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January 4, 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The Government of Ontario has directed all schools to remote learning until at least January 17, 2022, due to the risk posed by the highly transmissible Omicron COVID 19 variant. However, “in person” learning can be provided during this interval for students with significant special education needs who are unable to learn remotely.

We are requesting that parents/guardians considering a return to “in person” learning consult with their child’s medical practitioner prior to returning to school.

It is important for JMSA parents/guardians to be able to make fully informed decisions for their child regarding **in-person** learning. The School Authority will continue to implement all COVID protocols in order to maximize student safety. Nonetheless, COVID 19 risks remain.

For your awareness:

- **Masks** - most children who attend JMSA School are unable to tolerate wearing face masks or shields in school or on the bus;
- **Social Distancing** – due to classroom size, recommended social distancing between students is not possible at all times;
- **Limited Understanding** - due to young age or cognitive abilities, some children have difficulty practicing social distancing and/or refraining from sharing toys/resources.

Please complete parent survey ([LINK TO PARENT SURVEY](#)), so that we can prepare for the week of January 10, 2022. If you select “in person” learning for next week, please complete the attached “Parent Covid Attestation” and return it with your child.

Please contact me should you have any questions or concerns.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "B. Roberts-Santarossa".

Brenda Roberts Santarossa, PhD
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