

DECEMBER



School Newsletter

J.J. O'Neill Catholic School



Principal: Kevin Dorey

Secretary: Denise Clement

Superintendent of School Effectiveness: Karen Shannon

School Website: www.alcdsb.on.ca/School/jjon

Catholic School Council Chair: Michelle Hannah

Parish Priest: Fr. Marek Chochrek

Trustee: Gregory Speagle



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Some Important Dates

Nov 29 PA Day

Dec 4 Elf Shop

Dec 6 MADD presentation grade 7/8

Dec 6 Jingle Bell Dance

Dec 9 Teens Trash Tobacco grade 7/8

Dec 10 Ms. Roth Museum Trip

Dec 10 School Mass All Welcome

Dec 13 Mr. Grimston & Ms. Roth trip to
Glanmore House

Dec 13 Ms. Rodrigues, Mr. McIntyre, Ms.
Perreault, Mr. Sheahan skating trip

Dec 18 Christmas Concert Matinee 1:15
& Evening Show 6PM

Dec 20 Christmas Luncheon

Dec 23 to Jan 3 Christmas Break

Jan 6 Frist day back to School

Advent Celebration & Christmas Concert

Our concert will feature class performances from our kindergarten to grade 5/6 classes. Students in our 6/7 and 7/8 classes have been invited to take on various leadership roles in the production. We will have two performances. They will begin at 1:15PM, and at 6PM on December 18. Each show is expected to last about one hour. .

For audience members that can, choosing to take in the matinee instead of the evening show is strongly encouraged. The evening show will likely be a full house. Before and after the evening show, parents will drop off and collect children from their classrooms. Please be sure to inform classroom teachers if your child is unable to attend and perform at the evening show. Donations will be accepted at the shows to support the St. Patrick's Parish Centre Fund.

Sign up through our website, for **SchoolCashOnline** to receive instant notifications when items become available for purchase like school excursions, hot lunches, milk, or school fundraisers. 92% of students are now signed up!



Cut and paste these links into your browser for Parish Information

www.stpatricksnapanee.ca

www.facebook.com/stpatsnapanee/

Send in
your used
batteries!



Volunteers!

We love our volunteers! If you have some time during school hours to read with primary age students please call the office!

613 354 9500

What happens on a ‘snow day’ anyway?

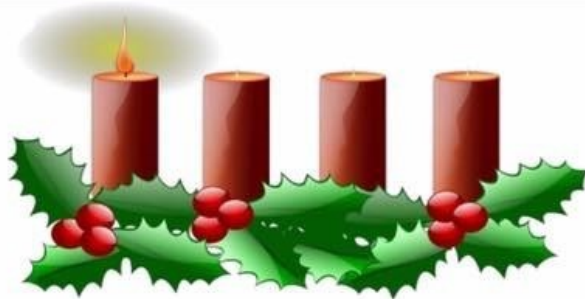
Well, that depends on how many students and staff can safely get to school, when they arrive, and changes in weather conditions throughout the day. Like students, some staff are not always able to get to the school. Many have a long commute on a good day and are delayed by the weather. They may be unable to safely get to work altogether. Without knowing which staff and which students will be in attendance, planning for a successful school ‘snow day’ must be very flexible. Typically, the day begins with staff members greeting parents at the front door to take attendance, confirm emergency contact information, and to remind parents and care givers that children are picked up by 3:25 PM. Deteriorating weather can sometimes prevent parents from getting to the school until long after dismissal time. In these exceptional situations, some staff will remain on site for as long as it takes, until all are away safely. As always, safety is by far the most important consideration. As students trickle in, we may muster them in the learning commons with a simple activity or a video to watch while we formulate a plan. Attendance, when all buses are cancelled, typically ranges between 15 and 70 students. By 10AM we have a good sense of how many children will be coming. Depending on the number and ages of the children in attendance, they can be grouped strategically and a schedule for the day developed. Teams of educators will continuously develop and deliver relevant, engaging programming on a rotating basis throughout the day. This programming can look like writing workshops, reading programs, numeracy games, artistic projects, and physical education classes. We will always do our best to make the most of a “snow day”.

School Council

Parent council has decided to do Pizza hot lunch on Thursdays for Dec. It has been put on cash online and only available until Tuesday, Dec. 3rd. Pizza days will be on Dec. 5, 12, and the 19th. So if you plan on ordering please do so on or before Tuesday, Dec. 3rd.

Parent Council is also still accepting donations for the Elf Shop. On Wednesday, Dec. 4th all students will have the opportunity to buy their Mom and Dad (step-parents and guardians) Christmas presents for \$1.00 each. It is a fun day for the students and volunteers.

Next meeting is January 15 at 6PM



ST. PATRICK'S PARISH CHRISTMAS POTLUCK

Date: Sunday, December 1, 2019

Dinner: 5:00 p.m.

Location: St. Patrick's Parish Centre

Come & Celebrate the beginning of Advent with our 2nd Annual St. Patrick's Christmas Potluck Dinner.

Join fellow parishioners, bring your family, your favourite potluck dish and renew old acquaintances. (Coffee, tea, & cold drinks will be provided).

Need a Ride? Phone church office at 613-354-5354.

Food Bank: Anyone wishing to donate to the food bank, your non-perishable food items will be collected. Thank you.

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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "TSlack". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Terri Slack

Superintendent of School Effectiveness

School Information & Reminders...

Bus Loading Safety Zone - For student safety - As posted, only buses and staff vehicles may enter the parking lot area between 900Am and 920AM or between 3:10PM and 3:30PM as posted. Nothing is more important to us than the safety of your children.

Student Accident Insurance

The link to <http://www.insuremykids.com/en/Default.aspx> is in the drop-down list under the Parents/Community tab on the Board website.

Volunteers

To be eligible to help supervise a class trip or event, or volunteer in classrooms, adults must have a current vulnerable sector screening check on file at the school. These can take some time for the police to process, so please don't wait. Ask for the forms at the office or have your child bring one home. The screening is free for school volunteers.

Pediculosis (Head Lice)

It is important to check your children's hair for head lice and nits (eggs) as part of your weekly routine. If all families take the time to check and treat as required, it will minimize the number of cases. Also please remind children to avoid sharing combs, brushes or hats.

Safe Arrival & Departure

Students arriving or departing by personal motor vehicle during posted bus loading/unloading times can be dropped off on Simcoe St. to avoid congestion in the parking lot and bus loop. Parents may choose to walk with children to the school yard.

Need your High School Diploma?

Loyola School of Adult and Continuing Education offers many options to support you in achieving your goals including high school credit courses, an accredited Personal Support Worker program and English as a Second Language classes. If you are over 18 years old and ready to take the next step in achieving your future, visit our website for more information: www.learningatloyola.ca

Bus Delays & Cancellations

Search for notices or sign up to be notified by email if your bus is running late or has been cancelled at <http://triboard.ca/>

Unscheduled Student Pickup

The end of the school day is a very busy time. If you are picking up your child, please send a note to the classroom teacher or do your best to call the school in advance.

Attendance calls

Please leave a message with the office if your child will be absent from school.

Anaphylaxis - Nut free school

We currently have students in our school who have severe nut allergies. Do not send food items to school that contain nuts. Many foods contain peanuts or other nuts. These ingredients may not be obvious so it is very important to read labels. Even if the food is to be consumed only by your child.

Sharing Home Baked Goods

Occasionally, some classrooms have special events or celebrations, and parents are invited to send in food items to be shared. Food to be shared within the school community must be prepared in a commercial setting or our school kitchen and nut free. Unfortunately, for student safety, this means we may not bring in home baked goods to share with classmates. When bringing in a commercially produced item to share, such as a tray of squares from No Frills, be sure to consult with the classroom teacher well in advance.

Sacramental Preparation

Our Staff work with Fr. Marek and our Parish partners to prepare our students for First Communion/Reconciliation (usually in grade 2), and Confirmation (usually in grade 7). Children must have a Baptismal certificate on file at the Parish in order to receive the Sacraments. Please ensure that we have this by the end of September. Contact the school or Parish office if you wish your child to receive Baptism, or if you have any questions regarding your child's eligibility to receive the Sacraments. If your child has missed a Sacrament due to a residential move etc. please contact the Parish of school as well. The Rite of Christian initiation for adults may also be offered through the Parish.

Sign in & Out

Please remember to check in at the office when visiting the school. This is a safe schools policy.

SchoolCashOnline

Sign up through our website, for SchoolCashOnline to receive instant notifications when items become available for purchase like school excursions, hot lunches, milk, or school fundraisers. Cash is not accepted by teachers as a regular practice.