

Welcome BACK to SCHOOL

We are thrilled to welcome students, staff and families back for what we know will be an amazing school year! Our wonderful staff has been busy working together to create a safe, engaging, and caring learning environment for all of our students. We strive to ensure that every student feels that they belong at Elsie MacGill and can see themselves reflected throughout the classroom and school community. We're all set and can't wait to welcome our Hurricanes back to school! - Mrs. Harris and Mr. Iorianni

School Schedule

8:10-8:25	Entry Kindergarten students enter through Kindergarten yard (beside parking lot) Students in Grades 1 to 8 are outside in the school yard
10:25-10:55	First Nutrition Break (15 minutes inside, 15 minutes outside) Staggered: Grades 4/5 to 8 outside first, Grades 1 to 4 outside second
12:35-1:15	Second Nutrition Break (Grades 1 to 8) (20 minutes inside, 20 minutes outside) Staggered: Grades 4/5 to 8 outside first, Grades 1 to 4 outside second
1:15-1:55	Second Nutrition Break (Kindergarten including SK/1 English)
2:35	Dismissal

First Day of School—Tuesday, September 6th, 2022

- Kindergarten students will go to the kindergarten yard. Teachers, ECEs and support staff will be there to greet them.
- Students in Grades 1 to 8 will proceed to the school yard when they arrive at school to meet teachers by grade.

Teachers will be standing together by grade and will help students find the right class. For example, If your child is in Grade 3, they will look for the teachers holding the Grade 3 signs and head over to that area to line up in their new class!

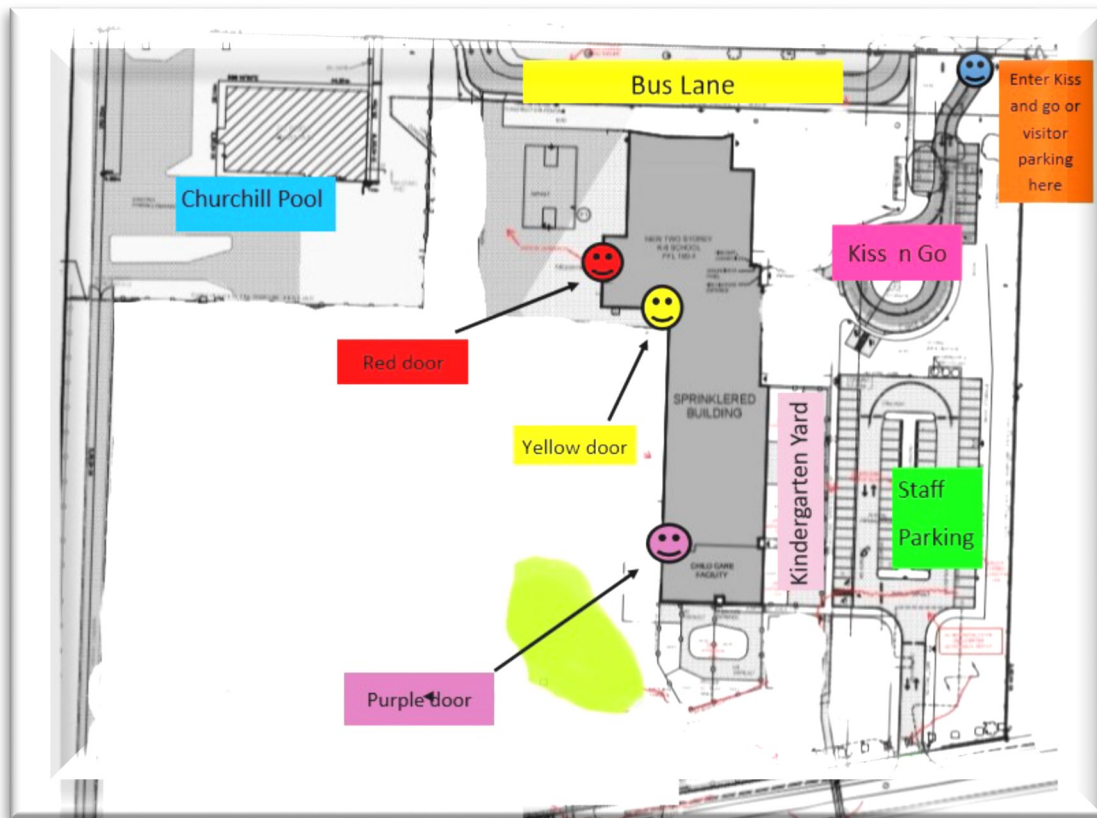
Please say goodbye to your students at the sidewalk to help reduce congestion and confusion on the field. There will be lots of staff available to welcome our students back to school and help them get to where they are going.



École Elsie MacGill Public School
130 Churchill Drive W.
P7C 1V5
(807) 577-6448



Communication: Our main methods of communication with families are by Seesaw (sign-up info will be sent home), School Messenger (email/text/phone), and our social media platforms (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter). The Lakehead Public Schools website is also a good source of information for families.



RED doors: Ozerkevich, Phillips, Gerry, Cullis, Gali-peau, Turcotte, Wiebe, Marion

YELLOW doors: Visser, Magill, Menard, Soulias, Lavoie, Quirion, Sutherland

Purple doors: Adams-Fraser, Baryluk, Weichel, Henny, Wolowich, Judge, Starcok, Aegard, Harri, Bowles



Important Routines:

Entry: Upon arrival at school students will proceed to either the kindergarten area or the school yard. Please note that student may not arrive at school earlier than 8:10 when supervision begins. The play structure is not open during morning entry.

Dismissal: Kindergarten students will be picked up at the gate to the kindergarten yard. Please designate an area outside the school to meet students in Grades 1 to 8, and ensure that your child knows where to go. It is a good idea to communicate your meeting place with your child's teacher to help alleviate any confusion at the end of the day. Adults are not permitted inside the building to wait for dismissal to allow for learning to continue uninterrupted and to keep hallways clear for students and staff. **The play structures are not open for use at or immediately after dismissal.**

Late Arrivals: Students who arrive late to school will ring the buzzer in the vestibule to enter the building. Students will be directed to the main office to sign in and then proceed to class.

Early Pick-up: Please be clear and early, whenever possible, with notification to the class/school about an early pick up. Parents will ring the buzzer in the vestibule and indicate to the secretary over the intercom your child's first and last name, grade, teacher. We then ask you to wait in the vestibule until your child comes out. Please know that this process may take some time (especially during nutrition break). Please note that afternoon phone calls/Seesaw messages to change transportation mode at the end of the day may not be able to be accommodated due to time sensitivity of our dismissal routines.

Nutrition Break/Recess: Students eat in their classrooms and are supervised by school staff. The play structures are open, and classes will be scheduled on a rotating basis. Please note that microwaves are available during lunch to reheat food items only.

Water fountains: Please ensure that your child brings a reusable water bottle to school, and that it is taken home and washed regularly. Water fountains and water bottle filling stations are available throughout the school.

Bike Racks: Bike racks are located at the Kiss and Go circle and at the Parkway entrance to the school yard.

As much as possible, Elsie MacGill is going paperless! Permission forms, student information sheets, and purchases of hot lunch, milk cards, field trips, etc. will all be completed online. Please sign up to SchoolCash Online at: lakeheadschools.schoolcashonline.com. If you need assistance, please contact the office. (TIP: OEN numbers should be added **without dashes**, and birth dates entered using the calendar instead of typing the date in yourself)



Parents and Guardians can report absences online at <https://asp.schoolmessenger.ca/lakeheadschools> or by using the School Messenger App which is available wherever you download apps. You can also leave a message at the school at 577-6448.

From the Thunder Bay District Health Unit:

Students and staff should **complete the screening tool** at <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/> and **follow the recommendations at the end of the screening tool**, which may include:

- Staying home until you have no fever and symptoms are improving for at least 24hrs (or 48 hrs. for gastro-intestinal symptoms).
- When symptoms improve, continuing to wear a mask when out in public (including schools, child care, unless under 2) for 10 days from when symptoms started, avoiding non-essential activities where mask removal is necessary (dining-out, playing wind instruments).
- Avoiding non-essential visits to people at risk of severe illness and in highest risk settings (i.e. hospitals, long-term care).

Those in the same household (including siblings) should also follow the next steps recommended at the end of the screening tool for the symptomatic individual.

School and Child Care FAQs

Q: If I have to wear a mask for 10 days because I was sick, can I remove it to eat lunch?

A: Yes, because eating your lunch is an essential activity.

Q: Can I remove my mask during Phys. Ed., in the gym or to play the saxophone?

A: No, because this is considered non-essential activity. Leave your mask on, or participate in an alternative activity.



Using the Kiss and Go

Morning

- Drop off is from 8:10—8:25
- Enter the Kiss and Go off of Churchill Drive. The Kiss and Go is a single lane only.
- Do not block the exit/entrance to the bus lane if you are waiting to turn off of Churchill.
- Drive in and pull as far as you can around the circle. A staff member will indicate where you should stop.
- Students must wait until a staff member approaches the vehicle before they exit. They should exit on the passenger side. Students will enter the school through the front doors or will go to the kindergarten yard.
- Wait until the car ahead of you departs before leaving.
- Parents should remain in the vehicle at all times, unless they need to unbuckle or buckle a child in. This should be done as quickly as possible.



Afternoon

- Use the same procedure to enter and exit the Kiss and Go. Parents should remain in their vehicle.
- Students in Kiss and Go are dismissed at 2:20. They wait in the gym to be called.
- A staff member will approach your car to ask your child's name. They will send a message to a staff member inside and your child will come out through the front doors of the school.

