

Thursday, October 13, 2005

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We have enjoyed a wonderful beginning to our 2005-2006 school year. Our staff and students are working together to continue to develop and strengthen our *Catholic Learning Community* and we look forward to this year with great enthusiasm and hope.

When we opened our school in September, 2002, we had an enrolment of 635 students; today our enrolment is 1,405. This is a **55% increase in just 3 years**. While we are excited about this unexpected growth, we must bring to your attention a concern about traffic flow during start and dismissal times. As you know, the growth in enrolment also has caused an increase in bus and car traffic at school. At this time, we have 24 busses and vans that drop off and pick up our students.

We have initiated the following to ensure student safety and to help facilitate the safe movement of cars and busses:

- The Commissionaire patrols and supervises students walking from the portables to the main building from 2:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- We do not permit busses or cars to wait on the lane between the portables and the main building at dismissal so that there is open, clear visibility of students walking from the portables to the main building at dismissal.
- We have asked the Town Traffic Engineer to extend the green light at Highway # 7 and Brucewood to allow for a greater number of busses to leave the property at one time, thus relieving congestion. They have agreed to this request.
- We have asked students to have their parents drop them off and pick them up on the west side of our parking lot (beside the Dominion Seedhouse Gardens). We have also asked parents on site to pick and drop off their children on the west side of the parking lot.
- We have placed pylons on the first lane of the parking lot at dismissal time to restrict car movement to allow for safe and timely bus departures.

At CtK, **safety always comes first**. The safety of our students, staff, parents and visitors is of primary and utmost importance. The reality is we are now a large school and dropping off and picking up your children may take some time. Therefore, we strongly suggest that you drop off your children before 7:50 a.m. and pick up after 3:10 p.m. Please remember to drop off and pick up your children at the west end of our parking lot and to comply with all traffic signs on our property. We appreciate your continued cooperation to ensure the safety of all individuals of the CtK school community.

Sincerely,

Ms. N. Vaitonis  
Principal