



February 4, 2021

Dear Hawthorn Parents, Teachers, Students, and Staff,

First and foremost I would like to thank you for your efforts and dedication over the past several weeks as we've had to adapt and shift how we interact, communicate and learn together. Tomorrow will mark the end of our fifth week of full virtual learning and we have one more week to go. However, as the Minister of Education announced yesterday, as of February 16, 2021 we can return to full in-person teaching and learning, following of course the necessary guidelines. We hope that everyone has found ways to appreciate this time at home but is also excited about being back in the classroom!

With the return to in-person learning, the government also announced enhanced health and safety measures to keep both students and staff safe and limit the spread of the virus. You'll be happy to know that current Hawthorn policies and procedures are aligned with these measures. These include:

- The self-screening of all staff and students every morning before coming to school and submitting proof prior to or upon arrival at the school.
- If a student or staff member is experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19, they must stay home from school and follow Toronto Public Health guidance.
- Mandatory masking requirements for all students from JK to Grades 12, during school hours as well as during before- and after-school programs.

Over the next week we will continue with the schedule that we've had for the past several weeks, focusing on synchronous learning and engaging with our students as we prepare to return to in-person learning. We've also recently implemented several strategies to help the students' mental wellbeing including the Step-it-Up challenge and Student Council activities in the Upper School and the Wellness Wednesdays and Fun Fridays in the Junior and Lower School! We look forward to the continuation of these activities and others.

Please do not hesitate to email us at [administration@hawthornschool.com](mailto:administration@hawthornschool.com) if you have any questions. As always we appreciate your feedback.

We look forward to seeing everyone at the Virtual Family Get Together on Saturday, February 6, 2021. It promises to be a fun time with family and friends!

Warm regards,

Irian Flores de Medina  
School Head