

NEWSLETTER

C.R. GUMMOW

2022/23: Edition #1

Welcome Back to another year at CR Gummow! We hope everyone had a wonderful summer break! We are excited to be back together in a few days and wanted to share a few pieces of information that will make it easier to return to school. Please take a careful look at the information below to see what is staying the same and what is changing at our school for this year.

♥ *Ms. Osborne & Ms. Murphy*

Before School Starts

The office is open August 29-September 1, 9:00-3:00. If you have any questions feel free to contact us. Anyone looking to register a student should come in as soon as possible to register. **IMPORTANT:** The school is closed on Friday, September 2nd.

The First Day of School

All Senior Kindergarten-Grade 8 students will begin back with us on Tuesday, September 6th between 8:05-8:20 as usual.

Grade 1-8 Students

When they arrive on this day all staff will be outside to greet them and help them line up with their homeroom teacher. The signs with teacher names on them will be posted on the outside walls so they can look for their class that way as well. This is the same process we have used for many years - including last year - so it should be familiar to our students who have been with us previously.

Kindergarten Year 2 Students (Senior Kindergarten)

All Senior Kindergarten students will go to the kindergarten yard when they arrive, just like they did last year each morning. They will play as usual and their teachers will bring them inside into their classrooms when the 8:20 bell rings.

Kindergarten Year 1 Students (Junior Kindergarten)

Junior Kindergarten students will have a staggered start to allow for parent interviews. They will NOT start on the first day of school. All Junior Kindergarten students will start on September 9th. For our year one students, the classroom teacher will communicate parent interview times with you directly.

IMPORTANT: One of the most important things for the first day of school is clarity about what the hometime procedures will be. We ask that all of our kindergarten & primary students have this instruction in writing with them. Please send a note with the child confirming how they will get home on the first day of school, this includes if they will be going to daycare. This will put the child and teacher at ease knowing that they clearly understand the process for dismissal.



What's the plan with COVID?

- All families, staff and students are asked to use the self-screening assessment each and every day. The process is the same, but the screening tool is always getting updated. It can be found here: <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>
- Anyone who is sick must stay home - this includes staff, visitors and students.
- Wash your hands before leaving home.
- Masks are welcome in our school. You will see some students and staff choosing to wear them.

What else do I need to know for the first day?

- Bring Indoor athletic shoes that will work in the gym. They will stay at school and we use them from the first day of school.
- We will continue to spend time outside. Students should dress to be outside. Layers, sunscreen, hats, etc. are all recommended!
- Boomerang lunches will continue. All items & packages will continue coming home to families.
- There are no parents allowed in the school yard. Parents dropping off will say goodbye to their children at the gate.

As always, if your family needs help accessing anything for school - backpacks, shoes or anything else - the school is happy to help. Contact the office, your child's teacher or any one of our amazing staff members and we will do everything possible to support your family.

Welcome & Bienvenue!

Welcome to some of our newest staff! We've had some changes over the summer:

- Erin Richter is back in Junior Kindergarten
- Nicole Loveland is back in our Grade 1/2 French Immersion class
- Alyssa Elder has joined our support staff team
- Caleb Carnell has joined us as a night time custodian.

A complete and updated staff list will be sent home later this month.

Upcoming Events:

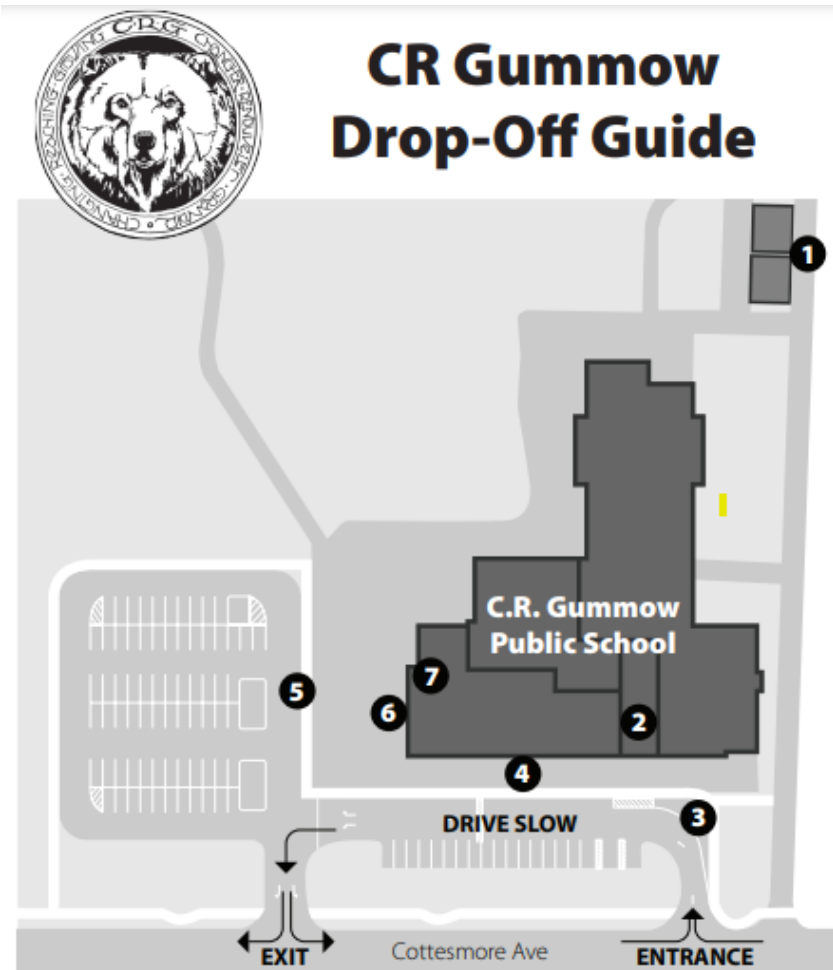
Here are some events that are coming soon. Mark your calendars

- First Day of School - September 6th
- Fire Drill - September 7th
- Open House - September 22nd, 5:30-6:30
- Photo Day - September 15
- Orange Shirt Day - September 30th



Drop Off & Pick Up

With our growing school and the growing population of our neighbor, CCI, the traffic can be quite busy in the morning. We wanted to share some important information about how we can keep our traffic under control. Please remember that the best way to get to and from school is to take a bus or walk to school. If you are able to do this, it helps us a lot. When that is not possible and you must drive, here's what you need to know about drop off and pick up:



1. **BUS LANE:** Students get off the bus here and say good morning to Ms. Murphy and Ms. Hepburn! Our littlest students are walked to the kindergarten yard by an older student helper.

2. **FRONT ENTRY:** This is closed in the morning and students are not allowed to enter the school through this door unless they arrive after 8:20 or it is raining!

3. **FIRE ROUTE:** This is a strict NO PARKING & NO STOPPING area.

4. **KISS & RIDE:** This drop off zone is meant for parents to stop their car and let the children exit from the passenger side doors to the sidewalk. Students can then walk independently on the sidewalk to the back yard. **DRIVERS SHOULD NOT EVER EXIT THE CAR IN THIS AREA.**

5. **STOP & EXIT and PICK-UP:** This zone is ideal for parents who are quickly hopping out to walk their children to the kindergarten gate. It is meant for short term pausing. If you need more time, please park in the lot. There is NO STOPPING in this area during pick up.

6. **KINDERGARTEN YARD:** This is the only entrance to the yard in the morning. Please do not use the two front gates as those are for dismissal only.

Going Home

- The intermediate and junior students (grades 4-8) will be walked to the bus lane by their teachers. The students are encouraged to stay socially distanced as they head home or walk to their bus.
- The primary students (grades 1-3) will be walked by their teachers to the bus and then the students being picked up will move to the pavement near the south parking lot.
 - Along the parking lot fence, there will be signs with the classroom teachers' names on them. Please stand on the parking lot sidewalk at the name of your child's teacher.
 - The teacher will make eye contact and wave, before sending each child to their family
- The Early Childhood Educator will walk Kindergarten students to the buses and put each student on their bus. The ECEs will stay at the buses until the buses leave.
- Kindergarten students being picked up, will be dismissed from their classroom by the teacher.
 - Signs will be posted at the gates in the kindergarten yard.
 - Students will be dismissed from their assigned gate.
- Students going to the YMCA Daycare will be picked up outside - Kindergarten students from the outside doors of their classrooms & Grade 1 and up students from the pavement near the south parking lot.