



St. Joseph Catholic School

Reverence, Responsibility, Relationships

405 Bridge Street East, Belleville, Ontario, K8N 1P7

Tel: 613-962-3653 Website: <http://www.alcddb.on.ca/School/jose/Pages/default.aspx>

September 2019

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Lord, we thank You for this new school year and for all of the opportunities we will have to learn and grow with one another. We ask You to fill us with the wisdom and joy of Your Spirit. May everything we do begin with Your inspiration and be guided by the Holy Spirit. We make this prayer to You through Christ our Lord.

Amen

Welcome, everyone, to another great school year at St. Joseph Catholic School! Our dedicated staff have worked tirelessly throughout the summer to prepare for the many wonderful learning opportunities that await our students.

The start of a new school year can be both exciting and a little intimidating. Parents always ask what their children need to have in order to be successful. The answer is very simple. Beyond the basics like a backpack, lunch, and indoor shoes, **the most important thing to give your children** is an endless supply of **FAITH**--- **faith** in your children's abilities to succeed and learn from their mistakes, **faith** in yourself as the parent who helped your children become who they are today, and **faith** in God and our school community as we work together for your children's spiritual, social, and academic development.

St. Joseph Catholic School enjoys a strong tradition of support and collaboration with our parish, our families, and our community. I look forward to getting to know all of our students and families throughout this year of learning and growing in faith.

Yours in Catholic Education,
Mrs. Jackie Gauthier
Principal

St. Joseph Catholic School Staff

Classroom Teachers

Mrs. S. Cassidy - Kindergarten
Mrs. R. Michell- Kindergarten
Ms. C. Pinto- Kindergarten
Mrs. D. Coates- Grade 1
Mrs. S. O'Connor- Grade 1/2
Ms. K. Demaiter- Grade 2
Mrs. A. McGillen- Grade 2
Ms. K. Carmichael- Grade 3
Mrs. C. Clarey- Grade 3
Mrs. A. Amos- Grade 4
Mr. J. Durkin- Grade 4
Mrs. S. Robinson- Grade 5
Mrs. J. Cousens- Grade 5/6
Ms. S. McKerral- Grade 6/7
Ms. M. Demaiter- Grade 7/8
Mrs. K. Naylor- Grade 7/8

Core French

Mme. R. Power Mme. M. Bunton
Monsieur J. Porporo

Itinerant Arts

Ms. H. Letwin Mr. J. Jones

Special Education Resource

Mrs. B. Fielding

Early Childhood Educators

Mrs. Baker Mrs. Conway
Mrs. Sharpe

Educational Assistants

Mrs. E. Cook Miss. J. Cook
Mrs. D. Decker Mrs. J. Murphy
Mrs. M. Law Mrs. T. Martin
Ms. R. Post

Lunch Monitors

Mrs. P. Anderson Mrs. A. Brady
Mrs. L. Forbes Mrs. T. Jackson
Mrs. S. Markuschewsky
Mrs. A. O'Boyle-Kelly
Mrs. L. Uddenberg
Mrs. H. Verbeek

Child and Youth Worker

Ms. Moncrief

Library Resource Assistant

Ms. James

Custodians

Mr. R. Watts Mr. R. Jackson

Secretary

Mrs. A. Auger

Assistant to the Director

Mrs. E. Walker

Pastor

Father Charles McDermot

School Council Chairs (18-19)

Mrs. A. Lake-Bentley
Mrs. W. Hummel

Trustees

Mr. J. Duggan Mr. T. Dall

Principal

Mrs. J. Gauthier

Safe Arrival Program

Parents/guardians are asked to call the school at **613-962-3653** whenever your child will be late or absent. A message may be left at any time on the answering machine. Please indicate your child's name, grade and teacher as well as your name. If no message is received, office staff will use the contact information provided to speak with the parent or guardian regarding the child's absence.



Signing In and Signing Out

A clipboard is in the office for parents/guardians to sign in their child when they arrive late and sign out when they pick up their child early. ***Please do not take your child off the schoolyard.*** Staff will call your child to the office to meet you.



Lunch Hour

Please notify the school in writing if your child will be walking home for lunch every day. All students are expected to stay at school throughout the lunch hour unless signed out by a parent/guardian.



Changes in After School Routine

Any changes in your child's regular bus or pick up routine should be relayed to the office at least a day in advance when possible. If last minute changes are required, please call the school before 1:00p.m. to ensure the message gets to your child. ***Please do not leave a message***

on the answering machine regarding changes in your child's end of day routine.



Student Information Form 2019-2020

Please review and update your child's Student Information Form.

We ask that this orange form be returned to the school by **Fri., September 13th**.



Working Together for School Safety

The safety of our students is a priority. In order to maintain a safe environment for our children, staff will address all unidentified adults. While no parent/guardian considers themselves a stranger to our school, many children will not know your identity and will point you out as a stranger.

Parents/guardians can help us keep all of our children safe by following these practices:

-Staff are on duty before and after school to meet the buses and supervise the yard. Please do not leave your child in the yard before supervision begins or take your child from the school yard during recesses.

-All parents/guardians, visitors, and non-school personnel are required to enter the school by the main doors and come directly to the main office to sign in. Office staff will happily assist you.

-Unauthorized parents/guardians and visitors are not permitted in the hallways or the schoolyard during school hours.

-Teachers will gladly meet with parents/guardians during set times. Conversations during class time or when teachers are on supervision prevent our staff from giving our students their full attention.

-Parents who drive their children to and from school can **park in the parking lot on Herchimer Street** and walk their child to the gate. There are many cars during drop off and pick up times. Please do not have your child run across the parking lot alone.



September Focus Virtue: FAITH

Our school community continues to affirm our Catholic identity through daily prayers, school Masses and liturgies, social justice outreach, and curriculum connections. The Catholic virtues, such as faith, love, and temperance, guide us as we strive to be disciples of Jesus in our daily lives.

The virtue of **faith** is a gift from God which enables us to see Him in all of His creations. Faith also gives us the power to follow God's will so that we may become the people He wants us to become.

"Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen" ~Hebrews 11:1



Anaphylaxis

We have several students in our school with life threatening allergies to nuts & peanuts. Eating or touching nuts, peanuts, & food containing nuts & peanuts can result in death in a matter of minutes.

As parents, we all understand the intense concern anaphylaxis can cause. As a school community we will work together to reduce the possibility of exposure to allergens at school. Please continue to pack snack and lunch items that **do not contain nuts, peanuts, or nut & peanut products**. Should your child inadvertently bring one of these items, he/she will be asked to leave it in his/her lunch box and an alternate snack will be offered.



Medication

It is important that the school is aware if your child has a severe medical condition. School staff may only administer medication to students with written authorization from the parent/guardian **and** the prescribing physician. Please contact the school to discuss your child's medical condition and to obtain the **Medical Information and Consent forms**. All medications must be clearly labelled.



Automated Messaging

St. Joseph Catholic School uses an automated notification service to communicate important messages to our families. We require updated phone information in order for this system to work to its full potential. Please inform us of which **phone number you would like to receive automated messages** by filling out your child(ren)'s orange Student Information Form.



Student Agendas

Agendas are excellent tools by which students in grades 1-8 develop their organizational skills. They also provide an avenue for ongoing communication between home and school. Important information, such as positive school climate & well-being, can be found at the front of our agenda.

Thanks to our Catholic School Council for purchasing our student agendas!



Appropriate Dress

Students are expected to be dressed in a modest and respectful manner that reflects our Catholic values and forms a mindset for learning. We ask parents/guardians to help us maintain our academic atmosphere by ensuring that your children respect our dress code when preparing for school:

- Chest, midriffs, and backs are covered.
- Undergarments, including bra straps, should not be exposed.
- Shorts, skirts, and dresses are to be of an appropriate fit and length for an academic setting.
- All clothing is free of violent, racist, and immoral pictures, symbols, brands, and messages.
- Unless it is a dedicated "Spirit Day", pajama bottoms and beachwear are not permitted.
- Indoor shoes and proper footwear for gym and the yard are needed for safety reasons.

Thank-you for your co-operation!



Mabel's Labels Fundraiser

Mabel's Labels are waterproof, durable labels for all of the stuff kids lose. There are so many things to label like clothing, lunch containers, school supplies, dance shoes & costumes, sporting equipment, water bottles and so much more! Our school will receive 20% of all orders. Visit www.campaigns.mabelslabels.com and click on St. Joseph Catholic School (Belleville).

Pay School Fees Online

Secure credit card payment
24/7 convenience
Easy registration
SchoolCashOnline

School Cash Online

We are excited to announce that we will continue to offer School Cash Online, which provides you with the convenience of paying online for school items such as trips, pizza, and spirit wear. School Cash Online is our school's preferred method of payment and is a great way to pay without the need for cash or cheques.

Please follow the link below to register online – it takes less than five minutes!

Once you have registered your child, you will be able to see when they have a new item posted online for purchase. You can also check your payment history to know if you have already paid for something. **To register, please visit: <https://alcdsb.schoolcashionline.com/>**



Electronic Devices

Phones and other personal electronic devices must be powered off and kept in backpacks during school hours. These items are not necessary for learning as classes are fitted with iPads and laptops. Students will have access to the school phone in the event of an emergency. Grade 7 & 8 teachers will let parents know when students are invited to use their phones as classroom tools.

St. Joseph Catholic School promotes healthy, active living. Phones, handheld electronic games, iPods, etc. are not permitted on the schoolyard or in classrooms during indoor recess. Failure to comply could result in the item being confiscated and parents having to come to the school to pick up the electronic device.



Monthly School Newsletters

Our monthly newsletters are the perfect way to read about what's happening around the school as well as to be informed of upcoming events. Starting in October, newsletters **will be emailed to families that sign up at <http://www.alcdsb.on.ca/School/jose/Pages/default.aspx>** Please let the office know if you would prefer to receive a paper copy of our school newsletter.

SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

WELCOME BACK STAFF AND STUDENTS 2019/2020!!

Our first School Council meeting is on **Tuesday, September 10, 2019 at 6:30pm**. As well as the election of officers, we will also chart our priorities for this school year. School Council is an excellent way of getting involved in your child's education and we welcome everyone to join us in this important role.

This year's "Meet and Greet" night will take the form of a community social and barbeque. This will take place on **Wednesday, September 25th from 5:30pm – 7pm**.

Please watch our Facebook page and twitter for upcoming events and reminders during the school year.



Bus Safety

To maintain a high standard of safety for our students while travelling on the school bus, we ask that parents be aware of the rules of conduct for our students. 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.

Changes to busing are the parents' responsibility. Parents must complete a Tri-Board transportation application to make changes. More information about busing can be found at www.triboard.on.ca



Safety Drills

Over the next few weeks, classes will be practicing fire drills and lockdown drills. These drills will be conducted in a positive manner as staff are well trained to include only **necessary and age appropriate information**.



ECOSCHOOL News

St. Joseph CS is proud to be a gold certified EcoSchool! For ten years The Eco Team has striven to make environmental awareness and action a part of the life and the culture of St. Joseph CS and our school community. We continue to work to extend learning beyond the classroom and develop responsible stewardship attitudes and commitments at home and in the wider community. Our students are active and motivated to take positive actions to protect their world and are learning more through hands on activities and project based learning. EcoSchools work to decrease waste of resources, conserve energy, protect and develop green spaces, support school curriculum and develop teamwork and leadership.

While we have had great success in the past, we could be doing so much more. **Help us become an even better EcoSchool by reducing plastic use by eliminating Lunchables, plastic straws and single use drink bottles.** Please bring recyclable lunch containers and re-usable water bottles. We need your help through your daily actions and habits to be a great EcoSchool!



Volunteer Opportunities

St. Joseph Catholic School welcomes volunteers as their work and dedication enriches our whole community. Volunteers can read with students, help with hot lunches, help supervise field trips, as well as a host of other activities. **All volunteers must have a valid police check (Vulnerable Sector Police Record Check)** completed and presented to the school in its original format. Please see the attached Parent Volunteer Opportunities form.



Terry Fox Run

We believe in putting our faith into action at St. Joseph Catholic School! Our students and staff will be proudly participating in the Terry Fox Run at the end of September. More information to follow!

“Self-Regulation refers to how well we manage stress, how much energy we expend, and how well we recover.

The greatest of all the benefits of Self-Regulation is that it enables you and your child to not just endure the challenges you face, but to absolutely thrive on them.”

~Dr. Stuart Shanker

KEEP KIDS WARM

Do you need some help fitting your child with winter clothes?
Not sure where to turn?

KEEP KIDS WARM program supports working families
and those in need of assistance.

REGISTRATION

Wednesday, September 11 - Friday, September 27, 2019
10:00 am to 4:00 pm, Monday - Friday
and every Thursday 12th, 19th, 26th 10am-6pm

Registration will be held at the
Children's Safety village behind the Police Station,
John Street entrance

Bring proper ID for custodial parent or guardian and child.



Quinte Broadcasting
COMPANY LIMITED

ADOPT-A-CHILD HOTLINE
613-966-0882, ext. 4100



keepkidswarm.ca



School Mass

Parents/guardians are welcome to join us in our first school mass on **Wednesday, September 25th at 10:00 a.m.** at St. Joseph's Church on Victoria Avenue.



School Spirit Day

Students and staff are invited to show their school spirit by wearing blue & orange or their spirit wear on **Wednesday, September 25th.**



Catholic School Council

St. Joseph Catholic School is blessed to have a very active school council. Our school council plays an important role in our community as they work closely with staff to support the faith, social, and community building aspects of our children's school life. All parents/guardians are invited to the meetings and are encouraged to become involved.

Our first Catholic School Council meeting will be held on **Tuesday, September 10th at 6:30 p.m.** Elections for executive positions on our Catholic School Council will be held at this meeting. Please use the Parent Volunteer Opportunities form to let us know if you are interested in sitting on the St. Joseph Catholic School Council for the 2019-2020 school year.



St. Joseph Catholic School Open House

Our "Open House" will take place on **Wednesday, Sept. 25th from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.** Families are invited to meet the staff & visit classrooms from 5:30 to 6:00 p.m., and then enjoy the Bar-B-Q sponsored by our St. Joseph Catholic School Council from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.! All monies raised from the Bar-B-Q will be donated to the Terry Fox Foundation.

We hope to see you there!



Picture Day

Students from Kindergarten to grade 8 will have their individual and class pictures taken on **Thursday, September 26th.** Retakes for individual students will be held on **Tuesday, October 29th.**



PA Day

Friday, September 27th is a professional activity day for all schools. Staff will be involved in professional development and school improvement planning. Students do not have classes on this day.



Pizza and Milk Programs

Families will be able to buy a daily carton of white or chocolate milk as well as pre-order pizza slices that will be delivered on Tuesdays. Milk can be purchased for \$0.75/carton and pizza from Papa John's can be purchased for \$2.50/slice. All information regarding ordering will be on your child's School Cash Online account once you have registered and once the office has posted it. Information on how to register for School Cash Online can be found on page 4 of this newsletter.

Please note the following ordering deadlines:

September 12th at midnight for students who would like to order milk from September 16 to 30.

September 19th at midnight for students who would like to order pizza for the month of October.

September 25th at midnight for students who would like to order milk for the month of October.

SEPTEMBER 2019

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
1	2 Labour Day	3 Welcome Back to School!	4	5	6	7
8 <i>Feast of the Nativity of the blessed Virgin Mary</i>	9 Breakfast Club begins	10 Parent Council Meeting 6:30 p.m.	11	12 Last day to order milk for Sept. 16-30	13 Please return your child's orange Student Information Form	14
15	16	17	18	19 Last day to order pizza for October	20	21 International Day of Peace
22	23 Hep B shots for gr. 7 students	24 Intermediate Golf Team Tournament	25 School Mass at St. Joseph's Church 10 a.m. Spirit wear/ School Colours Day Open House & Terry Fox BBQ 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. Last day to order milk for October	26 Picture Day	27 PA Day	28
29 <i>Feast of the Archangels- Raphael, Michael, & Gabriel</i>	30					

PARENT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Parent volunteers play a large role at St. Joseph Catholic School. Every parent has a special talent or ability that could enhance the learning experience for all students at the school. Please consider helping out in some way this school year. Below are examples of areas in the school that volunteers can offer their time. If any of these areas say "That's me!!!" please put an "X" beside it and return it to the school office.

- Helping individual students or a small group with reading
- Helping individual students or a small group with math
- Helping in a classroom on a regular basis
- Helping in the Learning Commons (library)
- Helping with the Book Fair (dates to be announced)
- Be a parent volunteer on school field trips
- Helping with the Breakfast Club (8:30 to 9:30 a.m.)
- Help organize a games club at lunch recess (chess, cards, etc.)
- Parent Council Executive (Circle which role you are interested in):

- Chair
- Vice Chair
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Parish Rep.

- Attend parent council meetings (meetings are once a month in the evening)
- Assist with the Meet the Staff BBQ on Wednesday, September 25th
- Help with a school fundraiser
- Help with our Shrove Tuesday pancake breakfast

- I am available (please "X" all that apply)
- before school starts
 - during the school day
 - lunch recess
 - after school
 - evenings



Parent Name: _____

Child(ren)'s Name(s) _____

Child(ren)'s Teacher(s) _____

Phone number: _____

Email: _____

If you have any other volunteer ideas or questions/comments, please indicate below:
