

REGIOPOLIS-NOTRE DAME CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Visit our website: www.reginotredame.ca



October 2020 Newsletter

Newsletter is issued at the beginning of each month

Principal's Message

As we move into the second month of this strange school year, I would like to thank students and staff for adhering to our public health guidelines. Inside the school, students have been very good at keeping their masks on, practicing hand hygiene, and maintaining physical distance. Supply teachers have remarked that our students are particularly diligent with this. Please remember to be equally diligent while outside. We want to stay healthy and to remain learning in-school. Everybody has to do their part to keep within your cohort and to follow the public health guidelines. I know it's not intuitive to stay apart when you are with your friends during break time. However, you must and I know you can do it.

As the first block draws to a close, please ensure that you have provided a postdated cheque or used School Cash Online to access your next set of textbooks. You can leave your Block One textbook in your classroom and the next book(s) will be available in your Block Two classroom. A printed report card will also be available through the Block Two classes about a week afterward. You will of course be able to access your final grade online as well.

October 5th marks World Teacher Day. I would like to take a minute to mark my appreciation of the outstanding work our teachers (and all staff) have done as they have navigated the various challenges presented during this pandemic. They are teaching, without the usual prep time, full days, and many are addressing the learning needs of their students in class and online simultaneously. This is not easy. A year ago, I might have even said this was an impossible task. The learning curve is steep and the technology is limited. We appreciate the collaboration and patience offered by all partners in the teaching and learning dynamic.

We continue to offer prayers for Caleb and his family as he recovers from the accident on Wolfe Island and pray as well for sustained good health and wise counsel for all those making decisions and taking care of us in this second wave of the pandemic.

This is a moment in history requiring collective goodwill and caution. Hopefully, the stories to be shared with future generations will be marked with resilience and kindness. Stay well.

Ms. Daniel

RND Pastoral Services- Chaplaincy

October is the month of the Most Holy Rosary. It is such a simple prayer and yet it brings many graces. Students and staff have already been raising their hearts to God in this prayer and others as we ask God's healing and comforting touch to continue in the life of our students who have been involved in vehicle accidents. Please pray in a special way this month for Caleb who is still in ICU, and for comfort for his family in this challenging time.

Welcome Grade 9's! Friar Jim and Mary Elaine made available Tau Crosses to all of our incoming Grade 9's as a visible sign of welcome and belonging to the RND community. A tau cross looks more like a capital 'T' and was favoured by St. Francis of Assisi and his followers for its many layers of symbolism. St Francis is well known for his work in Multi-faith dialogue and we hope that students of all faith traditions and none will feel comfortable upholding the values that go along with this symbol.

RND Chaplaincy on D2L. In this time of social distancing many of our outreach groups are having to find new ways to gather. We now have a D2L page that all students and staff can access if they want to learn more about various groups and clubs offered through our department. We will be working with mentors from Queen's University's 'African Caribbean Students' Association' to support students of colour to discuss issues and work on ideas that matter to them in the days to come. There are also chances for us to start thinking creatively on maintaining our Gold Eco-Schools status. The 'Faith In Action Team' (FIAT) would like to work on our \$1000 Club (100 people each giving \$10 towards a cause) and other charity and justice initiatives throughout the year. Check it out and contact **Mary Elaine** if

you're interested in any of these and other groups!
carty@alcdsb.on.ca

FIAT - Money from last year was finally collected and sent on to 'Chalice' in support of our Twin School in Tanzania in the amount of \$1500. Thank you Panthers for your generosity!

Patron Saint of the Internet and Social Media? The beatification of Carlo Acutis is scheduled to take place in Assisi on Thanksgiving week-end (October 10th). Look up this young, modern day saint for inspiration and to ask for his intercession!

Student Services

Post Secondary Information Session

On **Wednesday, September 30th**, Student Services shared a presentation via the RND YouTube channel to inform all grade 12 students on the post-secondary application process. Students who have a spare in octomester 1 and remote learners should view the presentation as soon as possible. It is still active and parents/guardians are encouraged to view the presentation as well.

University and College Presentations

Although this is an unusual year for post-secondary visits, most schools will provide virtual campus tours as well as online liaison sessions. The schedule that outlines what the schools will offer this year is on the RND Guidance page in D2L. Ask your child to share this document with you.

College Applications

The application for programs starting Fall 2021 or Winter 2022 or Spring 2022 will be available in early October 2020. All applications are online. Students access the application at www.ontariocolleges.ca. The fee is \$95 for up to 5 choices (no more than 3 at any one College) – and must be paid in order to submit the complete application. The deadline to apply for equal consideration is **February 1st, 2021**. Students should apply early to avoid disappointment. Also, students should make an appointment to see their guidance counsellor if they have any questions.

University Applications

The application for Fall 2021 will be available in October 2020. Students require a PIN issued from the Ontario University Application Centre (OUAC); these PINs will be mailed directly to students' homes. All applications are online. Students access the application at www.ouac.on.ca. The base application fee is \$150 for the initial 3 university/program choices. Each additional choice costs \$50. In some cases there are supplemental fees – as noted on the OUAC website. The deadline to apply to OUAC is **January 15th, 2021**. Students should apply early to avoid disappointment – preferably before

Christmas Break – and should see their guidance counsellor if they have any questions.

Tutoring Options

Student Services has a limited number of private tutors who offer one-on-one tutoring for a fee; the fee is generally about \$20.00 to \$30.00 per session. Parents or students should contact Guidance for more information.

Queen's students (Helping Young People Excel) will soon be available to assist with all level courses through online tutoring. Details to follow.

Pathways to Education

Pathways to Education is a free, community-based program providing high school youth with -

- Tutoring - all subjects
- Mentoring - Includes workshops, field trips, YMCA memberships, and volunteer opportunities
- Financial Support - incentives include PC Gift cards, school lunch vouchers, and a post-secondary scholarship up to \$2000 (after four years)
- Other Support - each student is assigned a student/parent support worker

Pathways is open to any high school students who live in the area of Division Street, Raglan Road, Conacher Drive, and the Inner Harbour area.

Student Support Workers will begin meeting with RND students on their caseload over the next couple of weeks.

For more information, please contact: **Petra Hanson**, Student/Parent Support Worker Representative, Pathways to Education, Kingston Community Health Centres. Call 613.507.7107 ext. 2106 or email at Petrah@kchc.ca.

Specialist High Skills Major

RND offers SHSM in Arts and Culture Sector, SHSM in Non-Profit Sector, and SHSM in Sports Sector. SHSMs are for grade 11 and 12 students who are interested in customizing their secondary school experience to suit their interests and skills.

SHSM students have the opportunity to:

- bundle Grade 11 and 12 credits related to the sector to connect their learning to the sector
- earn valuable industry certifications including First Aid, CPR and WHMIS, at no cost
- participate in experiential learning and career exploration activities (ex. conferences, worksite tours, and workshops)
- tour colleges and universities and workplaces in the sector
- take dual credit courses at the college

- complete the Ontario Skills Passport(OSP) during the sector-related coop placement

For more information contact the Guidance Department. Applications are available on the RND Guidance Page in the students' VIRTUAL COMMON. Deadline to apply is **Friday, Oct. 9th**.

Dual Credit

Any students interested in enrolling in the Dual Credit program at Regiopolis-Notre Dame Catholic High School should contact **Ms. Lott** in the Student Services Department. Applications for winter 2020/21 are now available. Students should apply early to avoid disappointment. Applications close in early November. Participating students must be in Grade 11 or 12 or returning for a fifth year.

The Dual Credit program affords students the opportunity to take a college course free of charge. **Ms. Lott** provides academic support to students while they are taking Dual Credits. Successful completion of the course will provide a college credit on a college transcript and a Ministry of Education credit that will go on the student's high school transcript. Students should contact **Ms. Lott** at lott@alcdsb.on.ca or their guidance counsellor for further details.

Graduation 2020

The 2020 Graduating class was invited to attend a **Condensed Graduation Ceremony at RND on Friday October 9th, 2020**. We are honoured so many graduates have chosen to join us for this special event.

Parents and family will be escorted to the CND gym, where they will be seated while socially distanced. The Grads will be able to march into the CND gym and have their name called as they cross the stage and receive their diploma, their cross, and any awards they may have earned.

In addition, all graduates and their families are able to tune in to the **Virtual RND 2020 GRADUATION** on our YouTube channel, launching at **8 pm on Friday October 9, 2020**. See link below.

LINK: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFpxk_uPG-ujezCe01m6_gQ

Mathletes

Thanks to the many mathletes who helped the grade 9's on their first day finding their classes, distributing textbooks, bus passes and the Panther t-shirts.

While our usual in person practices are not possible currently, our mathletes are planning to practice. On weekends, teams are meeting virtually to practice Waterloo contests and learn new math skills. New mathletes are welcome to join.

Ninth graders who like to be challenged with math problems; we invite you to join our math league club, RND's biggest club. We plan to participate in Waterloo contests in the spring and hopefully other math tournaments by second semester. One big benefit of being part of the math league club is keeping your math skills sharp even when you don't have a math class.

Contact **Mr. Santos** via email: santosh@alcdsb.on.ca and he will get you connected with the mathlete practices.

IB News

1) Registrations are in progress for Grades 11 and 12 students who are writing IB exams in **May 2020**. All students should confirm their registrations with **Mr. David** in the IB Office. The last day for changes is **November 6th, 2020**.

2) Year 2 IB DP students are reminded to check the Regi IB D2L page for Extended Essay Guidelines and the RPPF. Students should have completed the Initial Reflection by **October 9th, 2020**. Students are reminded to use Managebac to create a Reflection Space under the Extended Essay.

3) News items are posted on the D2L page "Regi IB". All students should check this page for important IB announcements.

Students' Council

Thank you so much to all students who put themselves out there and bravely ran for a position on this year's student council. We are so proud of how supportive and respectful all candidates were, and our school is lucky to be filled with such wonderful leaders.

Congratulations to this year's elected student council:

Head Girl - **Elli Parsons**
 Head Boy- **Mark Rostek**
 Comm Rep - **Hannah Keyes**
 PAW Rep - **Cassidy Hodgson**
 Treasurer - **Lily Rich**

Cabinet members will be elected in the first week of October. **Thursday, October 15th** will be a toonie for non-uniform day. This will be in support of our annual **Paul Halligan Classic**. Students are encouraged to wear pink.

The Students' Council is anticipating another active year of service to the students of the school and the community as a whole. As we begin to plan activities and virtual events in the school, you can stay updated by following our social media accounts on Twitter and Instagram. The username for both is @rndstudco. Please reach out if you have any questions.

DRIVER EDUCATION COURSE

Offered By

The Omni-Lateral Driver Education Centre Inc.
1-877-533-9507

Theory Classes

Start Date: Oct. 20th, 2020

The theory component will be done via e-learning. You will be able to progress at your own pace. You will receive further instructions from our office upon registration.

Cost

\$685.00 (\$606.19 + \$78.81 HST)

In-Vehicle Classes

Each student will drive for 10 hours. Driving times will be arranged at the student's convenience. Successfully completing the course will reduce the period of Level One in graduated licensing from 12 months to 8 months as well as giving the graduate the usual insurance benefits.

To Sign Up

To ensure your placement on this course, be sure to leave your name on the sign-up sheet in the main office.

Payment

You may break the course fee into two payments. An e-transfer of \$342.50 is due upon registration and commencement of the course.

If you have any questions,
please contact **Omni-Lateral Driver Education Centre**
