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Welcome to TAP 31 and Notre Dame Collegiate

What is TAP 31

TAP (Teacher Assisted Prayer) is like a homeroom; it is the first 10 minutes of every day where we play O Canada, pray as a community, and deliver the day's announcements. We manage school-wide responsibilities (planning Community Service Hours, booking Self-Directed Learning Blocks, etc.) during this time. We are "TAP 31" for two reasons; the 3 refers to 2023 (your kids graduation year), the 1 is to indicate we are 1 of 4 TAPs at this grade level. I will be your student's TAP teacher throughout their time at NDC.

What do I need for School Supplies?

The answer isn't simple, because every teacher has a different supply list, and at NDC students move between many classrooms and the teachers aren't always the same. Ask your teachers for supply lists specific to your circumstances.

As for school, I recommend a pencil case, lunch container, water bottle and backpack. No locks (we provide them), no indoor/outdoor shoes (we just teach responsible cleanliness). Supplies for the locker may be useful (shelves, mirrors).

BINDERS – I recommend only 2 zipper binders for your entire year. One binder should be your student's Day 1 Binder, and all subjects that your student has on Day 1s go in that binder. The other should be your student's Day 2 Binder.

TEXTBOOKS – Math, Science, Language Arts, Social and Religion classes all have textbooks. They do not necessarily need to come home every day unless your student has homework requiring those books. They are required for every class.

What is Homework going to be like at NDC?

This will be different for every class and every teacher. For specific expectations, ask your teachers. If you find there is too much homework, please contact your student's teachers to discuss. Do not be surprised if your student has a total of 1 hour of homework in any given evening.

Homework will not be like it was at your previous school. Homework and study should be a habit that was nurtured from elementary school. Likely your student had a specific routine they had to do in Grade 3, as an example. While making home study a habit is still highly recommended, your student may not have a prescribed activity they are to do every night. Instead, they will likely receive assignments specific to the content they are discussing in class.

What does my student need to do for TAP?

They need to do 10 Community Service (CS) Hours each year, and they need to book themselves into Self-Directed Learning (SDL) sessions each week, which they can do from home. Instructions on how to book into SDL will be shared on a separate sheet of paper, and demonstrated during our first Extended TAP class in the first week.

Anything they would volunteer to do but don't get paid for or receive marks for count as Community Service Hours. Work done at home doesn't count, but shoveling the driveway for the neighbor can. There are plenty of CS opportunities that we advertise throughout the year. Once completed, a CS Hour sheet can be picked up at the office and signed by the person who oversaw the volunteer activity, then delivered to your TAP teacher. Your TAP teacher keeps track of the CS Hours you have logged.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to email me at jwindsor@redeemer.ab.ca.