

Wednesday, October 29, 2025

Dear École Joe Clark Families,

We are so happy to welcome our students and families back to school. Your presence brings life and energy to our hallways, and we've truly missed you.

We recognize that the recent labour action was a challenging time for everyone — students, families, and staff alike. Thank you for your patience, understanding, and continued support while learning was paused.

As we return, our focus is on creating a gentle, supportive transition back into the rhythm of school life. With your partnership, we're ready to re-center our efforts on what matters most: teaching, learning, and growing together as a community.

We're glad you're here. Let's move forward together!

As we resume classes, please note:

- **School Bell Times:** Our day begins at 8:45 AM and ends at 3:15 PM. Please see School Bell Times at our website for our full schedule.
- **Pick Up & Drop Off:** Previous drop-off and pick-up routines remain in place.
- We ask that students stay outside once they arrive at school (except for inclement weather days) as our staff are preparing for their day and are not responsible for supervision inside the school at that time.
- Morning and afternoon supervision outside occurs from 8:30 am until the bell at 8:45 am, and in the afternoon from 3:15 pm- 3:30 pm.
- **Bus Lane:** The bus lane is reserved for FSD buses only. Please do not park or drop off your children in this area.
- **Parking Lot:** Our parking lot is for staff of FSD only. Parents are welcome to park in the church parking lot (they have graciously allowed us to use this in the morning) as well as at our drop and go location ***right in front of the school doors***.
- If your children are older, you might consider having them meet you at the lake, as there is more parking towards the west end of the school.
- **School Council and Fundraising Society Meetings:** more information to come on the rescheduled dates and times

- **School Fees:** The Division Office will now be assessing school and activity fees, which may result in a proration, refund, or credit, where applicable. Thank you for your patience as they work through this process as efficiently as possible.
- **School Calendar:** A reminder of the changes to the instructional calendar (view calendar update)
- November 24, 2025 – Instructional day
- April 17, 2026 – Non-Instructional Day
- April 24, 2026 – Instructional Day

*****The Fall Break (November 10 to 15, 2025) remains unchanged as we understand many families have made alternate plans.***

- **Indoor Shoes/Weather Appropriate Wear-** If your child took their indoor shoes home, please be sure to send them back to school this week. The weather is also starting to cool off. Please make sure you dress your child in the morning warmly (hats, toques and mitts) as we attempt to get students out as much as we can!
- **Hot Lunch-** There will be NO HOT LUNCH on Friday, October 31. Hot Lunch will be up and running again over the weekend, and you can order for Friday, November 7 at that time!

As we welcome students back into the school environment, we understand that this transition may come with a mix of emotions and questions. We're here to support each child with care and compassion.

In the coming days, we'll spend time helping students readjust to the routines of school and revisit key concepts. Our priority is to ensure that every student feels safe, supported, and confident as they reconnect with their learning. If your family needs additional support or has specific concerns, please reach out to your child's homeroom teacher. We're committed to working together to meet the needs of every learner.

Thank you for your continued support and trust in our school community. We're grateful to be back together.

Yours in learning,

Jolene Becker & Corre Mahan

École Joe Clark School Admin team

Upcoming Dates: (some dates have been adjusted, so please take a look!)

- Friday, October 31- Halloween – see below for details
- Nov 10-16- Fall Break – No school (as regularly scheduled)

A Note on Patience and Progress Updates

As we settle back into our routines, we kindly ask for your patience and understanding as staff get up and running again. Gradebooks were last updated at the end of September, and many teachers were just preparing to begin formal assessments with students before the pause.

Throughout November, we'll focus on reconnecting with our learners, revisiting key concepts, and re-establishing classroom rhythms. Teachers will begin assessments and updating gradebooks once students are ready, and our next formal progress update will be shared at the end of November.

Thank you for your continued support — it means so much to our team.

Halloween at École Joe Clark!

This year, we're brewing up a more laid-back Halloween celebration — but don't worry, it'll still be full of spooky spirit and costume magic!

At 2:40pm, all our little ghouls and goblins will parade down to the lake, showing off their frightfully fantastic costumes for classmates and friends. It's a perfect chance to enjoy the beautiful weather and celebrate together!

Families are invited to join us for the parade and cheer on all the costumed creatures. Whether you're a witch, a wizard, or just a fan of festive fun, we'd love to see you there!

A Few Halloween Notes from the Crypt

To help keep the day safe and fun for everyone, please keep these guidelines in mind:

- Costumes should be **age-appropriate and school-friendly**
- **No weapons** of any kind — even pretend ones!
- Please **avoid sending accessories** — we want your child to have them for trick-or-treating later!
- **Face paint and makeup are welcome if applied at home, but please do not send them to school.** This helps us keep the day smooth and focused while still celebrating in style!

- **Your child's teacher will let you know** whether costumes should be worn to school or brought to change into after morning learning

Thanks for helping us make this Halloween a howling success!