

Bienvenue !

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We would like to welcome you and your child to the start of the 2015/2016 school year. We hope everyone had a great summer and is looking forward to an exciting year in Kindergarten! We are going to have an awesome year, filled with a variety of learning activities that will challenge and excite our bodies and minds. The first couple of weeks we will focus on school routines, getting-to-know-you activities, as well as creating a classroom environment that feels safe and welcome to everyone.

We are very mindful of learning with our head, hands, and heart ensuring that everything that we do is meaningful, active, and thoughtful. We will be talking in depth about "Acts of Kindness" and things that we can do within our communities to achieve our goal of over 100 kind things that we can do throughout the year.

At least once a week we will keep you informed about our activities and learning on our classroom website/blog, also using Google calendar, and posting photos for your pleasure. Our website is linked to École Fred A. Hamilton's website or you can go directly to www.mmetipler.weebly.com. Please ensure that you sign and return your child's consent form to view your child engaged in active learning.

We run an outdoor kindergarten program, so please ensure that your child is dressed appropriately for the weather and is wearing shoes suitable for active play. Dressing in layers is a great way for your child to adapt to the changes in temperature.

Cooking and baking is another component of our kindergarten program, which helps to establish a sense of community in the classroom and is rich in learning touching all of the curriculum areas. Please inform us if your child has any dietary restrictions/allergies.

We have included École Fred A. Hamilton's back to school information that needs to be thoroughly read, filled-out, and returned. Please have your child bring their "Sac de communication" every day, since we will use this as a form of communication to send office information to and from home. Please remember that our classroom's primary form of communication will be

through email (tipskinder@gmail.com) and our website. If you do not have access to a computer, please inform us as soon as possible.

We are very excited to start the year with you and your child and welcome any questions or concerns that you may have. We are open to communicating with you at any time; however, please respect the school's policy of reporting to the office first instead of coming directly to the classroom. We may also have other commitments before or after school and may need to reschedule a time to meet with you. Always feel free to email.

WE WOULD LOVE IF YOU LABELED EVERYTHING! ☺ Please clearly label all of your child's belongings. With brand new school clothing, children are not always able to easily identify their belongings. Therefore, when articles are found it is much easier to find the rightful owner if they are labeled.

It may happen that school toys/supplies are brought home in your child's backpack. Please place the items in your child's communication bag and we will simply place it back on the shelf. This does happen, so please do not be alarmed. See it as a learning experience and just explain the importance of leaving toys at school for everyone to enjoy. ☺ We also greatly encourage that home toys stay at home.

Indoor Shoes - All students need a pair of indoor shoes at school. These shoes should be running shoes with non-marking soles that can be used in the classroom and in the gym. For safety reasons, shoes must be worn properly. Please do not send shoes with laces unless your child can tie them independently. Please label all shoes.

Extra Change of Clothing - All students will need a well-labeled bag of a complete change of clothing (shirt, pants, underwear, and socks). Please label the clothing inside the bag as well.

Communication Bag - Please return the communication bag to school every day so important messages/papers can be sent to and from home (mainly from the office).

Practise Getting Ready - Please practise getting ready with your child during a calm time of the day. Students need to be as independent as possible, therefore if they are able to zip zippers, button buttons, change their shoes, open and unload their backpacks, and pack them up again this will give them a great sense of accomplishment. Snowsuit practice too! ☺

Money, Orders, Forms - Please sign up for school accounting. This is a fast and easy way to pay for things from the comfort of your home. When sending money, cheques, and forms to school, please put the items into a clearly marked envelope with your child's first and last name, as well as the activity. Please ensure that each activity has their own envelope, as different people may be responsible for the activities.

Scholastics - Scholastic Book Order forms will be sent home about once a month. Scholastic books are a great investment to the literacy needs of your child. In addition, your purchases help to fill our classroom library.

Play dough - We are in need of volunteers to make play dough for the class. If there is a month that works well for you, please let us know. A recipe can be found in the volunteer letter or online

<http://www.theimaginationtree.com/p/play-dough-salt-dough.html>

Donations - Any donations of the following consumable items would be greatly appreciated: Kleenex, art supplies (paper towel rolls, googly eyes, glitter glue, small boxes, glass jars, picture frames, coloured paper, stickers, pompoms, old puzzles, games, etc...), wet ones, magazines and greeting cards for cutting.

You - If you have a special talent or hobby that you would like to share with the class, please send us a note and we can set up a time for a special visit.

We look forward to working with you and your child.

Thank you so much,

Mme Tipler and Mme McMillan

-----Please cut & return-----

****IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING DIETARY RESTRICTIONS****

My child _____ has the following dietary restrictions/allergies: _____

_____.

We use _____ as a substitute.

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Bonjour ! We are looking for volunteers to help with various activities within the classroom setting throughout the year. Some parents may not be able to come into the classroom, but may like to help in other ways.

Assistance in the Classroom:

Assist during nutrition breaks.
Assist with learning centres.
Assist with cleaning toys.
Assist with class trips.
Read a story to the class.
Share a talent/cultural holiday/work/hobby.

Assistance Outside of the Classroom:

Donate clean recyclable materials.
Make play dough.

The children thoroughly enjoy playing with play dough. In order to keep a clean supply on hand, we would greatly appreciate if you would sign up for at least one month to make play dough for the class.

Your assistance is greatly appreciated! Merci ! 😊

Mme Tipler/Mme McMillan

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Volunteering in the Classroom

My name is _____ and my child's name is _____.

_____ Yes, I would like to assist with: _____

I am available on the following days: _____

and the following times: _____

_____ Yes, I can make play dough for the month of _____.

Your assistance is always appreciated!

Play Dough Recipe

2 cups flour	2 tbsp oil
2 tbsp cream of tartar	Food colouring
1 cup salt	2 cups of water

1. Mix dry ingredients and oil in a pot.
2. Add food colouring to water.
3. Add coloured water to dry ingredients.
4. Mix ingredients all together.
5. Cook over medium heat, stirring constantly with a clean plastic or wooden spoon. Play dough is ready when it comes away from the sides of the pot and forms a ball.
6. Use rubber gloves or wait until cool and knead.

Bonjour,

We communicate mainly through our website (www.mmetiplier.weebly.com); however there are times when we may need to communicate with you directly. Please complete and return the bottom portion of this letter with your information.

Merci ! ☺

Many parents also like to share their information with other parents in the class. Please indicate whether or not you are interested in being on the Friendship List. This is a class list that is created so parents may contact one another for play dates, birthday parties, etc. Please note that this list will only be used between the parents/guardians/teachers in the classroom.

Merci beaucoup !

Mme Tipler et Mme McMillan

-----Cut and Return Bottom Form-----

Email & Friendship List

Parents' Names: _____

Child's Name: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Email: _____

_____ Yes, I am interested in having my information shared with families of the classroom for personal use only and allowing the teachers to contact me via email.

_____ No thank you. I am not interested in sharing my information on the Friendship List.

Boomerang Lunch Program!

Bonjour !

École Fred A. Hamilton is becoming even more conscious of the impact that we have on our environment. Therefore, we are implementing a Boomerang Lunch Program to start right away.

What does this mean? This means that everything that your child brings for lunch (packaging, containers, and fruit peels) will go back into their lunch bags for parents to dispose of. Not only will reduce the amount of food waste and garbage, this will also give rise to increased use of reusable containers, less packaging, and as parents you will see exactly what your child is or is not eating.

Together, we will teach your child to use their reusable containers and/or a bag of some sort (washed milk bag, Ziploc, grocery bag) to put their leftover food/waste items. This way we can keep their lunch bags clean. Through this program and several other activities, we wish to gain the recognition of being an eco-friendly school.

What a great way to demonstrate environmental stewardship firsthand! Thank you so much for your support!

Together we can make a difference!

Mme Tipler et Mme McMillan

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