

NUTRITION BREAKS

Students enjoy a break from the morning and afternoon routines during which time they can get some fresh air and enjoy unstructured time with their friends. All of us are better able to work after a short break and a healthy snack.

Students who return after a brief illness also benefit from outdoor activity. Fresh air and exercise are not detrimental to individuals recovering from the flu or a cold, especially when a student is properly dressed for the weather. Exceptions to this practice will be made in very special cases (i.e., a child recovering from a physical injury) but we do expect our students to participate in outdoor breaks. During inclement or extremely cold conditions we will conduct indoor recesses.

All students who eat lunch at school during the two nutrition breaks remain under the supervision and jurisdiction of the school for the entire break.

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

Academically, students are expected to achieve the expectations identified at each grade level by the Ontario Curriculum. Modifications and accommodations will be made to support those students that may require these. Behaviorally, students are aware of the expectations identified in the Classroom Discipline Plan. A copy of this plan is available from the classroom teacher. The J. W. Walker School Code of Conduct outlines school expectations and consequences for inappropriate behavior. The Code of Conduct is posted on the school website.

STRENGTH-BASED RESTORATIVE PRACTICES

Staff at J.W. Walker School will utilize a "Strength-Based" approach to supporting students and working through challenges that occur in the classroom or school yard. It is understood that students will make mistakes and these are opportunities for learning and growth. A restorative approach with a focus on repairing relationships and making things "right" will be the first priority in the process.

NEWSLETTERS

As part of ongoing communication with parents/guardians to support students in their academic and social growth, school Newsletters will be posted on the school website on the first Tuesday of the month.

Classroom teachers will use newsletters, SeeSaw, email lists, Facebook or other forms of regular communication. School newsletters and other information will be posted on the school website <http://jws.rrdsb.com>.

Parents/guardians are encouraged to contact the classroom teacher if they have questions or concerns.

AFTERNOON DISMISSAL

Following the 3:15 p.m. dismissal, children may occasionally be required to remain in class for extra assistance. Children may also wish to work on a project after school hours, to make use of the library or to take part in extra-curricular events. Children will know about these activities in advance and are expected to inform their parents when they will be late. If a teacher keeps a child after 3:15, the parent will be notified. Bus students will not be retained after 3:15 without parental permission.

SIGN IN/SIGN OUT

Students leaving the school before the regular dismissal time must be signed out by a parent/guardian before leaving. A note, a phone call or a personal visit to the school office is required to provide the reason for the early dismissal and the length of the absence. Students returning from appointments, as well as those who are late, must be signed in at the office.

END OF DAY PICK-UP

Occasionally students will need to be picked up at school before the end of the school day to attend appointments or events. In order to minimize interruptions in the classroom, we ask that whenever possible appointments be scheduled for after the school day and that end of day pick-ups regularly access Kiss N' Ride.

SCHOOL CODE OF CONDUCT

The J. W. Walker School Code of Conduct is attached to the Parent/Student Handbook. Please review the Code of Conduct with your children.

RESPECT FOR PROPERTY

The cost of maintaining school buildings and supplies is assumed by the taxpayer. Any additions created by deliberate acts of vandalism are, if the guilty person is undetected, also assumed by the taxpayer. School custodians are hired to maintain the school building, to keep it in good repair, and to keep it clean. Students are expected to keep the school free from litter, vandalism and graffiti. This can be achieved by refraining from littering, reporting incidents of vandalism and removing graffiti and litter whenever possible. Food and beverages must be consumed in designated areas. Smoking is not allowed on School Board premises.

STUDENT USE OF SCHOOL TELEPHONES

Students will be allowed to use the office telephone for unexpected school situations or an illness that requires communication with a parent. Requests to use the telephone for social activities will not be permitted.

HOMEWORK EXPECTATIONS

Classroom time is allotted for the completion of assignments. If homework is assigned, it will be for one of the following reason:

- ~ purposefully planned;
 - ~ related to classroom instruction;
 - ~ directly related to the Ontario curriculum expectations;
 - ~ age/grade appropriate and suited to the student's ability.
- Younger students may have book bags or math totes to further their development of essential literacy and numeracy skills while at home. Older students may be required to complete independent or group assignments as part of their program. Some time may be required out of school to complete this work.

ILLNESS/MEDICATION

When a student becomes ill at school, a staff member will contact the parent/guardian or emergency designate and request that the student be picked up. **Please ensure that the school has all current information, i.e., telephone numbers, emergency contacts, etc. For safety reasons, emergency contacts are required.**

Board policy does not permit school personnel to administer any medication without proper authorization. Medication forms providing the required authorization and information necessary to ensure proper use of the prescribed medication are available from the school office. All medication is to be stored at and administered through the school office.

ATTENDANCE/SAFE ARRIVALS PROGRAM

In the interest of student safety and effective programming, it is important that student absences are accounted for in all schools of the Rainy River District School Board. If a student is to be late or absent, parents/guardians are asked to call the school.

Parents may leave a message on the school telephone voice-mail system stating their child's absence. Please include your child's first and last names and grade. Thank you!

PHONE: 274-3616 and press 1.

CELL Phone (texting only): 271-6793

If the school has not been notified that the student will be absent from school, the school will call or text and check on daily student absences. Notes are requested for lates or absenteeism, for early dismissal, for an appointment, or for permission to be picked up by someone other than parent/guardian. Identification may be requested. Your cooperation is appreciated.

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