

Dear Intermediate Students and Families,

Bonjour et bienvenue! The Intermediate years are an exciting time for students and important in terms of goal setting and refining learning skills in preparation for secondary school. The Intermediate teaching team is thrilled to have the opportunity to work with our students over the course of this upcoming year.

The transition from grade school to secondary school is significant and, as a team, we are here to help our students manage it successfully. Throughout Grade 6, 7 and 8 the emphasis will be on building confidence in learning, independence, organization, and a better sense of self. It is our goal to help encourage our students to find their way with respect to their academic, social and personal pursuits.

Students are expected to come to class on time, prepared and ready to focus on the task at hand. In preparation for this, it is expected that students will keep track of important information in an agenda or personal calendar. For communication from teachers, each member of the Intermediate team will have a Google Classroom site on the UGCloud which will be used to communicate assignments, tests, important dates, assessment information and student collaboration etc. Your preferred email address for contact should be attached to your student's Google Classroom account. In the case that it is not, please reach out to your student's homeroom teacher by email.

We strongly encourage parents and students to look over UGcloud and the Google Classroom together and discuss how to best use these tools effectively. This will be helpful throughout the year as you discuss what your child is learning. Each homeroom class will have a Google Calendar to track homework and important dates. Students will work with their homeroom teachers to set this up at the start of the school year.

### **Academic expectations**

As an Intermediate team, we understand that students will need support to become more independent and accountable for their academic success. Students are expected to have all appropriate materials for each class. In a collaborative effort to increase student accountability and ownership, students are expected to communicate with their teacher if they have missed an assignment or test due to an absence or if an alternate date is needed.

### **Technology expectations**

École John McCrae has a strict technology policy. Please refer to the [attached contract](#) for details. It is also posted on the school website.

### **Recess & Nutrition Breaks**

Recess will continue to be held twice a day as per the balanced day schedule. During the snack portion of the break, students will remain in their homeroom classrooms to eat. They must remain seated, and ask for permission from the supervising teacher before leaving the classroom. **Students are not permitted to be on electronic devices (either school or personal) during break.** All students are responsible for cleaning up after themselves, and ensuring that the classroom remains clean.

## Difficult topics and discussions

In intermediate, there will be times when difficult topics will be brought up and classroom discussions will take place. The topics of conversation are often organic and brought up by students who see or hear things either in the news or on social media. We, as teachers at École John McCrae, feel it is necessary to address these topics in a mature, guided space. We are working together to continue to build and foster an inclusive and safe environment.

## Recommended School Supplies

- A pair of indoor shoes
- Gym shoes (non marking)
- Large 2 to 3 inch binder and binder dividers
- A combination lock for their locker
- Pack of lined paper
- Pencil case with pencils, erasers, pens, white out, sharpener, glue stick, highlighters, and a pair of scissors
- A sketchbook
- Scientific calculator
- Geometry set
- Ruler
- Coloured pencils
- Inexpensive pair of headphones
- Reeds (music class: clarinet & saxophone)

If it is a concern for families to purchase the supplies, please contact your student's homeroom teacher. Thank you for your cooperation in helping to make this year successful for all of our students. We look forward to meeting you at École John McCrae's Open House on Thursday, September 25th at 5:30pm. Please do not hesitate to contact any of us with any questions or concerns. **The best method of communication is via email.** We have provided our email addresses below.

Merci,

The Intermediate Team

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|------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Andrea Poste     | <a href="mailto:andrea.poste@ugdsb.on.ca">andrea.poste@ugdsb.on.ca</a>         | Homeroom Teacher - 6A   |
| Annie Fang       | <a href="mailto:alexandria.primm@ugdsb.on.ca">alexandria.primm@ugdsb.on.ca</a> | Homeroom Teacher - 6/7B |
| Lindsay McCallum | <a href="mailto:lindsay.mccallum@ugdsb.on.ca">lindsay.mccallum@ugdsb.on.ca</a> | Homeroom Teacher - 7A   |
| Rhys Bennett     | <a href="mailto:rbennett@ugcloud.ca">rbennett@ugcloud.ca</a>                   | Homeroom Teacher - 8A   |
| Chantal Hearn    | <a href="mailto:chantal.hearn@ugdsb.on.ca">chantal.hearn@ugdsb.on.ca</a>       | Homeroom Teacher - 8B   |
| Zara Henry       | <a href="mailto:zara.henry@ugdsb.on.ca">zara.henry@ugdsb.on.ca</a>             | Homeroom Teacher - 8C   |
| Julie Wallace    | <a href="mailto:julie.wallace@ugdsb.on.ca">julie.wallace@ugdsb.on.ca</a>       | Phys. Ed & Health       |
| Beth McEwen      | <a href="mailto:beth.mcewen@ugdsb.on.ca">beth.mcewen@ugdsb.on.ca</a>           | Intermediate English    |
| Anna MacMillan   | <a href="mailto:amacmillan@ugcloud.ca">amacmillan@ugcloud.ca</a>               | Grades K- 8 Music       |
| Krista Bird      | <a href="mailto:krista.bird@ugdsb.on.ca">krista.bird@ugdsb.on.ca</a>           | Intermediate Resource   |