



ST. CARTHAGH CATHOLIC SCHOOL – All Are Welcome in This Place where Together is Better!

DECEMBER UPDATE

Little Learners – Parents interested in the Little Learners School Age Program are asked to please complete a survey using the following link:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2Z2XH3H>

New Safe Arrivals Program – The Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board is excited to launch the **Safe Arrivals Program** which will allow parents/guardians to report their child's absence in a new, more convenient way.

- Receive alerts from your school via text, email or phone
- Send and receive attendance information in a more timely way
- Enter in attendance in advance for student absences via mobile app, website or by automatic telephone system
- Choose who will receive attendance notifications including who will be able to enter in attendance information for the student
- Monitor your child's attendance through the website or mobile app
- Receive push notifications with the mobile app

St. Carthagh will begin the program on January 18, 2021. We will provide information to families closer to this date on how to create an account and verify contact information. Creating an account is simple and easy.

Christmas Festivities

Advent is a time of year where we are often busy preparing all kinds of activities as a whole school community. Covid19 has forced us to be more creative in our planning this year! We want our students to feel excited for the season so have come up with a few ways to do this safely and to still be able to give back to our community.

Each class will be preparing a Christmas performance, recording it, and sending it to our Grade 7/8 Announcement Team. We will enjoy watching the recordings (one per day) through Microsoft Teams for our "12 Days of Christmas" leading into the break. Unfortunately, we can't share the links with families as we have to honour privacy rights for media distribution. Be sure to ask your child what they are preparing to do so that they can share their excitement with you at home!

Our School Council has offered to support a fun Christmas afternoon on December 11th where we can be "together yet apart". Students will be decorating individually wrapped gingerbread cookies (from Pan Chancho Bakery in Kingston) and we will connect through Teams to celebrate. Christmas music will be playing throughout the halls and classrooms and teachers will prepare some festive activities within the classrooms. It's not a turkey dinner, but it will be fun, nonetheless!

St. Carthagh staff and students have a long tradition of supporting the Tweed Salvation Army Christmas Food Hampers. Due to Covid19 restrictions and the early Christmas Break we are not able to receive fresh food donations from students this year to add to a basket. In lieu of the hamper that each classroom would have contributed we are having a fun virtual "Christmas Basket Bingo" with proceeds supporting the Food Hamper program. Bingo winners will receive a small prize from the office. Numbers and letters will be picked each morning and Mrs. Healey will use literacy and numeracy riddles to help the students figure out which

letters/numbers were picked! Teachers will ensure that the students have time to mark their cards. Students may purchase up to 2 Bingo cards each, and any purchase over that will be considered a donation. Cards are \$5.00 each and will be available for purchase on School Cash Online until December 4th.

If your family could use support this Christmas season and you wish to apply for a hamper, please go to the Salvation Army and pick-up and fill out an application from the cashier. Once complete, you can book an appointment for pick-up. The Thrift Store is open Monday - Friday 10-3:30 and Saturday 9-3:30 and is located at 224 Metcalf St. and the number is 613-478-5544.



Tweed Chamber of Commerce

Each year we work together to bring you an exceptional shopping experience for the Holiday Season.

This year we are excited to announce our 12 Days of Christmas.

Starting December 1 we will be posting a ONE day sale from a participating Local business.

When you Like, Share, and comment on your shopping experience your name will be entered into a Grand Prize draw of up to \$300 in local gift certificates and or merchandise.

Shopping local - invest in our local economy who invest in us!

Light up Your Community
December 5th -December 17th

Residential & Business

- 1) Traditional-residential
- 2) The Griswalds-residential
- 3) Best Decorated Store Front (Lights, props, merchandise etc)

Entries for judging must be submitted by December 5th -Judging Dec 17th.

Forms can be downloaded from our All Dressed for Christmas, Tweed Chamber of Commerce & Municipality of Tweed Facebook pages or picked up at The Tweed News.

Plaques will be presented for 1st, 2nd & 3rd

Special thanks to:
Michelle Langevin & Linda Myrie



December 2020

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|---|-----|
| | November 30 Picture Day | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 Last day to purchase Christmas Basket Bingo Cards | 5 |
| 6 | 7 Christmas Basket Bingo Begins | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 Virtual School Mass 11:00 Virtual Christmas Celebration in Classes (p.m.) | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 Christmas Break Begins | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | Back to school January 4 th | |