

September 2016

Dear Parents,

We are off to a good start! The children are busy and working hard. In an effort to communicate with you on a daily basis, a system of coloured dots will be used in the agenda to let you know how the day went for your child. The focus will be to aid students in learning how to be self-aware and taking responsibility and ownership for making positive choices. The dot system is meant to be a tool for open communication between home and school.

In our classrooms, there are envelopes posted with each student's name on it. Everyone begins each day with a green card. If he or she ends the day with a green card, this means great learning behaviour was demonstrated all day. For inappropriate behaviours, a reminder to make more positive choices will be given first and then, if the student does not correct his or her behaviour, he or she will be asked to "change colours." The colours are as follows:

- Blue: Despite encouragement, the student is finding it challenging to remain engaged in learning activities due to a variety of reasons, such as feeling tired, sad, sick or unmotivated.
- Yellow: Despite reminders, the student is finding it challenging to stay on task due to a variety of reasons, such as silliness, frustration or disruptive behaviour.
- Orange: A previous "yellow" in addition to a separate, persistent behaviour later in the day (or) a more serious initial behaviour
- Red: A previous "orange" in addition to a separate, persistent behaviour later in the day (or) a student has automatically received a red card because he or she exhibited out of control behaviours that are violent or unsafe. ***Once a student receives a red card an explanatory note will be written in the agenda.**

For the first couple of weeks of school, as we establish rules and routines, your child will have the opportunity to work their way back from a colour. In the first week, students will be able to "earn their way back" one colour level. For example, if a student has a yellow card in the morning but has made positive choices all afternoon, he or she will return to green and receive a green dot in the agenda. After that week, rules and routines should be clearly established and a colour change will remain as such. We will be putting coloured dots in the agendas next to the daily message reflecting how the day went for your child at school.

We thank you for your support and look forward to getting an opportunity to know you better throughout the year. Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us at the school.

Sincerely,

Sarah Josey, Laura Shillington, Kylie Palfy and Alison Rivest