



Parent Information 2024-2025

General Information and Frequently Asked Questions

1. Registration Forms
 - Have already been submitted
 - Outstanding registrations are due as soon as possible.
2. Homeroom Placements
 - Homeroom Assignments will be posted on the Parent Portal on Friday, August 23, 2024
 - Meet the Teacher on Tuesday, September 3rd, 4:30 – 6:00.
3. Strong Start
 - The first day of school for all students is Wednesday, September 4th
4. Strong Connections
 - September 13th and 16th
 - You will be notified of your child's date on September 4th.
5. Supply Lists
 - Supply lists will be included in end-of-year report cards.
 - It will also be available on our website
<https://sms.hsd.ca/parents/supply-lists/>
6. Attendance Procedures
 - Please contact SMS if your child is away due to illness, holidays or appointments.
 - Phone: 204-326-6481 (office)
 - Email: sms@hsd.ca and/or homeroom teacher as well
 - Parent Portal: you can excuse your child's absence here as well
 - If students are not excused by 10:00 am, an automated Bright Arrow phone message and email message will be sent
 - When picking up your child during regular school hours, please sign them out in the office
 - If students come late to school, they must check in at the office before proceeding to class

Please be aware that school attendance is a requirement by the Province of Manitoba and the Public Schools Act. Missing even 10% of a school year can result in students losing a year of academic gains.

*Please refer to the Department of Education Attendance Policy
https://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/attendance/parents_info.html*

7. Health Plans - URIS
 - If your child is on a URIS plan or information needs to be updated, please inform the office (i.e. Asthma, Allergies, other special medical conditions)

8. Website & Communication
 - www.sms.hsd.ca
 - Includes links to teachers' emails, events and other information
 - Newsletters are sent via Bright Arrow to parents at the beginning of every month.
 - Instagram - @stonybrookhsd @sms_pac

9. Grade 5 Opportunities at SMS
 - Sports Card Club
 - Track and Field
 - Cross Country Running
 - Grade 5 & 6 Ball Hockey
 - Grade 5 & 6 Flag Football
 - Grade 5 & 6 Volleyball & Basketball
 - Intramurals

10. Fundraisers at SMS
 - SMS - Peak of the Market in October
 - PAC - Chocolates in May
 - Canteen
 - o Hot Lunches on Tuesdays & Thursdays
 - o Order online with MunchaLunch

Money raised through these fundraisers is used for the following:

 - The next phase of the Activity Structure that includes accessibility for ALL students
 - Student fees for Activities and Field Trips

11. SMS is a **Cell Phone Free School**
[Grade 5 & 6 Cell Phone Contract](#)
Keeping yourself informed about online safety and speaking with your child is key to keeping your child safe online.
 - [Internet Safety Tips by Age: 8-10](#)
https://mediasmarts.ca/sites/default/files/tip-sheet/tipsheet_internet_safety_tips_8-10.pdf
 - [Personal Safety & Healthy Child Development](#)
https://content.c3p.ca/pdfs/KIK_PersonalSafety_HealthyChildDevelopment_10-11_en.pdf
 - [Parenting Tweens and Teens in the Digital World](#)
https://content.c3p.ca/pdfs/C3P_ParentingintheDigitalWorld_en.pdf

Frequently Asked Questions

If you have questions regarding this information package, you are invited to email Rita Rebizant (rrebizant@hsd.ca), or you may call the office to speak to her directly.

What is the school population at SMS?

- We are projected to have around 636 students enrolled in September 2024 in Grades 5-8.
- Our staff and students represent over 45 countries from around the world.

What kind of volunteer opportunities are available at SMS?

- We have many opportunities for parents to volunteer at SMS, such as helping in the canteen, supervising field trips, and providing fundraising support.
- These are just a few ways of becoming involved. Please contact the office to join our Parent Advisory Council or Volunteer Group.
- Parents are welcome to attend the first General PAC meeting in September. For more information, please contact our PAC Chair for 2024/2025, Lara Wieler.
<https://sms.hsd.ca/parents/parent-advisory-council/>
<https://hsd.ca/parents/volunteer-in-schools/>

How do I contact my child during the day?

- Call the SMS office at 204-326-6481 to leave a message.

What does the school day look like?

- Grade 5 Students have two short recesses in the morning and afternoon and a longer recess at lunchtime.
- During recess, Grade 5 students are outside at the same time as Grade 6 students, while Grade 7 and 8 students have recess at a different time.

Can my child leave school at lunch?

- All students must stay at school unless they are within walking distance and going home.
- They may not bring friends with them.

Will hot lunch be available for students?

- Tuesdays & Thursdays starting the third week of September. Parents can pre-order on MunchaLunch.
- We have a canteen that is open daily and offers various snack options.
- Our canteen is very popular with students. Parent volunteers are essential in keeping this program running at our school. Please consider volunteering!

What languages can my student learn here?

- Students learn French from Grades 5-8

What is taught in Health Class in Grade 5?

- The Manitoba Curriculum has a section for Healthy Relationships (Previously known as Potentially Sensitive Content) in Grade 5.
- This is usually taught in late May, and information regarding the curriculum covered and the schedule will be shared with families in early April. We will also make the teaching content available to parents upon request.
https://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/cur/physhlth/foundation/5-8/poster_gr5.pdf

What opportunities are available to my child in Grade 6?

- Students participate in the Grade 6 musical in the spring, either as choir or cast members.
- Students can take part in the extracurricular Esports Club
<https://sms.hsd.ca/athletics/esports/>

What opportunities are available to my child in Grades 7 and 8?

- All students take Industrial Arts and Home Economics classes (which include woodworking, sewing and food preparation instruction)
- Students can take Band class or various arts-based classes, which may include Digital art, Indigenous art and/ or Drama.
- Extracurricular activities in these grades include
 - Volleyball
 - Basketball
 - Badminton
 - Soccer
 - Indigenous Beading Club
 - And many more!



DRESS CODE

“Students are responsible for dressing appropriately for a Middle School setting.”

- **Offensive language/pictures on clothing are not permitted (swearing, references to drugs, alcohol or sexual comments)**
- **Undergarments are not to be visible.**
- **Students will develop habits of good hygiene to ensure a healthy environment for all students.**
- **Perfumes and colognes are not permitted in the building due to severe allergies.**
- **For safety reasons, flip-flops and open-toed shoes are not permitted in the Food, Sewing, or Industrial Arts labs and gym.**

If you are unsure about your clothing, please ask a staff member.

If your clothing is inappropriate, you may be directed to the office. Your parents will be contacted to provide you with a replacement. The school will give you clothing for the day if this is unavailable.

Be prepared – bring a change of clothes if you’re not sure.