

PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

Dante Elementary

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www.emsb.qc.ca/dante



UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 3

Labour Day Holiday - School and Daycare closed

SEPTEMBER 6

Meet the Teachers Evening

Governing Board Annual General Meeting

SEPTEMBER 7

Welcoming Activity for Students

SEPTEMBER 10

Le Doral Catering Begins

SEPTEMBER 21

Pedagogical Day-Daycare Open

SEPTEMBER 24

School Photos

Dear Parents/Guardians,

My name is Irimi Margetis and I am the new Principal of Dante Elementary. On behalf of the entire teaching and support staff, I would like to wish you and your children a warm welcome and a most wonderful and enriching school year! We hope you enjoyed your summer holiday and that you had the opportunity to spend quality time with your little ones.

Every month you will receive a Principal's Newsletter advising you of upcoming events/meetings as well as important information and reminders. Please note that a detailed letter will always be sent home for specific events, which will include details that you will not find in the newsletters.

All communication to parents will be sent electronically with the exception of letters where your signature is required. This newsletter has also been sent to you by email. If you did not receive it, or if you wish to modify/add an email address, please contact the school secretary, Ms. Pina, at gippolito@emsb.qc.ca.

Should you have any questions or concerns, I invite you to contact the school office at (514) 254-5941. You may also send an email to the school secretary (as mentioned above) or to Ms. Silvana, secretary, at santonelli@emsb.qc.ca.

I look forward to working with you this year.

Best regards,

Irimi Margetis
Principal

GENERAL INFORMATION

This week, homeroom teachers will distribute student agendas to all children. Please use the school agenda to communicate important information to your child's teacher (questions, concerns, doctor's appointments, changes to dismissal routine etc.). Teachers will also use the student agenda to communicate with you. It is thus important for parents to review the agenda on a daily basis. **We ask that you please take the time to read the Dante Rules and Regulations with your child and sign the first page of this section.**

DANTE SCHOOL WEBSITE-www.danteschool.ca

As you may have noticed, our school website needs to be updated. We apologize for the inconvenience this may have caused and are currently working on updating the information.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS, TELEPHONE NUMBERS AND E-MAIL ADDRESS

Information provided to the school must be kept up to date during the year. **Parents are responsible for informing the school and the daycare of changes in address and telephone number as they occur.** School personnel must be able to reach parents/guardians at all times, especially in case of an emergency. Please advise the office if the telephone number is confidential.

FEES (LUNCH SUPERVISION & SCHOOL FEES)

Lunch Supervision Fees (for children not attending daycare on a regular basis)

- Kindergarten: \$238.07 for the entire school year
 - To be paid in 3 installments, post-dated cheques, payable to Dante School Lunch

1 st payment	September 28, 2018	\$97.09
2 nd payment	January 28, 2019	\$70.49
3 rd payment	April 8, 2019	\$70.49

- Grades 1-6: \$240.73 for the entire school year
 - To be paid in 3 installments, post-dated cheques payable to Dante School Lunch

1 st payment	September 28, 2018	\$99.75
2 nd payment	January 28, 2019	\$70.49
3 rd payment	April 8, 2019	\$70.49

Student Fees

- To be paid in 1 installment, cheque payable to Dante School
- Please note that the deadline to pay school fees is August 31st, 2018

Grade	Fee	Grade	Fee	Grade	Fee	Grade	Fee
K	\$42.07	1	\$61.09	3	\$97.57	5	\$80.61
		2	\$61.09	4	\$99.60	6	\$80.61

Should you have any questions or concerns, or are unable to respect the payment deadlines, please communicate with the Principal as soon as possible to make arrangements.

DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP OF CHILDREN

Children should not be left unsupervised in the school yard before 8:42 a.m. Teachers' supervision begins at 8:42 a.m. when the first school bell rings. At this time, we ask parents to please remain **outside of the school yard**.

Students who walk home for lunch will leave the school at 11:34 p.m. through the main office, door #1. Parents picking up their child for lunch are asked to please wait for their child outside the main entrance. When returning to school for the afternoon, these same students are asked to enter the school yard via Côte Street at 12:29 p.m., not earlier. In case of inclement weather, they may enter through the main office at 12:29 p.m.

The dismissal bell rings at 3:35 p.m. Parents picking up their children at dismissal should do so at the front of the school, near door #5. **Our students' safety is of utmost importance to us so please make sure that a teacher acknowledges your presence and sees your child leave with you.** Children taking the school bus will be dismissed through the junior door #4, and children attending daycare will be brought to their after school classroom.



Should your child's pick-up schedule change at the end of the day, we ask that you please write a note in his/her agenda or call the school office before 2 p.m. Failure to do so will result in your child being dismissed as usual. (For example, Megan usually takes the school bus after school. She advises her homeroom teacher that her parents told her to walk home at the end of the day. Unfortunately, Megan's parents did not write a note in her agenda or call the school office. The teachers are thus under the obligation to send her on the school bus.)

To facilitate circulation and avoid accidents, we ask that you avoid dropping off/picking-up your child on Côte Street as this is the drop-off/pick-up zone for school buses. Please park on Lachenaie or neighboring streets and escort your child to the school yard (**Côte Street entrance**). The school parking lot is reserved for Dante Staff only. **Please do not drop off your child in the parking lot.** These precautionary measures are put into place to assure the safety of our students, your children. We thank you for your cooperation!

Lastly, in the event of rain or inclement weather, parents are asked to bring their child to the junior door #4 at 8:42 a.m. Staff members will escort them into the building.

STUDENT ABSENCES AND STUDENTS ARRIVING TO SCHOOL LATE

Children should be present in school every day. We ask that you please schedule family vacation on designated holidays and not during school days as this could impede your child's learning. The period covering mid-April to mid-June is especially critical as most school and school board evaluations are done at this time. Routine is very important at a young age and missing too many days of school will result in your child falling behind. Vacation is not considered a justified absence and teachers are under no obligation to provide school work for this particular child. Please keep in mind that beginning mid-April until mid-June students



In the event that a child must be absent from school due to illness, we ask parents/guardians to do one of the following:

- Inform the teacher of the child's absence ahead of time with a note in the agenda (mainly for doctor's appointments that cannot be scheduled before or after school);
- Send a note to school via sibling;
- Call the school between 8:00 and 9:15 AM if the child's absence is unexpected.

While it is important for students to be in school, sick children are not prepared to focus on teaching and learning. If a child is running a fever or has been sick early in the morning, he/she should not attend school. ***If parents have determined that their child is well enough to attend school, then the student will be sent outdoors for recess or at lunch time since the school is not equipped to supervise sick children indoors. As well, doctors point out that children with minor ills and colds benefit from being outdoors in the fresh air. Should there be a medical reason for a child to remain indoors, we require parents to provide us with their doctor's note. Provisions for supervision will be made for these rare occasions.

Punctuality is an important life skill that we must collectively teach our children. Although we understand that there are extenuating circumstances that might lead to lateness (eg: weather, sickness), we ask that all students arrive to school on time, which means 8:52 a.m. at the latest. Lateness brings disruption to the morning routine of the class and it also creates additional work for the school secretary at a very busy time in the day. We really appreciate your cooperation and understanding in this matter.

SCHOOL DRESS CODE-GENERAL GUIDELINES

We would like to remind you that the Dante Governing Board approved a specific dress code for the students:

- Solid navy blue slacks, trousers, jumper or skirts (no tights to be worn as pants).
- White tops such as shirts, polo and blouses
- Burgundy cardigan, burgundy fleece school cardigan, vest only or navy blue, white and burgundy cardigan (solid color-no prints). No other sweaters or cardigans can be worn in school.
- Any type of closed, comfortable shoes (no fluorescent colors and no lights) may be worn.
- Leggings under the skirts must either be white or blue. No multi-colored leggings will be permitted.
- Only conservative hair styles and haircuts are permitted in school.

Physical Education

- Students must have a pair of running shoes for their Physical Education class only. They cannot wear their everyday shoes for their Phys. Ed. Class. No-scuff soles.
- Burgundy shorts or burgundy jogging pants bearing the school logo.
- Navy blue t-shirt bearing the school logo.

For further information, please consult the student agenda p. 9

KINDERGARTEN PROGRESSIVE ENTRY-AUGUST 29 TO AUGUST 31

Last June, parents of incoming Kindergarten students received a letter indicating that from August 29th to August 31st 2018 was a progressive entry. Please refer to this letter to know on which day your child is expected to be in school to meet their teachers and classmates. **As of September 4th, ALL Kindergarten students are expected to attend school every day.** Please call the school office should you have any questions or concerns.

“Develop a passion for learning. If you do, you will never cease to grow.”
ANTHONY J. D’ANGELO