

Falcon Flyer-August 28th/2025



Welcome Back Falcons!

It is hard to believe that another summer is over and we are heading back after 9 weeks away from school. We hope that you and your family were able to enjoy some time connecting, resting and having some fun in the sun! The staff of Fallingbrook Public School are looking forward to welcoming our new and returning students to a new school year.

There is a lot of information in this newsletter, so please take the time to read through to the end. If you have any questions please reach out to us at the school or via email.

All visitors must visit the office first. In an effort to maintain a safe learning environment, visitors are reminded to check in the office first. If you need to pick your child up early, or you would like to speak to a staff member, we request you call the school and book an appointment or let us know when you will be picking your child up by using a safe arrival messenger app. We are also requesting that you do not sign your child out during the last 15 minutes of the day as the office becomes very busy and students are already preparing for pick up.

When you arrive at the school you will be needed to buzz the office to be let in. A reminder that all school doors are locked during class hours and no parents are to be in the school without an appointment (this includes dropping off your child). Thank you for your cooperation.

We ask parents to remain off the school yard during morning and afternoon pickup, and use a common drop off area in our kiss and ride to drop off and pick-up your child(ren).

Kindergarten parents are to wait outside the pen area to drop off their child(ren). Early Years staff will be on duty inside the kindergarten pen areas to meet you and your child.

Class Placements

Please note we will not be making any class changes until the second week of school. If you are looking for a change please let the office know and we will look at the request when we have a better idea of class sizes and class numbers. Thank you for your patience.

School Yard

In keeping with safety, during the first week we will allow parents on the yard in the mornings and after school. Going forward beginning after the first week, we are asking parents to remain off the yard after 8:35 am and at 3:15 dismissal. This is to ensure the safety of all our students. Teachers are on duty in the morning and will be there for supervision. Parents of students in grades 1-3 can pick up their students by the fence and kiss and ride.

Busing:

If you are looking to find out about your child's bus details please follow these steps:

- 1.) Call the automated system at 905-666-6979**
- 2.) Enter your child's OEN number or student number**
- 3.) Enter your child's Date of Birth YYYY-MM-DD**
- 4.) Record the school bus information below.**

This information will be for every student in the household. Please look for a call over the long week-end from DSTS. Please note that some streets no longer have bussing for students as a crossing guard is now in place. Take a few minutes this weekend to familiarize your students with their walking route.

VERIFICATIONS FORMS (Returning Registration Forms)

Each and every student needs to have their parent portal account updated. ** (new to DDSB and new JK students are not required to do the returning registration form as your initial registration would suffice for this) You would have done this to access your Teacher for the school year. If you have NOT done this please take a moment and update your students profile. This is extremely important to the office so we have the most update contact information for the school year. Grade 7 and 8 students will also have to complete the section regarding Chromebooks in order to have access to their own Chromebook for the year. If you have any questions on how to complete this please contact the office ASAP. We will be giving a prize to the class first class to have all their profiles that have been updated!

Indoor shoes are required for gym classes. Please ensure your child wears running shoes they are able to put on and off themselves everyday. All students have gym or are outside for recess everyday. Sandals, Crocs, fancy shoes or high heels are very unsafe when running or playing.

We look forward to working with you this year and we are always available to answer your questions.

Ms. Bourque and Ms. Prince

Teachers and Classroom's

We still may have some changes in teachers and teaching assignments over the first few weeks of school. Which may also mean your child's teacher may change. As mentioned earlier you will be able to access your child's teacher on the portal as of Thursday, August 28th. Here is a list of the current teachers, grades and rooms they will be teaching in.

Room 103- Kindergarten- Mrs. Neals and Ms. Sempson Room

104- Kindergarten- Ms. Britt and Mrs. Overall Room 111-

Kindergarten- Mrs. Guillemette and Mrs. Bening Room112-

Kindergarten- Mrs. Dominguez and Ms. Penfold Room 113-

Kindergarten- Mrs. Yetman/ Mrs. Cobham Room 106- Grade

4/5 Mr. Bronson Room 108- Grade 1 - Ms. Hassan Room 109

-Grade 1- Ms. Stewart Room 110- Grade 1 - Sivaneshan Room

107- Grade 2- Ms Vinoraj Room 201- Grade 1/2 - Mrs.

Mackenzie/Ms. Aquino Room 202- Grade 2- Ms. Gojkovic

Room 203- Grade 2- Ms. Eden Portable 4- Grade 3 - Mrs.

Fisler (Ms. Wells) Portable 5- Grade 3- Ms. Salmon

Portable 6- Grade 3- Mrs. Roccia

Portable 1- Grade 4- Mrs. Vickers

Portable 2- Grade 5- Ms. Vani

Portable 3 Grade 4 - Ms. Barham

Portable 7- Grade 5- Mr. Gill

Portable 8- Grade 6- Ms. Cimbura

Portable 9- Grade 5/6- Ms. Barrett

Portable 10- Grade 6- Ms. Lavelle

Room 105- Grade 7/8- Mr. Simmons

Room 209- Grade 7 -Mr. Kettrick

Room 210- Grade 8- Mr. Bailey

Room 207- Grade 8- Mrs. Oliveria

Room 208- Grade 8 - Mr. Trentadue

Room 211- Grade 7- Mrs. Mcpherson

SERT's- Ms. Wastle and Mr. Maebrae

Library- Mrs. Davies

Coverage Teachers- Mr. Bain, Mme. Diaz, Ms. Pindar and Ms. Turner, Mr. Meek-Levis, Ms. Meng, Ms. Sayta,

Code of Conduct

We will continue to adhere to the school board's code of conduct that is being implemented by directed by the ministry. Durham District School Board has taken this direction and has created a code of code that will be implemented across all school in the district. Attached is a copy of its main points. This will be posted in the school and discussed with the classes during the first week of school. Please also have a conversation with your child at home.



Welcome to our school

Visitors are asked to please sign in at the main office.

The Durham District School Board is committed to providing a safe and respectful work and learning environment.

The use of profanity, verbal and/or physical abuse, harassment or threatening behaviour towards staff, students, and other members of the school community is not permitted.

Code of Conduct

Members of the school community will:

- Treat each other with kindness and respect
- Support learning and keep distractions out of class
- Help others when they are in need

Members of the school community will not:

- Bully, cyberbully, or encourage others to do so
- Harm others, including harm with the motivation of hate or discrimination
- Use a personal mobile device during class unless permitted by an educator
- Use, share or sell vape, nicotine and/or tobacco products on school property

Speak with a staff member if you or someone else needs help.

Thank you for ensuring a positive school culture where all members of our school community are treated with dignity and respect.



Visit ontario.ca/SchoolRules to learn more about the Provincial Code of Conduct



First Week of School reminders...



- **ALL STUDENTS TO COMPLETE ON LINE VERIFICATION FORMS (except JK and new to DDSB students)**

Returning students must verify their registration information annually. We inform parents in the summer that this needs to be done. To register a returning student in a DDSB school:

- Go to the [Parent Portal](#)
- Login; Select the "returning student registration";
- Complete the registration.
- **All students with medical needs are to complete new Medical Forms that are attached and need to be completed and brought back to the office. Please find the forms attached below. For epipens and high needs medical concerns , an appointment must be made with Ms. Prince to review as soon as possible.**
- **If your child suffers from seasonal allergies could you please inform the school. Thank you.**
- Families of students who ride a bus to school should check the [Durham Student Transportation Services website \(www.dsts.ca\)](#) for specific information regarding route number, pick up time and drop off time. Your child's OEN number will be required to obtain this information.
- Families of children who live within walking distance are encouraged to walk, bike or scooter to school. Walking to school is an important part of a healthy, active lifestyle. This is a good time to remind your child of community safety and how to be aware and safe when walking or riding on busy streets.
Bikes, skateboards and scooters need to be locked up on the bike racks at the front of the school. These modes of transportation are to be used to get to school and dismounted upon arrival. Bikes and scooters are not to be ridden on school property.
- Parents are reminded to create their NEW accounts on the parent portal to complete the registration form on the [Parent Portal](#)
- Parents are also encouraged to sign-up for [School Cash On-line](#) to pay for school trips and [www.healthyhunger.ca](#) to purchase hot lunches ect.

Attendance



Regular and prompt attendance at school sets your child up for success. It is very important that students are at school for the 8:50 am bell. When students are late they miss important information and learning, and disrupt their classes. Students who are regularly late or absent will receive letters and possible referral to an attendance counselor. We want all our students to be successful and regular attendance is an important part of being successful at school and in life.

Thank you for helping to ensure your children come to school on time! If you need support please contact the office.



ATTENDANCE MATTERS FACT SHEET

Fast facts:

A student who is absent 2 days in September is considered to be at higher-risk for chronic absenteeism (10% of the school year)
A student who is absent 10% in a school year will be away 18 days per year. If a student has been absent 10% of each school year from Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8, they will have missed one full year of classroom instruction before they move on to high school.


One or two days a week does not seem like much but...

If your child misses...	That Equals...	Which is...	And over 14 years of schooling that's...
1 day every two weeks	20 days per year	4 weeks per year	280 days or over 1 ½ school years
1 day per week	40 days per year	8 weeks per year	560 days or over 3 school years
2 days per week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year	1,120 or over 6 school years
3 days per week	120 days per year	24 weeks per year	1,680 days or over 9 years

How about 10 minutes late per day? Surely that won't affect my child's education?

They are only just missing...	That equals...	Which is about...	And over 14 years of schooling that's...
10 minutes per day	50 minutes per week	Nearly 1½ weeks per year	Nearly ½ a year
20 minutes per day	1 one hour 40 minutes per week	Over 2 ½ weeks per year	Nearly 1 year
30 minutes per day	Half a day per week	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 ½ years
1 hour per day	1 day per week	8 weeks per year	Over 2 years

ATTENDANCE MATTERS




Did you know...

Attendance is essential to school success, but too often students, parents and schools do not realize how quickly absences — excused and unexcused — can add up.

Chronic absence — missing only 10 percent of the school year, or just 2-3 days every month — can translate into third-graders unable to master reading, sixth-graders doing poorly in courses and ninth-graders dropping out of high school.

When do Absences become a problem?



→ CHRONIC ABSENCE — 18 or more days

→ WARNING SIGNS — 10 to 17 days

→ SATISFACTORY — 9 or fewer absences

**Note: These numbers assume a 180-day school year.

Get into a routine early in the school year:

- establish age appropriate bedtimes and routines
- pack lunches, backpacks and lay out clothes the night before
- allow enough time in the morning to get to school on time

ATTEND TODAY- ACHIEVE TOMORROW

Safe Arrival

SafeArrival

Please be sure to use the app, go online or call the 1-844-350-2646 number to report your child's absence. You may send a note to inform the classroom teacher, however as a parent you must still inform the system to avoid the absence notifications from Safe Arrival. the messenger app is very user friendly and can be found at [safe arrival](#). This application will allow you to report a student full day absence, late arrival, leave and return for appointments or for early dismissal. Please make your selections as soon as you can in the morning so we can inform the teachers in time.

To report your child's absence via telephone, please call:
1-844-350-2646

To report your child's absence online *or* via the app:

Parents/guardians who wish to report absences
online or through the App
will have to create a new account with



**This software is not the same Safe Arrival
software used in previous years. Parent/guardian user
accounts **cannot** be transferred to the new system.
Please follow the steps below to set up a new account.**

Durham Transit

Follow the steps below to determine your child's school bus information:

1. Call the automated system at 905- 666-6970
2. Enter either your child's:
 - OEN: OR
 - Student #:
1. Enter your child's birth date.
2. Confirm your child's information.
3. Record the school bus information.

DSTS Transportation Cards

- For students added to a bus manifest after this date, a card will be issued and sent to your school by courier. In the meantime, families can print a **temporary card** from the [DSTS website](#).

- Students who are new to your school but remain in the same school board will continue to use their **original DSTS Transportation card**. No new card will be issued in these cases.
- Returning students should already have their card or a temporary one ready for the first day. Families were reminded about this at the end of last school year through School Messenger, and another reminder will be sent this week.

Staying Safe in Our Kiss and Ride



There is nothing more important than the safety of our students. Our KissnRide is very efficient when everyone follows the procedure. We ask that if you must drive your child to school, please follow these procedures to ensure safety and an efficient drop-off and pick up. Teachers are on duty as of 8:35am, so please do not drop your child(ren) off before 8:35am. Please make sure to stay in your car while using the kiss-n-ride. Staff will be there to take students out the cars and get them to yard for entry.

Thank you



8:20 - 8:40 / 3:20 - 3:40



Reminder - If parking in the school lot please only cross the Kiss N Rid lanes at the cross walk where our **rainbow** is painted. Please be mindful of our community and nearby streets and

watch that you do not block any driveways. Our by-law officer does come by frequently to enforce parking concerns.

Crossing Guards now in place:

Fallingbrook Street on north side of Finnegan Place: 8:30-8:50 / 11:35-11:45 / 12:15-12:30 / 3:15-3:30

Anderson Street & Dryden Blvd: 8:20 - 8:40 / 3:20 - 3:40

Lunchroom Supervisors Needed



We are looking for lunchroom supervisors to assist during lunchtime starting in September. If you are available from 11:30-12:30 to supervise our students inside and outside on the yard at lunchtime, we would love to have you as part of our team. This is a paid position and requires a police check. If you are interested please reach to the school fallingbrookps@ddsb.ca or 905-668-5211 ext 0. We will be looking for new members to the Falcon Nest this year!

Lunch Time Procedures:

This year we will continue to use the staggered lunch hour. Grades 1-3 and grades 7-8 will be eating from 11:35 am to 12:00 pm. At 12:00, these classes will then proceed outside for 30 mins. Grades 4-6 will be outside from 11:35 am to 12:00 and then will eat lunch from 12:00 to 12:30 in their classrooms. This staggered lunch hour will help alleviate the number of students we have on the yard at one time.

Our kindergarten classes will eat from 12:00-12:30 pm and will be heading outside from 11:35-12:00pm.

We are enforcing a BOOM-A-RANG lunch! All lunch and snack garbage and leftover items must be taken back home again.

We do not share food from our lunches and we are unable to accept "Birthday" food treats as we celebrate birthdays at home. Thank you for your attention to this.

If your child is going home, or out to lunch please make sure they are not returning until 12:28 pm.

Students who leave will not be permitted back into the school during the lunch hour, outside food must not come into the school.

Please make sure you have completed the LUNCH Permission form for your child(ren) so that the school and lunch room supervisors know who is to be staying and leaving during the lunch hour.

The Lunchroom Agreement form to be completed for each student and will be coming home the first week of school.

Allergy Aware - Nuts, Peanuts, Scents

Parents are encouraged to support the learning of their child by ensuring that their child's lunch and snacks are both healthy and nutritionally balanced. Snacks will be eaten in both the morning and afternoon, inside of the classroom for safety reasons. As a reminder, we ask you **not to send food which contains peanuts, nuts, or possible traces of nuts.**

We ask that families refrain from sending products such as "WOW Butter" to school. These products look, smell and taste like peanut butter, making it difficult, if not impossible, to distinguish these products from a real peanut butter. As a result, it makes it difficult to control for a peanut safe environment.

As alternatives, other peanut-free spreads that don't look, smell and taste like peanut butter can be used as part of a nutritious lunch. (eg. hummus, low fat ricotta cheese, vegetable purees, bean dips, guacamole). We appreciate the understanding of all of our families in collectively maintaining a safe environment.

Students who have life threatening allergies and use epipens, must bring 2 epipens to the school with their paperwork. Paperwork will be reviewed and signed off by the Vice Principal. One epipen will be secured in the office, and the other one should be in the classroom or in the student's fanny pack on their body.



We are also a **scent-sensitive school** and request that all members of the community refrain from wearing strongly scented products.

Medical Procedures - Epipens and Asthma Inhalers

Keeping our children safe at school is our a top priority.

Please inform your child's teacher of any serious medical conditions your child may have as soon possible. Medical forms are available in the office for pick-up. If your child requires medication while at school, please be aware medication can only be administered when a ***Request for Administration of Medication*** form is completed and signed by both the doctor and parents. This form is available from the school office. Medical forms and medication should be returned to the office as soon as possible.

EPIPENS

If your child requires an epipen, please bring an epipen to the school to be stored in the office, along with a *Request for Administration of Medication* form for your child. Please speak to your child's teacher about other locations for your child's epipen, (e.g. backpack) if applicable.

ASTHMA

If your child has asthma, please be sure to inform your child's teacher and provide details on the student registration form. It is important for staff to be informed of asthma triggers and information about any medications which your child takes for asthma. Please inform your

child's teacher and the office if your child has an inhaler and where it is kept, for emergency situations.

Please take a moment to complete the following [Asthma Plan](#).



Meet the Teacher

On Thursday, Sept 18th we will have our meet the teacher night. From 5:30-6:30pm we will have some food trucks to get the community out to mingle. From 6:30-7:30pm teachers will be in their classrooms to meet and greet parents. The office will be open during this time as well for any parents needing assistance for setting up Parent Portal or School Cash Online applications. This is not a time for an interview or to ask about how your child is doing. This is time to have an informal face to face to meet each other. More details to follow about the evening.

Upcoming Events



Sept. 2th- First day of school

Sept. 18th- Meet the Teacher 5:30-7:30pm

Sept 20th - Terry Fox Run ?

Sept. 30th- Orange Shirt Day- Assembly 10:30 am Outside Assembly (weather permitting)

Oct 13th - Thanksgiving Day (no school)