# Good afternoon families of Mitchell Middle School students!

We are excited to welcome our students back to school next week for another year! Here is some information for you to be aware of as we get started again next week.

#### Welcome to New Staff Members

Mr. Terrick - Vice Principal

Ms. Warkentin Peters- Guidance Counselor

Mr. Peters - Gr 7

Ms. Donohoe - Gr 5

Ms. Penner (EA)

Ms. Liska (EA)

Ms. Le Brocq (EA)

### Meet the Teacher BBQ on Tuesday Sept. 5, 4:00 - 6:00

Students and families are invited to join us for our 2nd annual Meet the Teacher BBQ this coming Tuesday. There will be hot dogs, chips, and pop available at no charge, while supplies last. A limited supply of gluten free hot dogs and buns will be available as well. Students are invited to bring their school supplies with them on Tuesday evening and say hello to their teachers. As well, our Parent Advisory Council will be set up in the hallway collecting goods for school lunches. See the letter below from the PAC Chairperson, Naomi Reimer, for more information about this important PAC initiative.

#### An Important Message From the Parent Advisory Council

Hello parents of MMS students!

On behalf of PAC I hope you have all had a wonderful summer full of fun, rest, adventure and connection with your families and friends

I wanted to let you know of one of the new things that PAC is taking on this year and explain how you can help.

In past years lunches have been provided at the office for students that would otherwise go without. As a PAC we have decided to take this on to help ease the burden of Soups On. This is a major undertaking as last year 7-10 lunches went out a day which results in 35-50 a week and closer to 900 over the school year. We want to do our part to care for the students at MMS and providing lunch is a tangible way to do that.

Now for where you as parents/family/community can help out. At meet the teacher evening we will have a table set up inside the school doors and there will be a table with some of us on PAC

as well as a collection bin for items.(this is also where you can ask us any questions about PAC and sign up to join).

Please bring non perishable individually packaged items that could be used in lunches. Some ideas are, but not limited to; fruit snacks, cookies, fruit cups/bars, veggie straws, granola bars...even packages of bought muffins that we can freeze. (currently items made at home will not be accepted)

Throughout the year we will have collection times at school events along with different times during the year where there will be 'food drive' type events. We hope to also have a bin at the school where you can drop items off anytime you think of it.

Your support and help with this is so important to us, we can not do it on our own.

Thank you so much and we look forward to seeing you at meet the teacher next week. Please feel free to email us at mitchellmspac@gmail.com if you have any questions.

# First Day of School is Wednesday, September 6

Wednesday Sept. 6 is the first day of school and is a full day in session for our students.

### Strong Connections Sept 15 and 18

Don't forget about Strong Connections, coming up on Sept 15 and Sept 18. Those dates are available on the Parent Portal. Please be in contact with us at the office if you have questions about Strong Connections.

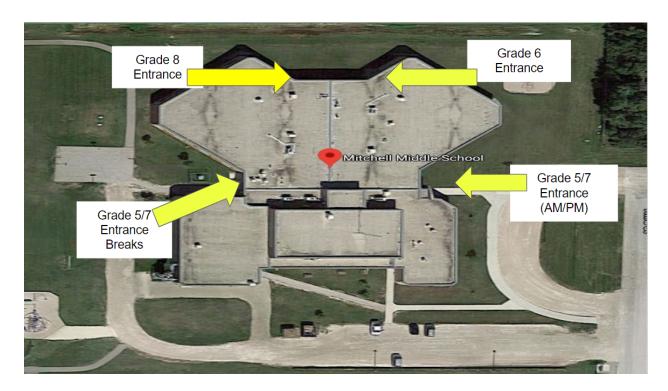
# **Construction Update and Reminders**

Construction continues on the addition here at MMS. If your child walks or rides their bike to school, please remind them to avoid using the Neufeld Drive entrance to the school ground to stay away from the construction zone.

As well, students should avoid cutting across the bus loop and new parking lot when arriving at school to stay safely away from moving traffic.

# **Student Entrances**

See the diagram below for your child's designated entrance into the school.



#### 23/24 Bell Schedule

Our Bell Schedule has been adjusted for the 23/24 school year.

	8:50	Students Enter	
Warning for Religious Exercises	8:55		
AM HR	9:02 - 9:10	8 min	
Period 1	9:10 - 9:45	35 min	
Period 2	9:45 - 10:20	35 min	
AM Recess	10:20 - 10:35	15 min	
Period 3	10:35 - 11:10	35 min	
Period 4	11:10 - 11:45	35 min	
Period 5	11:45 - 12:20	35 min	
Lunch Break	12:20 - 12:45	25 min	
Lunch Break	12:45 - 1:15	30 min	
Period 6	1:15 - 1:45	30 min	
Period 7	1:45 - 2:20	35 min	
PM Recess	2:20 - 2:35	15 min	
Period 8	2:35 - 3:10	35 min	
Period 9	3:10 - 3:45	35 min	
All Students Dismissed @ 3:45			

# **Students Returning From Lunch At Home**

A reminder that students who eat lunch at home should be arriving back at school at 1:10 and rejoining their class. There is no longer a homeroom period after lunch and students will report directly to their Period 6 class after lunch. It will be important for all students to return to class on time.

#### Dismissal

All students (town students and bus students) will be dismissed at 3:45 pm.

#### **Cell Phone Policy**

Please be reminded of Mitchell Middle School's Cell Phone Policy . . .

#### Grade 5s and 6s

Students are encouraged to keep their personal devices at home. If they do decide to bring one to school they are expected to keep it in their locker and not take it out in the school during the school day.

#### Grade 7s and 8s

It is important that we teach kids how to use these devices as something that can help them with school and when they get to high school it's something they can have at school as a resource to support learning.

Grade 7 and 8 students may bring personal devices to school and <u>if the classroom</u> <u>teacher allows</u>, they can use them in class to help with their work. If these devices become a distraction, teachers will ask students to put the devices away or leave them with the teacher for the rest of the period/day (for the rest of the day if it's a repeated issue). Parents may be asked to come pick up devices if they become a bigger distraction. Students are NOT required to bring personal devices and must have parent permission to do so.

# Parent - School Partnership

Student success is greatly enhanced when teachers and parents are in regular communication in support of student learning. We are thankful for the trust and support of the Mitchell community, and continue to encourage all parents and families to stay connected to MMS throughout the year.

Please be in contact with us at any time if you have any questions about your child's progress.

Here's to a great year!

Mr. A.J. Neufeld Principal

Mr. John Terrick Vice Principal