

St. Carthagh Catholic School Newsletter



Mrs. Tina MacCauley -Principal
Mrs. Connie Lessard -Administrative Assistant
Father Aidan Dasaah -Parish Priest
Ms. Carey Smith-Dewey -Superintendent of Education

Website: www.alcddb.on.ca/school/cart

September 2023

Staff

Tina MacCauley	Principal
Connie Lessard	Administrative Assistant
Amanda Coates	JK/SK
Nicole Montgomery	Gr. 1/2
Nicole Boyce/Nettie Robertson	Gr. 2/3
Rhegan Bush	Gr. 4/5
Alexa Meeson	Gr. 5/6
Liam Mulvihill	Gr. 7/8
Nettie Robertson	SERT
Nicole Lamoureux	FSL
Nicole Boyce	ARTS
Casandra Wright	ECE
Liz Sagriff	EA
Angela McGuire	EA
Karen Vilneff	EA
Sharon Demchuk	EA
Erin Derry-Bertrand	CYW
Scott Dafoe	Custodian
Dan Hunt	Custodian

Daily Time Schedule

School Entry	9:20
Recess	11:20-11:35
Lunch	12:15-1:05
Recess	2:25-2:40
Dismissal	3:40

St. Carthagh Twitter

Please follow us on twitter as staff will be posting regularly, @alcddb_cart



Principal's Message

"Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. We bless you from the house of the Lord." - Psalm 118:26

It is with great joy that I welcome you, on behalf of our school community, to St. Carthagh Catholic School for the 2023/2024 school year! As our board pastoral theme states, we are a community that forms joyful disciples and together we are 'blessed beyond belief' as we celebrate learning together. Together we journey, as believers in the teachings of Jesus, towards our vision of creating a professional community of learners, with student success as the foundation.

With our parish and community connections, we work together to build networks of support for our students and their families. Through research and evidenced-based strategies, integration of technology and a supportive environment, we collaborate to ensure students learn and thrive to achieve their full potential.

Please contact the school if you would like more information or visit the ALCDSB website – www.alcddb.on.ca

God bless,
Tina MacCauley
Principal

IMPORTANT Student Information

Student Information forms will be sent by School Messenger (email) to each family for updates. Please inform the office of any corrections/changes to your contact information (i.e. phone #, work #, address, custody agreements, emergency contacts, etc.) This information is vital in the case of an emergency.

Picture Day

Student and class photos will be on **October 13th**. Watch for more information.

CHANGE

Newsletters & School Messenger

We will no longer be posting monthly newsletters. We have found that the most effective form of communication is through School Messenger and our School webpage. Families can access all current information and events at, www.alcddb.on.ca/school/cart. Information will be added as it occurs so check us out often.

School Cash Online

School Cash Online is the method of payment for all schools in the Algonquin & Lakeshore Catholic District School Board. In order to support this initiative, we need all families to register to pay school fees online. Registering does not give us any access to your banking information, it is similar to shopping online: select your items, add to your cart and check out using debit or credit card. To register please go to:

<https://alcddb.schoolcashionline.com>.

School Calendar

The school year calendar can be found on the Board's website, www.alcddb.on.ca under Parents & Community.

School Council Meeting

The first meeting of the 2023-2024 school year will be held on **September 27th at 6:00 p.m.** We will have elections and outline the goals for this school year. We encourage all parents to participate and welcome them to join the meeting.

Bus Conduct

To maintain a high standard of safety for our students while travelling on the school bus, we ask that all parents be aware of the rules of conduct for our students. You, as parents, can assist us immeasurably by being aware of the regulations and making sure your children understand and follow them.

RIDING THE BUS IS A PRIVILEGE. This privilege may be withdrawn if a student behaves in a manner that threatens his/her safety or the safety of others. Let's work together to protect all our students. For information on busing check the Tri-Board Student Transportation website: www.triboard.on.ca. You may check your child's bus by using his or her OEN (Ontario Education Number) which can be found on their Report Card.

Milk & Pizza Program

Milk and pizza will be available to order each week this year. Milk will only be available for weekly purchase. Parents will be notified through School Cash Online so make sure that you are signed up to receive items that are available. Pizza will start on Thursday, September 21st-**reminder orders must be placed by midnight on Tuesday prior**. Milk will begin on September 18th and orders must be placed by midnight **Friday prior**. Proceeds from these programs directly support our students.

Food for Learning/Breakfast Club

Healthy snacks are provided to each classroom daily for all students to access. We plan to reintroduce our Breakfast Club this year. However, our Club cannot run without volunteers. If you or anyone you know would like to volunteer, please contact the office. People are needed each school day from 8:30-9:30, do a much or as little as you can. A criminal background check is required and can be completed online. We will provide a letter so that there is no cost to volunteers.

Valuables

Please discourage your child(ren) from bringing valuable items to school as the school assumes no responsibility for damage or loss. Due to privacy issues, cameras and cell phones are not permitted on the school yard.

Cell Phones

Cell phones must remain in backpacks at all times or with the classroom teacher. If a student does not follow this rule the phone will remain with Ms. Macauley until a parent can pick up or returned at the end of the next school day.

Safe Arrival/Dismissal

REMINDER-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.

Absence-Please call the school before 9:15 if your child will be absent. Attendance is taken first thing in the morning and calls are made to verify all absences if we have not heard from you. You may leave a message on the answering machine any time.

Students arriving late or leaving school early must be signed in/out by an adult.

Yard Supervision-There is no supervision prior to 9:00 so students should not enter the school/yard prior to this time.

After School-Car pick up is at 3:40 at the front stairs of the school. Parents are asked to please remain in your car, we will bring your child to the vehicle. Walkers are dismissed at the front of the school and are reminded to promptly exit school property following the 3:40 dismissal. Parents/caregivers picking up students are asked to wait at the front sidewalk.

Lunch Hour-Students may not leave the school during the day without being signed out by an adult. Students leaving school to go home for lunch may do so only if they go home regularly with adult supervision. Please send a note to indicate if your child(ren) will be walking home for lunch on a regular basis. It is the school's expectation that all students will remain at school for lunch unless being picked up by a parent.

We appreciate your support and cooperation in keeping our school safe for our students.

Administration of Medication/Epi Pen

Student forms must be submitted every school year. Medication, where applicable, must be brought to the school with the doctor's forms and kept at the office. No medication will be administered without the appropriate forms completed by parents and physician.



Nut Free

We have students in our community who have been diagnosed with a life-threatening allergy to nuts. This means that **students will not be allowed to bring or send in food items with nuts in them (or may contain nuts)**. Thank you for your cooperation in keeping our students safe.

Student Accident Insurance

Our School Board does not provide accident insurance coverage for student injuries that occur on school property or during school activities, including extracurricular sports. If a student is injured, parent(s)/guardian(s) are responsible for any costs not covered by their Government Health Insurance Plan or their employer's health care plan. Parents should check with their provider(s) regarding their specific coverage.

Most accident-related expenses are not fully covered under OHIP or other any plans and expenses like ambulance fees, casts, crutches, physiotherapy and emergency dental care may not be covered at all. This leaves the parent/guardian financially responsible for these unexpected expenses.

To help protect your family, it is recommended that you consider obtaining student accident insurance, which provides coverage for these types of costs. As a convenience to you, the Board has arranged to offer student accident insurance through insuremykids® program. Participation is purely voluntary, and the costs of the plan are to be paid by the parent/guardian directly to the provider. This program is available for students up to age 26.

Coverage is provided for a wide range of accidental expenses, including:

- Dental expenses, includes 10 years unlimited dental benefit coverage, future dental up to \$1,650 per tooth, and injury related orthodontia coverage up to \$2,500 per accident.
- Total and permanent disability, up to \$350,000
- Loss of limb/loss of sight, hearing or speech
- Accidental death
- Ambulance fees
- And more!

The insuremykids® Student Accident Insurance program offers three plans with 24/7 coverage at affordable rates – ranging from \$17.00 per year and to their Platinum plan at \$33 per year, which provides out-of-province emergency medical coverage and travel benefits. All annual plans provide 13 months of coverage from the date of purchase.

If parents or guardians wish to purchase coverage, please do so directly online at www.insuremykids.com or call 1-800-463-5437. The insurance agreement is between You (the parent or guardian) and the insurance underwriter, Old Republic Insurance Company of Canada.

September 2023

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
				1	2	3
4 Labour Day	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 Milk Program Begins	19	20	21 Open House 5:30-6:30 Pizza Day	22 Terry Fox Walk	23	24
25 PA Day	26	27 School Council Meeting 6:00 p.m.	28 Pizza Day	29	30	

October 13, Picture Day



September 5, 2023

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,

Carey Smith-Dewey
Superintendent of Education