

Greetings Milton Christian School families!

We trust everyone is having a safe and enjoyable summer, filled with fun and relaxation. A new school year will soon be upon us, and it is time to start 'spreading the news' about **Year 12** of Milton Christian School.

To begin—Let me share with you the theme verse for the 2017/2018 school year. It comes from Colossians 2:8, 17

See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the elemental spiritual forces of this world rather than on Christ. These are a shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ.

There are many exciting things planned for the coming school year that will propel us towards the vision of MCS being a center of academic excellence, Godly instruction, and a blessing to the Milton community.

Balanced Day

One of the things that will be implemented for the first time at MCS will be what is referred to as a Balanced Day. Students will have more frequent, and longer nutrition and recess breaks balanced throughout the school day. This replaces having a single lunch and long recess in the middle of the day. Please refer to the following pages for further information on the daily schedule. The biggest impact regarding this is that the school day will be extended by 15 minutes resulting in a dismissal time of 3:30pm.

Meet your Teacher Open House

Everyone is invited to attend our annual "**Meet Your Teacher Open House**". This will be held on Thursday August 31st, 2017 from 6:30pm to 8:30pm. We are looking forward to visiting with students and families. Class lists will be posted so everyone knows who they're teacher is, and what classroom will be their homeroom. We are asking **all parents of students in grades 7 & 8** to attend the full evening so that they may take part in a focus group regarding a new educational product being introduced to grade 7 & 8 students this year. Your participation, input and feedback as parents, will be essential to the success of this new opportunity. Please set aside this time to journey with us for the 2017/18 school year. This amazing partnership is described in further detail on the following page.

Grade 7 & 8—MCS & Nelson Education Partner Together

MCS and Nelson Education (The current provider of much of the MCS grade 7/8 curriculum), are partnering together to beta test an amazing, innovative, digital, and fully integrated curriculum for our grade 7 and 8's this coming September. Fully loaded, brand new devices will be provided to every student in grades 7 & 8. The representatives from Nelson Education want to collect data on the student and parent experience. MCS is very excited about this incredible opportunity, whereby MCS students will have the opportunity to test the most innovative, digital curriculum in North America.

Project Overview

Edwin, Nelson's digital backpack, is an educational ecosystem. Its core purpose is improving the educational experience of students. The ecosystem includes a library of trusted and well-curated educational resources spanning the provincial curricula, in a wide range of levels and immersive digital formats. Also at students' fingertips are the tools they need for creation and consolidation of learning: tools for note-taking, creating projects, and completing assignments, thanks to Nelson's partnership with Microsoft and integration with Google Classroom and G Suite for Education. MCS will be one of six Canadian schools entering into this research based program for the 2017/18 academic year.

Key to the digital backpack is the tablet itself. Grade 7 & 8 students will have access to the same device 24 hours a day from the first to last day of the school year. The application will run in both online and offline environments, ensuring equity of access despite varying access to wifi bandwidth. The pilot tablet (a [Dell 3189](#)) includes a keyboard and smart pen, research-based tools proven to aid and improve educational outcomes for all students. Work, study, and communication tools will all be housed within this ecosystem, facilitating ease of use for all users and visibility throughout the system for administration.

Please join us on August 31st, 2017 at 6:30pm to hear more!

Uniforms and Dress Code

MCS has a very particular dress code for the students. Please ensure your child is dressed with the proper uniform attire. Uniforms can be obtained at www.inschoolwear.com Please ask for a uniform list if you require one. While grace is extended during the first few weeks of school, a regular breach of Dress Code will result in disciplinary consequences. Uniform items can be purchased online, or in store, and can be delivered to the school or your home. Full Dress will now only occur on Wednesdays!

Professional Learning Communities

In the desire to provide the utmost in Academic Excellence at MCS, beginning the second week of school, on Wednesday's; all MCS full-time faculty, will be involved in collaborative, research based, Professional Development, led by our new Director of Learning, Edith Van Der Boom. On Wednesday mornings from 7:45 to 9:15am, Faculty will be engaged in this weekly Professional Development, while students attend Before School and Chapel. Students in Wednesday Before School Care and Chapel, will be programmed for and supervised by; our Educational Assistant team, led by Principal Van Slingerland, Mr. Jim Danielson, and our four new Educational Assistants. Teacher development has always been a priority at MCS. We are finally executing a system in which important and valuable time is carved out for faculty growth and development. This investment into the learning at MCS will make a positive impact on the MCS learning community as a whole.

Daily School Routines and Protocols

As the new school year approaches, it is important to review some key routines and protocols that assist students to thrive in a positive learning environment.

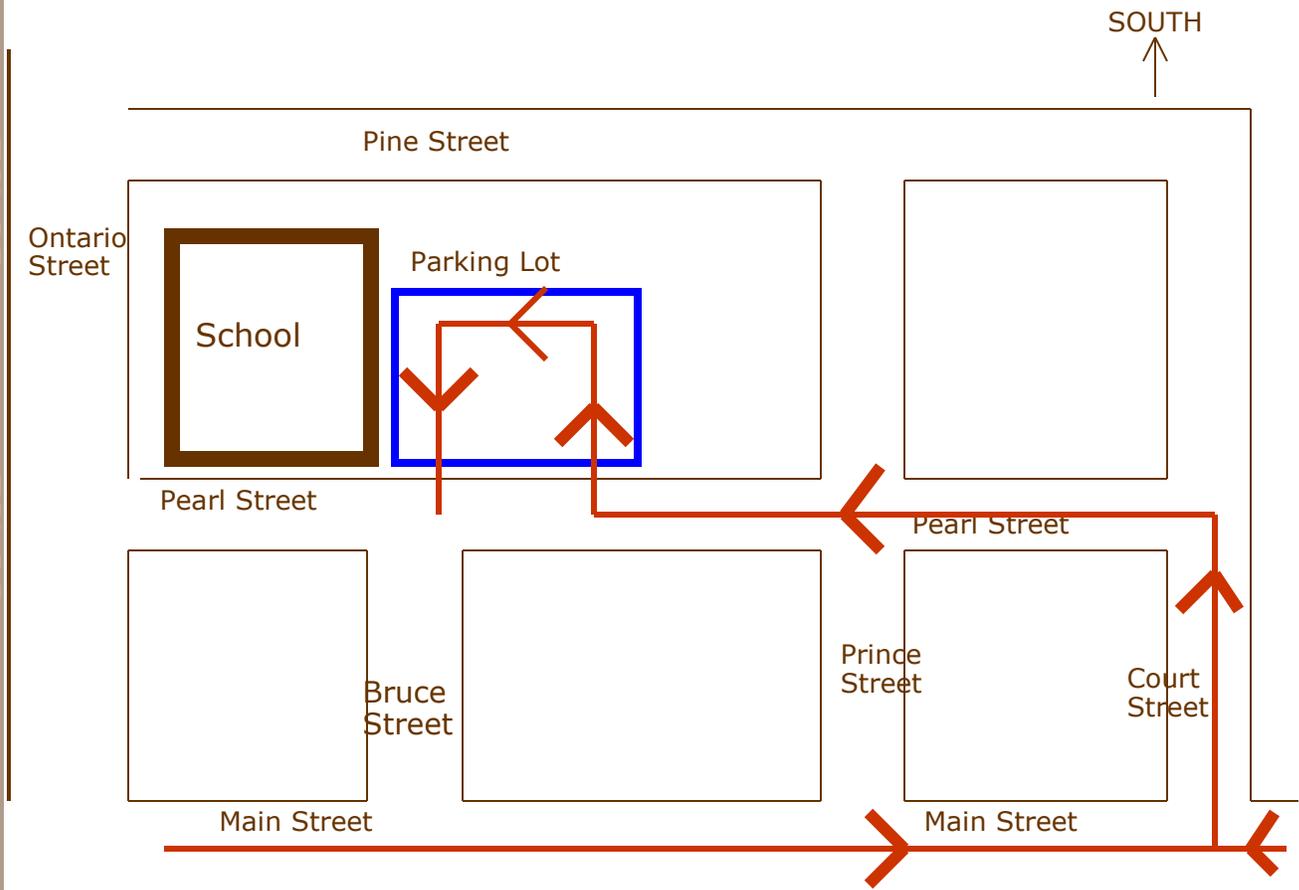
Prompt arrival by all students is necessary to ensure a good start to the school day. Students who are not in their classroom by 8:30am are to obtain a late slip from the General Secretary's desk.

Students should be dropped off each morning, between **8:05am** and **8:20am**. As a rule, unless registered for the before-school program; students should not arrive at school earlier than 8:05am, because no supervision will be available before this time. The first morning school bell will ring at 8:20am, allowing students a 10 minute time period to get settled and prepared for their day. School begins at 8:30am each day, and students should be in class and prepared for the day by this time. Families with students in grade 5—8 are to drop-off/pick-up, and/or park on Pine Street, and have children walk to and from the designated waiting areas in front of the school. Pine street is located just south of the school building. If families have a student in grades 5-8 as well as a student in younger grades, we ask that you still park on Pine Street, and have your students walk over to the designated waiting area at the front of the school. Staff will be present to supervise, and parents who park on Pine Street are also welcome to escort their children to/from the designated waiting areas.

Families with students in grades 4 and under are to follow the Drop-Off/Pick-Up laneways to the designated drop-off spot indicated by a MCS staff member. Please see Map on the following page.

Orange safety cones will indicate these areas. Once in the designated drop-off/pick-up area, teachers will assist students to exit/enter vehicles. Parents should not need to exit their vehicles when dropping off students.

Milton Christian School
Drop-Off/Pick-Up Procedure Map



Families dropping-off/picking-up students using the school parking lot, should only enter from Pearl Street driving Eastbound. It is advised that vehicles approach the school Southbound on Court Street, then Eastbound on Pearl Street, turning right into the School parking lot round-about. **To avoid significant traffic disruptions, do not enter the school parking lot heading westbound on Pearl Street.**

Students should gather outside, with all necessary belongings, in their designated class area, and await the morning bell at 8:20am. The designated gathering area will be marked by orange cones and students are to line up according to class designations (IE. Kindergarten, Grades 1-2, 3-4, etc). Teachers will assist, and supervise during the morning arrival procedure, along with senior student peers. At 8:20am, the homeroom teachers will escort their classes from the outside gathering area to their classrooms. All students, whether they arrive by vehicle or on foot, are expected to enter the school building through the assigned door. Students will be directed to come in early on rainy days or in extremely cold weather. Outdoor shoes and boots should be removed upon entry into the school.

MCS Announcements

Summer 2017

It is expected that all students leave school property at the end of the school day unless they are participating in some school activity supervised by a staff member. Any students, including brothers and sisters, who are not part of such an activity should leave by 3:45 p.m. All students who remain at school at 3:45pm, and are not participating in a scheduled event, will be sent to the after school supervision program.

Students will gather in the designated area at the end of each school day and await pick up. The designated gathering area will be marked by orange cones and students are to line up according to class designations (IE. Grade Pre-K-SK, 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, etc). Parents and/or designate should pick up students between 3:30 and 3:45 pm, using the same systems delineated for drop off.

All doors, other than the main entrance doors, will be locked during the school day. All parents, visitors and guests must report to the school office upon entering the building, and get a visitor pass. No visitor (including parents) should be in any part of the school other than the office without a visitor pass. It is important for the safety of the students that all visitors have permission to be in the building. It is our policy that students will not leave the property during the day without parental/teacher consent be it verbal, or in writing. If parents and/or designates, pick-up students during the day for any reason, they will report to the office, and office staff will call for the student to come and meet their parent/designate. If parents and/or designates, drop-off students during the day for any reason, they will report to the office, and office staff will escort the student to their class.

Students must have written or oral parental permission to leave school property with someone else, and must be accompanied by an adult if they leave school property.

For safety reasons we recommend that children in Grades K - 4 not ride their bikes to school unless supervised by an adult. Students travelling by bike must obey the rules of traffic and wear a helmet. As soon as you are on school property, dismount and **walk** your bike to the bicycle rack at the back of the school. Be sure to lock up your bike. Skateboards and roller blades are not to be used on school property.

If there are any questions regarding these procedures, please do not hesitate to contact the Principal.

Milton Christian School - Calendar of Events 2017-2018

AUGUST

Thursday 31 Open House – Meet Your Teacher 6:30pm-8:00pm

SEPTEMBER

Monday 4 **Labour Day – (No School)**
 Tuesday 5 First full day of school – Opening Assembly - 8:30-9:30AM
 Friday 15 MCS BBQ/Social Event – 7:00-9:00PM
 Friday 29 **Professional Development Day – (No School)**

OCTOBER

Monday 2 MCS Photo Day
 Monday 9 **Thanksgiving Day – (No School)**
 Friday 13 MCS Annual Cake Auction – 7:00PM
 Thurs, Fri 26-27 **Professional Development Days – (No School)**

NOVEMBER

TBA MCEA Fall Membership Meeting
 Wednesday 8 Photo Re-Take Day
 Thursday 16 Parent Teacher Interviews 3:40-7:40PM
 Friday 17 Parent Teacher Interviews 8:00AM-12:00PM **(No School)**

DECEMBER

Wednesday 20 Christmas Concert
 Christmas Holiday's **(School Closed-Dec 25th to Jan 5th, 2018)**

JANUARY

Monday 8 School resumes
 Friday 19 **Professional Activity Day (No School)**
 Thursday 25 1st Term Report Cards

FEBRUARY

Thursday 1 Student Led Conferences 3:40-7:40PM
 Friday 2 Student Led Conferences 8:00AM-12:00PM **(No School)**

Friday 9 MCS Social Event
 Monday 19 **Family Day – (No School)**

MARCH

Monday 5-16 **March Break – (No School)**
 Monday 19 School Resumes
 Friday 30 **Good Friday – (No School)**

APRIL

Monday 2 **Easter Monday – (No School)**
 Friday 6 **Professional Development Day – (No School)**
 Friday 27 Grandparents Day

MAY

TBA MCEA Spring Membership Meeting
 Friday 18 **School Wide Holiday – (No School)**
 Monday 21 **Victoria Day Holiday – (No School)**

JUNE

Friday 1 MCS Walkathon
 Friday 15 **Professional Activity Day (No School)**
 Thursday 21 Graduation Program/Final Report Cards
 Friday 22 Final Day of School

SUMMARY

School runs from Tuesday, Sept. 5 to Friday, June 22. We have 1030 hours of school instruction scheduled for the year (recess and lunch excluded). Ministry guidelines require only 950 hours. This gives our students 80 extra hours (over 2 extra weeks) of instruction and extra curricular activities during the school year. The year also provides 5 Professional Development and 3 Professional Activity Days for the School Faculty.

Special events will be added as dates become available.

MCS Announcements Summer 2017

**The Mission of
Milton Christian School
*is to be a safe, Christ
centered learning environment that
nurtures each child through development of
their God given gifts, talents, and abilities on
a foundation that is built upon the Lord
in home, church, and school.***

**The Vision of
Milton Christian School
*is to build a school that is a
centre of Academic Excellence and
Godly Instruction in the City of Milton, and
to be a Blessing to our community!***

School Hours/Schedule

Before School Program: 7:30-8:05am

Entry: 8:20am

School Begins/Morning Devotions: 8:30am

Learning Block 1: 8:45am

Learning Block 2: 9:15am

1st Nutritional Break: 10:00am

1st Recess: 10:15am

Learning Block 3: 10:45am

Learning Block 4: 11:30am

Learning Block 5: 12:15pm

2nd Nutritional Break: 1:00pm

2nd Recess: 1:15pm

Learning Block 6: 1:45pm

Learning Block 7: 2:30pm

Pack up/Agenda/Afternoon Prayer: 3:15pm

Dismissal: 3:30pm

Before and After-School Programs

Milton Christian School offers a Before and After-School program at an additional cost to families that require care for their children. The before and after-school program can be accessed through both a full use registration rate, or a drop in rate. To utilize the registered rates, families must register for before and/or after school use. The drop in rates are applied to families using before and/or after school services occasionally. Families can switch from a drop in use to registered use for the next following calendar month.

Registered users are required to submit post-dated cheques, or Pre-Authorized Withdrawal forms for 10 months made payable on Sept 1st through to the following June 1st, 2017. Please submit payment option with a completed registration form no later than September 1st of the applicable school year.

Before School Program — 7:30-8:05am

Registered Rate \$65/month/student for every school day/10 months September through to June. Drop in Rate \$10/day/student.

Registered Rate \$40/month/student for 3 days a week (M,W,F)/10 months September through to June. Drop in Rate \$10/day/student.

After School Program — 3:45-6:00PM

Registered Rate (15 minutes or less every school day) \$40/month/student for 10 months September through to June.

Registered Rate (3 days a week—M,W,F—3:45pm to 5pm) \$85/month/student for 10 months September through June. If student is picked up after 5:00pm there is a \$10 per day/per student fee.

Registered Rate (3 days a week—M,W,F—3:45pm to 6pm) \$105/month/ student for 10 months September through June.

Registered Rate (3:45pm to 5:00pm every school day) \$135/month/student for 10 months September through to June. If student is picked up after 5:00pm there is a \$10 per day/per student fee.

Registered Rate (3:45pm to 6:00pm every school day) \$175/month/student for 10 months September through to June.

Drop in Rate—\$20 a day/student.

Home Work Club

Home work club runs from 3:45pm-5:00pm per day, and is \$10 a day/student. Students must be registered monthly for a selection of homework club days. If students are required to attend afterschool following homework club it is an additional \$10 fee.

MCS Announcements Summer 2017

Parking – Pick up and drop off will continue to occur in the parking lot on the west side of the main building. If you anticipate a longer visit (IE more than 5 minutes), then please park in the parking lot located on the West side of the main building, at the Milton Mall, or on Pine Street located to the South of the main building. Please use extra caution when traveling through the parking lot. Parking is not permitted in the commercial plaza on Pearl St. adjacent to MCS.

Entrance/Exit – The door on the Central-West side of the building will act as our only main entrance and exit. Please come to this door at all times during school hours. The door will be locked during school hours, so please ring the buzzer for assistance.

Allergies – We have a number of students attending MCS with serious nut allergies. For this reason we have established Milton Christian School as a nut free zone. Please refrain from packing nut products in your children's lunches.



School Attendance/Late Policy – Class will begin at 8:30am sharp throughout the school year and attendance will occur at that time. Punctuality is crucial for a positive learning community. If children arrive at school after 8:30 am they are to report to the principal's office for a late slip. An accumulation of 5 late slips per month may result in further consequences for students. The teaching staff have also asked that parents leave classrooms by 8:30am so that lessons can start on time.

Personal Belongings—Please ensure that all personal belongings are clearly marked and identified with your child's name. Lost items will be placed in a Lost and Found Box.

Video Games/Cell Phones—All video game devices and cell phones are prohibited during MCS hours. This includes during the before and after school program.

Volunteers—All volunteers are required to obtain a police check. This includes all parents attending field trips. Police checks can be obtained from the Halton Regional Police. Halton Regional Police service already has a letter from the school making the process easy and seamless. If you submitted a valid police check last year, then the school requires your to fill out and sign a Police Declaration form. We continue to look for individuals to serve on teams to assist with Policy, Facilities, Development, Finance, Marketing, Human Resources and Community Relations. If there is an area that may interest you, then please speak to the principal at your earliest convenience.

Uniforms will be available for pick up at the school on the MCS open house night on Thursday August 31st, 2017 from 6:30pm to 8:30pm.

If there are any questions, or if you need assistance in any way, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Milton Christian School – Standards of Excellence

We at Milton Christian School are interested in working together in our Milton community in order to give students the best opportunities to learn and grow. In order to do that, we need to work together as MCS staff, parents and students in healthy, collaborative relationships. Clearly communicating expectations is necessary in forming and developing this partnership. Below you will find a list of what will help us work well together cohesively.

What MCS will do:

1. We will provide a safe, respectful, and orderly learning environment.
2. We will hire approachable, professional Christian people who will communicate and demonstrate their love and respect for God and the students.
3. We will hire committed, passionate, certified Christian teachers who love working with students and learning more about God's world.
4. We will answer e-mails directed to school personnel by the end of the following school day.
5. We will challenge our students and staff to continually grow in their relationship with God.

What MCS parents will do:

1. I will bring my child to school on time, well rested, well fed and focused on participating in the lessons and events at school.
2. I will communicate regularly with the staff, and do so in a respectful manner that promotes a stronger relationship between home and school.
3. I will stay connected with the school by reading the Parent Update newsletter each month.
4. I will support learning at home by talking about school regularly and helping with school work when necessary.
5. I will provide spiritual nourishment for my family and pray for the students and the staff of MCS.

What MCS students will do:

1. I will give my best effort in everything I do.
2. I will be prepared for the school day with all supplies and adequate rest.
3. I will respect myself, other people, my environment, and my God.
4. I will meet deadlines and ensure that I arrive at school on time.
5. I will make integrity, grace, love, and responsibility an important part of my life.

What MCS faculty and staff will do:

1. I will be planned and organized for each school day and come prepared to teach my students more about God's world and our role in it.
2. I will ensure lessons and experiences are engaging, relevant, and helpful to the development of my students.
3. I will return all assignments, tests, projects, and other evaluations no later than two weeks from the date that students hand them to me.
4. I will treat students fairly, with respect, and demonstrate that I have students' best educational interests in mind.
5. I will extend the grace and love of Christ to others.