St. Patrick Catholic School

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October Newsletter

Dear parents/guardians:

Our school year is off a far more 'normal' start this year and we have much to be thankful for as we approach Thanksgiving on Monday, October 10th. Thanksgiving is a time to be grateful for being blessed in so many ways – where we live, our families and friends, and a caring community. It is a time to extend kindness to those around us and to be generous with our words, actions, and spirit. From all us at St. Pats, we wish everyone a happy Thanksgiving!

Thanksgiving Prayer

Thank you, Father, for having created us and given us to each other in the human family. Thank you for being with us in all our joys and sorrows, for your comfort in our sadness, your companionship in our loneliness. Thank you for yesterday, today, tomorrow, and for the whole of our lives. Thank you for friends, for health, and for grace. May we live this and every day conscious of all that has been given to us."

- From The Catholic Prayer Book, compiled by Msgr. Michael Buckley

Absence Reporting

Just a reminder that safe arrival phone calls will be made in the event of student absences. Please use the SchoolMessenger App to inform the school of your child's absence. More information about the SchoolMessenger App can be found at https://go.schoolmessenger.com/#/home. Using the SchoolMessenger App instead of calling or emailing the school saves Ms. Miller, our secretary, many hours of work each week so that she can attend to other tasks. Please communicate any bussing changes in the agenda or in a note to the office. Please call before 2:30 pm if you are making changes to your child's end of day routine.

Soccer Tournaments

Our soccer teams were able to resume playing in the board tournaments this year after a couple years off. Our Senior Boys' Tournament was rescheduled until next week due to the rain, but all other tournaments were played. Congrats to all our players for representing our school very well.

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Board Golf Tournament

Congratulations to our eight Junior and Intermediate students who participated in the board golf tournament. This is the first year that St. Pats has participated, but we are hoping to enter a team for the years ahead. Good work golfers!

Kingston Writers Fest

We offer a special thank you to author Carey Fagan who was able to visit us on Wednesday, September 28th as part of the Kingston Writers Fest activities. Ms. Fagan is the author of the book, <u>Water Water</u>, which our Gr. 4/5 and 6 classes have been reading. Ms. Fagan was able to speak to our two classes about the book and life as an author.

Open House

The weather was perfect for our Open House on Thursday, September 29th. We had a fantastic turnout. It was very nice to be able to see so many parents and families in person again after not being able to do so for so long. We offer a big thank you to the Knights of Columbus for volunteering to cook 320 hot dogs for us. Thank you to our older students as well for helping out with the set up and clean up of the barbeque area.

Student Pick-up, Drop-off, Parking, and Road Safety

In our efforts to promote safety, please be very careful as you navigate the parking lot or when you are pulling on and off the road. We ask that parents only pick up or drop off students on the school side of Wilton Road. This will prevent students from crossing over Wilton Road during the busiest traffic times. The school has been working with the Township over the past year to increase safety on Wilton Road. Flashing speed signs will also be present. Thank you very much in advance for helping us out with drop off and pick up along Wilton Road.

Pick-up During the School Day

If you are picking up your child before 3:35 pm dismissal, please buzz in at the main front entrance and we will call your child/children down to meet you at the door while you wait outside.

End of day pick-up

We have two runs of buses; Buses that are here prior to day's end and those that come over from Harrowsmith Public School. When waiting for buses, all our students will be waiting in the parking lot on the west side of the school. Students are not permitted to walk to the parking lot or cut through the buses. If you are picking your child up, please meet them in that area. Once again, please ensure you pick up your child on the school side of Wilton Road so that crossing Wilton Road is not required.

Terry Fox Walk

Our Terry Fox Walk took place on Friday, September 23rd with our whole school making good use of our track. A big thank you to our school community for your generosity in supporting our fundraising goal of \$3000.00. Together we raised almost \$4,000.00 for cancer research this year! Fantastic! Thank you to Ms. Stewart for organizing this year's events and thank you to all the brave staff members who volunteered to get a pie in the face! Lots of laughs for a great cause!

School Website

You are always welcome to check out our website at <u>St. Patrick Catholic School - St. Patrick Catholic School (alcdsb.on.ca)</u>. It contains important dates (which can be synched to your smart phone), news about recent events, and all the notes home that we send to families. Take a look!

Head Lice Checks

Please check your children on a regular basis for head lice. This time of year, with the cooler weather approaching, nits may become present. Please let the school know if you are planning to keep your child at home due to head lice.

Bus Cancellations and Delays

If you haven't already done so, it's a great idea to visit the Tri-Board Transportation website at <u>Delays and Cancellations - Tri-Board (triboard.ca)</u> to sign up for bus cancellations and delays. As the weather cools and the snow and ice approaches, signing up for bus notifications will keep you informed about what is happening with our buses.

<u>Twitter</u>

For those that use Twitter, St. Pats Twitter handle is @alcdsb_stph. We tweet ongoing events at our school and retweet important board messages and health unit messages as they arise. Feel free to follow us!

Upcoming Dates:

Thanksgiving Monday, October 10 School Mass at the Church Tuesday, October 11 Gr. 1-2 Class Trip to Fruition Berry Farm Wednesday, October 12 Wednesday, October 19 Holy Cross Gr. 8 Presentation Monday, October 24 PA Day Dress Purple Day Thursday, October 27 Friday, October 28 Gr. 7/8 Immunizations Photo Retakes Day Friday, October 28 Monday, October 31 Halloween Orange and Black Day Monday, October 31 Progress Reports Go Home Tuesday, November 1

