

# Archbishop O'Sullivan Catholic School

974 Pembroke Cr., Kingston, Ontario K7P 1A3

Tel: 1 (613) 389.1891 Fax: 1 (613) 389.8409

flhpabos@alcdsb.on.ca [www.alcdsb.on.ca/school/abos](http://www.alcdsb.on.ca/school/abos)



June 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians:

At this time of year, together, we have much to celebrate about the growth of your children. Beginning with our partnership with St. Paul the Apostle Parish, Father Amato, Father Paul and Michel Queeneville, have worked with you to help our students grow spiritually, academically, and socially. As we send off our Grade 8s to new adventures in secondary school we begin to plan for the upcoming school year for our returning and new students.

I want to share information with you about the process of assigning students to classrooms. It is important that you, as families, understand the process and appreciate the professional judgment of the educators in our community. Firstly, class sizes and organization of students into straight or split grades are determined by the following factors:

- \* Balance of numbers with staffing based on “caps” for primary grades as determined by the school board
- \* Balance of students with differentiated learning needs
- \* Balance of students with various learning skills (independence, organizational skills, etc.)
- \* Social relationships among students within each division

It is important for you to know that it is a myth that students who are in the higher grade of a split class (e.g. grade 4s in a grade 3/4 class) are not academically as ready or prepared than other students who may be placed in a straight grade class or a higher split grade class (e.g. grade 4/5). Each teacher is aware of all of the individual needs of his/her students and will support as required. Decisions are made based on the above factors only.

Class assignments will indeed continue to fluctuate and vary from year to year as your children move through the grade levels. Ultimately, our goal as a staff team is that all of our students will be able to work, learn and grow with students who are in the same grade, the grade below and the grade above. The value of these friendships is significant, especially when students prepare to leave Grade 8 and begin their journey in high school. Students who see a familiar friend in Grade 10 when they begin their Grade 9 year feel supported and more comfortable.

We have a strong and dedicated group of teachers and support staff. I ask that requests for particular teachers for your child not be submitted. As your children begin a new school year we will continue to support and work with you and your child to make the transition positive.

151 Dairy Ave, Napanee, Ontario K7R 4B2 Tel: 1 (613) 354.2255

Auto Attendant: 1 (613) 354.6257 Toll Free: 1 (800) 581.1116

Fax: 1 (613) 354.0351 [info@alcdsb.on.ca](mailto:info@alcdsb.on.ca)

Finally, as parents/guardians, you know your child(ren) best and you may have information about your child that we are not aware of. If you have any concerns or information about your child and his or her individual learning needs, please contact me directly.

I wish to express my personal thanks for your partnership, support of all our learning endeavours. I want you to know that I feel very blessed to work with this wonderful community and look forward to another great year of learning and growing in 2018-2019.

God bless all of you as you rest and refresh during the summer months. We look forward to seeing you on September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019

Sincerely,  
Lisa Bickerstaffe  
Principal

**Archbishop O'Sullivan Catholic School**

974 Pembridge Cr., Kingston, Ontario K7P 1A3

**Tel:** 1 (613) 389.1891 **Fax:** 1 (613) 389.8409

flhpabos@alcdsb.on.ca [www.alcdsb.on.ca/school/abos](http://www.alcdsb.on.ca/school/abos)