



St. Martin Of Tours Catholic School

Newsletter

September 19, 2017

Superintendent of School Effectiveness: Ms. Theresa Kennedy
Principal: Mrs. Patricia Flagler-Edwards
Vice Principal: Mr. Stephen Tod
Custodian: Mr. Adam Wannamaker
Administrative Assistant: Ms. Rhonda McLean

Trustee: Mr. Brian Kerby
School Council Chair: Mrs. Kelli Nicholas
Pastor: Father Malachy
School Phone: 613-637-2720
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MEET THE NEW VICE PRINCIPAL - STEPHEN TOD

It is with great enthusiasm that I write this introduction to our second newsletter of the year. I am honoured to be joining the school community for a unique setup that will be rewarding for every student in the building. While renovations are not quite complete, it is wonderful to see every member of staff and student involved in creating a school community that promotes education and enthusiasm. I look forward to all the challenges and rewards that come with the position to support students in their academic, emotional and spiritual growth.

Prior to joining St. Martin of Tours, I spent almost a decade working and living in Moosonee, Ontario, holding the positions of Classroom Teacher, Department Head and District e-Learning Coordinator. Within the community, I was often seen coaching, playing and refereeing hockey and soccer while active in my faith community at Christ the King Cathedral as a parish member and lector.

I look forward to meeting everyone, and if you are coming by the school, please feel free to say "Hi" as my door is always open. If there is anything I can assist you with, please do not hesitate to call the school.

In Education,

Stephen Tod
Vice Principal, St. Martin of Tours Catholic School



Attending the 100th Anniversary of the battle of Vimy Ridge, April 2017



Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board
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NEWSLETTER: We will be producing a newsletter every second Tuesday beginning September 19th. We will keep you updated on any upcoming or new items that are time sensitive. Please notify Rhonda if you would prefer to receive your newsletter via email.

PLEASE NOTE: There is NO STAFF SUPERVISION available on the yard before 8:30 a.m. (when the first bus arrives at the school). Therefore, we ask that if parents are driving their children to school that they do not drop them off before 8:30 a.m.

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR PARENTS REGARDING STUDENT ABSENCES

It is important that you notify the school in the morning if your child is going to be absent. Your child's safe arrival at school is verified by Ms. McLean by 9:00 a.m., so if you inform her between 8:30 a.m. and 9:00a.m., this will assist us in implementing the most efficient process of confirmation of student safe arrival or absence. Ms. McLean will promptly notify the teachers of absences so that schedules can be adjusted accordingly. Ms. McLean will not be accepting these notifications via her personal phone. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Please note that we are also required to report all student absences (e.g. an illness, parental permission, bereavement, medical appointment, etc.). Parents are required to call the school and/or write a note to the school explaining the reason for the absence or lateness of your child. You need not reveal any personal facts, just the general reason for the absence.

LATE ARRIVALS: By making sure that your child arrives on time for school, you are helping your child to achieve his/her personal academic best. Parents should encourage arriving at school on time. If your child arrives late, the class may already be well into instruction.

All classes begin at 8:45 a.m., so if your child arrives at 9:00 or 9:10 a.m., precious minutes of learning may have been lost! In our Grades K to 8 classrooms, Reading and Writing instruction begins at 8:45 a.m.; the children have often completed a task and are sharing or moving to a second task within the first 15 to 20 minutes. Research shows that frequent lateness often leads to a negative attitude toward school. Once a child sees that school is not important enough to be on time for, he/she may also decide that things associated with school are also unimportant (i.e., good grades, homework, relationships with friends, attendance).

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PARENTS: It is imperative that you inform the school immediately whenever a change occurs in your family information (e.g., change of address, telephone number, busing information, sitter information, etc.). Also, if applicable, the school must receive copies of legal documents. **The school can only enforce child custody orders by following written court directives.**

VISITS TO THE SCHOOL

Visitors are always welcome to our school, but in light of the times in which we live, it is vital that we continue to ensure the safety of all persons in the building. Therefore, please be aware that the following safety procedures need to be adhered to:

ENTERING SCHOOL PREMISES:

For obvious safety reasons, we must know who is in the building at all times. Therefore, **ALL PARENTS AND VISITORS MUST SIGN IN IMMEDIATELY UPON ENTRY TO THE SCHOOL (NO MATTER HOW WELL KNOWN YOU ARE TO SCHOOL STAFF) AND IDENTIFY YOURSELF TO THE OFFICE.** If you need to proceed past the office into the school community (i.e. visit a classroom, attend appointments with staff, prepare a hot lunch, etc.), please pick up a visitor's pass at the office. The pass is a clear indication to staff that you have signed in and identified your presence to the office.



NUTRITIONAL SNACKS: Positive self-esteem and body image, healthy eating and physical activity are fundamental to healthy growth and development for your children as they grow. Children need snacks between meals to ensure that they consume adequate intake of food groups. They have high food needs due to their growth and activity demands. **Nutritional snack examples include fruit, vegetables and yogurt dip, oatmeal cookies and milk, crackers and cheese.** Please do not send pop, sugar-based products and/or candy as snack items with your children. Many studies have been completed on the correlation between nutrition and academic performance. All conclude a child's academic performance is directly affected if his/her nutritional needs are not met. Learning sound nutritional habits are not merely an academic exercise. Help us put what your child learns into practice!

MEDICATION PROTOCOL: All medication (including puffers) to be taken by students during the school day must be kept in the office and administered under the supervision of an adult (usually the principal or secretary). **At the beginning of each school year,** parents must fill out an "Administration of Medication" consent form which indicates the reason for the medication, name of drug, routine of administration, and parent's authorization for designated staff to supervise or administer medication. All medication is carefully labelled and a log of all administered doses is kept in the office. **Medication cannot be administered until forms are completed.**

STUDENT HEALTH CONSIDERATIONS: Parents/guardians should inform the school immediately of any health issues that we should be aware of (e.g., severe allergies, asthma, diabetes, epilepsy, physical limitations, etc.).

PEDICULOSIS (HEAD LICE) CONTROL: Our volunteers conducted a pediculosis check last week and there were no cases of pediculosis found.

MILK & JUICE SALES: White and chocolate milk is now available on a daily basis. Milk will be 75 cents each. Milk cards can be purchased weekly at a cost of \$3.75 or bi-weekly at a cost of \$7.50. The cards have no expiry date. We have found that this is the best way to handle milk sales, as the cards eliminate cash handling during the busy noon hour.

HOT LUNCHESES: We welcome anyone else who would like to provide a "warm-up" lunch day for the children to please contact the school. We would, again, welcome any parent/guardian who would like to offer their time to prepare and/or co-ordinate hot lunches. **Please know that it is your responsibility to provide your child with utensils, napkins, etc., for their lunch. We will not be providing plastic utensils or napkins in the lunchroom.**

On Tuesday, October 3, 2017 we will be having a FREE pizza lunch and dessert for each student. This lunch is being paid for by Kerri Burley. Thank you Kerri!! An order form will be sent home soon.

UPCOMING EVENTS:



This year's run will be held at the school on **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28th**. Pledge forms were sent home and are due back with the money on Tuesday, September 26th.

PA DAY: Please be reminded that Friday, September 29th is a P.A. Day. There is no school for students.



FUNDRAISER: Little Caesar's Fundraiser Order Forms went home with students last week. Order forms and money are due back to the office on Tuesday, October 10th. Thanks to everyone who is working towards raising money for our students and their activities throughout the year. Without your support, and that of friends, family and

community, we would not be able to provide the extras that provide for a richer learning environment and experience.

STUDENT PICTURE DAY: Our student photos will be taken on TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24th.

SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS

We are looking for parents to join our School Council for the 2017-2018 school year. The first meeting was held yesterday afternoon and School Council Elections were held at the meeting. The school community would like to welcome this year's School Council Executives:

School Council Chair & Treasurer - Kelli Nicholas

Secretary - Patricia Raisanen

Thank you to all of the committee members who attended this meeting. Parent involvement is vital to establishing a strong school community. We plan to do our usual fundraisers, chocolate bars and 50/50 tickets prior to Christmas. Please monitor the newsletter and/or school website for the next meeting date and consider attending.

INDOOR SHOES



A reminder, that all students must have indoor shoes at school to put on when they come in from the yard. Outdoor shoes/boots are taken off when they enter the school. If there is a fire drill or an emergency situation that requires students to evacuate, there is not time for students to put on their shoes before exiting the school.



The Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic Education Foundation (ALCEF) is a registered charity that raises funds and provides financial support to assist families within our schools during times of crisis or poverty.

This assistance may include the provision of eye glasses, medical supplies, accommodations, food, clothing, or transportation.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.alcddb.on.ca/Board/Pages/Foundation.aspx>