



ST. CARTHAGH CATHOLIC SCHOOL NOVEMBER UPDATE

Progress Reports and Interviews-Progress Reports will go home on November 6th. Family Conferences are on a request-basis (parents or teachers) on the evening of November 13th. You will receive a letter from the school if the teacher would like to meet with you. Parents are welcome to contact the school if they would like to set up an interview. Parents always have the opportunity to call or meet with teachers as needed throughout the year.

School Improvement Plan for Student Achievement and Well Being – We had a great meeting setting our goals for the school year! It has been wonderful to include parent voices on this committee and to hear feedback from the survey (from staff, students, and parents). If you have not yet completed the short survey, please follow the link to share your thoughts with us! Together is Better! <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/QV9YNZZ> Visit the ALCDSB website for the board's Multi-Year Strategic Plan survey as well!

Grade 7/8 Quebec Trip

Gr. 7/8 parents wishing to supervise the Quebec Trip should submit their name to Mrs. Healey by November 15th in order to be eligible for the one complimentary package from Brightspark.

Donations needed for Christmas Shopping-Gently used household items, toys, Christmas wrapping paper, gift bags, tissue paper, scotch tape and gift tags wanted! These items will be used at the St. Carthagh Christmas shopping event on December 13th. Students are invited to purchase gifts for their family members (up to 4 items), wrap them and take them home with pride! All items are \$1. All proceeds will benefit the Christmas Sharing Program in our community. Volunteers needed on December 13th to assist 'shoppers'.

REMINDER and Change in Pick-Up Location and Time -the parking lot running along the school is **one way only**, running south. Parents are asked not to park in this bussing zone before or after school. It is not safe for students or adults to be walking through this bussing zone. Parents can use the bus route to drop off students at the back gate in the morning if they follow in line with the busses. Please keep the line moving-have your child ready to load/unload quickly, this is not the time to have a conversation with staff. If you need to speak to a staff member please park and come into the school. ***Students being picked up by car can be picked up at front steps (in staff parking section) at 3:40pm sharp. If buses come before you are able to pick up, you need to wait, or park on a side street and walk up to meet your child.*** Walkers are asked to walk through the school in the morning and end of day for safe entry onto and off the yard.

Scholastic Book Fair-St. Carthagh Scholastic Book Fair will be held in the school library Tuesday, November 5th to Thursday, November 7th. All students and their families are welcome to come and purchase books with the proceeds going to buy new books for the library and classrooms. Please watch for more information list!

Dress for the Weather-The colder weather is upon us and students are outside for recess for 20 and 25 minute intervals during the day, so it is important to dress accordingly. In order to get the most enjoyment from their time outdoors, please make sure your child has a hat, mitts, winter coat, snow pants and boots for school yard play. These items should be labeled with your child's name.

Bus Cancellations-Cancellations due to inclement weather will be announced on the following radio stations CJBQ and MIX 97 at regular intervals in the morning. If the bus does not run in the morning, it will not run at the end of the day. (The only exception to this is a cancellation due to fog). Please remember that if your child is dropped off in the morning, they will need to be picked up promptly at 3:40 dismissal time. All schools within the Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board will remain open unless otherwise indicated. You can also receive email notifications and track your child's bus by signing up at www.triboard.ca.

Breakfast Club

If anyone is able to make donations to St. Carthagh Breakfast Club, we are always grateful for the following items:

- Dole Fruit Cups-Fruit Salad or Diced Peaches (no sugar added)
- Motts Fruitsations-unsweetened applesauce-Tubs of Yoplait 0% vanilla yogurt
- Quaker Oats Chewy Bars (raspberry, apple or peach crumble)-Cheerios (yellow box or multigrain)
- Yoplait or Danone yogurt tubes
- Raisin Bran
- Shreddies
- Black Diamond/No Name cheese strings-marble
- Shredded Cheese (Kraft mild cheddar made with 2% milk)
- peanut butter
- cheese whiz
- jam
- table syrup
- ketchup
- 100% whole wheat bread
- 100% whole wheat bagels
- 100% whole wheat English muffins
- triscuit crackers
- ziploc sandwich bags
- ziploc snack bags
- parchment paper
- oranges
- carrots

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board (ALCDSB) and our community partners are committed to providing safe and caring school communities and learning environments for students, staff, school visitors and community members. We believe that each person should be able to study, work and attend our Catholic schools in an environment that is safe and free from threats of violence. The ALCDSB acknowledges the importance of promoting and supporting appropriate and positive student behaviours in schools. It is our hope that all members of our community demonstrate respect for the dignity of all persons.

In 2011, the ALCDSB and its community partners adopted the ALCDSB Community Threat Assessment Protocol (CTAP). This risk/threat assessment process is designed to be a proactive and multi-disciplinary approach to developing intervention plans that address threats of violence, threatening behaviour and instances where the emotional and/or physical safety of individuals may be at risk. Recognizing that violence prevention in our schools and neighbourhoods is a community responsibility, the risk/threat assessment process will be initiated by school administration and/or community partners when behaviours have been identified that pose a potential risk to an individual or to others.

Providing notice to parents/guardians of the risk/threat assessment process ensures that parents/guardians are aware that threatening or high-risk behaviours will be investigated. This also recognizes the important role that the parents/guardians have in supporting and participating in the process itself. For further information, the Community Threat Assessment Protocol (CTAP) document may be found on our website at <http://www.alcddb.on.ca/Board/Policies/Lists/Documents/CTAP2016.pdf>.

Sincerely,
Terri Slack Superintendent of School Effectiveness

Message to Parents, Guardians Re: Procedures for Threats to School Safety- Keeping Our Students and Staff Safe

The Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board has a primary responsibility to ensure the safety of students and staff inside Board buildings and on Board property. In partnership with emergency services in the area, a board-wide plan has been developed to address threats to school safety. This plan includes procedures known as Evacuation, Shelter in Place, Hold and Secure, Bomb Threat/Explosive Incident, and Lockdown.

An Evacuation occurs when all students and staff are removed from the school (e.g. a fire or gas leak in the school). A Shelter in Place occurs when there is an environmental or weather related situation in the area (e.g. chemical spill). A Hold and Secure is initiated when there are circumstances in the vicinity of the school that could endanger the safety of students and/or staff (e.g. criminal event near the school but not on school property). A Bomb Threat and Explosive Incident procedures are initiated when a threat of a bomb or explosive device is received by a school either by phone or some other means (mail or social media for example). Lockdown procedures are initiated when there is a threat of violence within the school (e.g. student with a weapon).

In order for all students and staff to become familiar with expectations during a threat to school safety, our school will be practicing threat response procedures as we have normally done with fire drills. In a real emergency situation, signs will be posted on the entrance doors indicating that the school has activated a Shelter in Place or Hold and Secure. The doors will be locked and no one will be allowed into the school. In a real Lockdown situation, the school will not be able to post signs and lock doors because the imminent threat is in the school building and all staff and students will be actively responding to the threat. If an Evacuation should occur, emergency services will secure the school site.

I understand that a parent or guardian would be concerned for their child during a response to a potential threat to school safety. I want to assure you that the school is prepared for any of these risks. However, if a real emergency is in effect, you will be unable to contact your child or school personnel while the situation is being resolved. If this school should activate the Threats to School Safety Procedures because of an imminent threat, the Board's Communications Officer will use all media available to update families of the situation as it unfolds.

For the safety of our students and staff, two lockdown practice drills and one Bomb Threat practice will be held during the school year. The first practice drill happened on September 24th. The second one is scheduled for January 13th, and the final one May 11th. Please call me at the school if you should have questions.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Heather Healey, Principal

Follow us on Twitter [@alcdsb_cart](https://twitter.com/alcdsb_cart) to see all of the great things happening at our school!

November 2019						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 PA Day "12 Days of Christmas" Fundraiser Begins	2
3	4	5 Book Fair	6 Book Fair Progress Report Go Home	7 Book Fair	8 Picture Retake Day	9
10	11 Remembrance Day Assembly in Gym at 10:30am; Mrs. McConnell's class to cenotaph	12	13 Family Conferences 4:00-8:00	14 Together is Better Assembly 9:40. Join us!	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22 School Mass 9:30 Bus Safety Presentations	23
24	25	26 School Council 6:30 (Christmas activities/fundraisers only)	27 "12 Days of Christmas" tickets & money returned	28	29 PA Day	30