

Be Calm! Be Kind! We will get through this together...

Sincerely,

Ms. Cheryl Rutherford  
Principal