

FAQs 2015-2016

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Q: When is the first day of school?

A: The first day of school for the 2015-2016 school year is August 31, 2015.

Q: What time does the school start and finish?

A: School starts at 8:46 am and finishes at 3:20 pm. Early dismissal is the first Wednesday of each month; Students will be dismissed at 2:17. A detailed bell schedule is available to view on our website under "About Us."

Q: When will my child find out what options they will get for the 2015/2016 school year?

A: All students will be given their schedule on the first day of school, August 31, 2015. Their homeroom teachers will distribute timetables that day.

Q: How can I stay up to date with what is happening at school?

A: The school website (www.scasecondary.ca) is your best source for school information and activities. In addition to the website you can also follow our Twitter account at @The_SCA_Eagles. As well, PowerSchool is available to access your child's marks and attendance.

Q: How do I access PowerSchool?

A: All Grade 7 students will receive a letter at the beginning of the school year with the necessary information for parents to create their account in PowerSchool (the link can be found on our website.) Once you have created an account your information will stay with you through the remaining school years. PowerSchool allows you to track your child's attendance and grades. Please make use of this valuable resource.

Q: When are Parent/Teacher interviews?

A: Parent/Student/Teacher interviews are held twice a year: November 3 & 5, 2015 and again on April 12 & 14, 2016. Interview times are booked online. More information will be provided closer to the first date.

Q: My son/daughter is new to the school. How will they know where to go?

A: All students new to SCA will be paired up with a buddy. That buddy will ensure that the student knows where their locker and classes are and will be available to answer any questions that the new student may have.

Q: How much are school fees?

A: All students pay a learning resource fee (Junior High - \$55/year, Senior High - \$65/Semester), lock rental fee (\$2.20) and a Student Council fee (Junior High - \$5.50, Senior High \$7.75). Additional fees will depend upon which option courses your child is taking. School fees are available to be viewed and paid online via credit card through the Parent Portal. Fees can be paid starting the third week of September and are due October 31.

Q: How can I keep track of my child's homework?

A: While every teacher manages their classroom a little differently, most teachers now post their homework online. Please check with your child's individual teachers regarding the specifics for each class.

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Q: Can my child buy lunch at school?

A: Yes, the school store is open every day for lunch. Some hot food is served. Prices range from \$1 - \$3 per item.

Q: What do I do if my child will be late/absent?

A: At SCA Secondary attendance is taken every period.

Leaving school during school time:

If your child has to leave school during the school day, please have them provide a note (written by a parent/guardian) to the office first thing in the morning. If they will have to leave school unexpectedly, please call the office as soon as possible. Providing a note to the office first thing in the morning assists us to maintain accurate attendance and avoids interruptions to classrooms during class time.

Late Students:

Students who arrive late in the morning or after lunch are to sign in with the office before going to class. Tardiness is considered excused if a parent/guardian phones, emails, sends a note, or otherwise communicates with the office regarding the late. Students who are habitually late for class may have the following consequences administered:

- 3 lates - phone call home
- 4 lates - 75 minute after school DT
- 5 lates - 90 minute after school DT
- 6 lates - 100 minute after school DT
- 7+ lates - administration discretion

Absent Students:

When a student is absent from school (or will be in the future) their attendance will be marked as an "unexcused absence" unless the office receives a note or a phone call from the parent/guardian. If an absence is not excused within two school days, it will be considered truancy and an administrator may speak with the student regarding consequences. As part of school policy, parents will be notified via email when a student is marked with an "unexcused absence." Please contact the office when your child is late or absent. You may also notify the teachers, but parents/guardians must notify the office at all times.

Q: What school supplies are needed?

A: Please view our school supply list on our website under "Documents."

Q: Does my child need gym clothes?

A: Yes, every student taking phys. ed. will require a change of clothes and proper footwear.

Q: Will my child have his/her own locker?

A: Yes, all students will be assigned their own full size locker. They will also be assigned a small gym locker located in the locker rooms for their phys. ed. clothing. Students will be provided with school locks for both of their lockers.

Q: What is the school cell phone policy?

A: Junior High students are not to have the cell phones out except before and after school and during lunchtime. Senior High students are not to have the cell phones out during instructional time, unless directed by a teacher. Digital courtesy is expected at all times. If this privilege is abused, parents will be required to pick up the phone from an administrator.