

October Celtic Update

St. Patrick's School,
Caledonia

A message from the school...

It is hard to believe that September is already over. We continue to be very busy at St. Patrick's as we establish our routines and complete our educational plans for this school year. Thank you for your support during this busy time and for helping your students to adjust to being back in school. We continue to reinforce social distancing and hand hygiene at school. As well, we continue to remind our students about showing respect to others and the guidelines that we all have to follow to keep us healthy and safe.

As we move into month two, our staff continues getting to know the children and learners we have with us each day. We are learning about their strengths and needs. Keep asking your children about their day and learning in school.

This month we have the opportunity to focus on gratitude as we celebrate Thanksgiving. Here at St. Patrick's school we are grateful for our school family and for the opportunity to be back together- learning and growing. As Thanksgiving approaches, please know how thankful we are for you, our families and for choosing us as educators for your children.

Let us pray to God, the source of everything that is good, in a spirit of genuine gratitude. *Gracious God, you sustain our living in every way, from the air we breathe and the food we eat; to the beauty and wonder of all of Creation; to the life-giving relationships we have with each other. May we express our thanks for all of these blessings through our willingness to serve and share with each other.*

Amen.

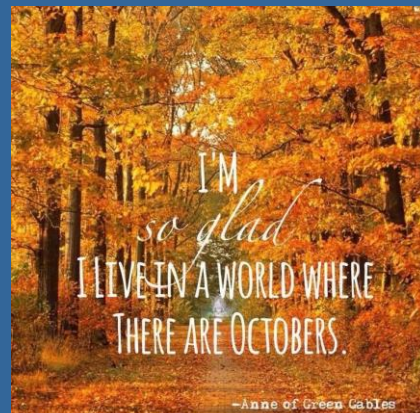
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CATHOLIC EDUCATION:
**REBUILD
RESTORE
RENEW
TOGETHER**



God of Grace,
Help us to rediscover how to be side
by side
in rebuilding our communities of
faith and learning.
Help us restore harmony and
balance in our relationships,
and renew our desire to approach
challenges confidently and with
peaceful hearts.
May we always rejoice in recognizing
the blessings our lives hold.

Amen.



Congratulations!

To our Catholic Character Award winners for the month of September- these students demonstrated exemplary 'Goal Setting' skills! For the month of October we are working on demonstrating 'Compassion'.

To our Shoutout winners who were awarded Shoutouts when they made great choices, used kind words and/or actions and are living out our gospel values.

To our current grade 3's who celebrated the sacrament of First Communion and First Reconciliation at various times this month.

Coming Soon- Hot Lunches

Watch school cash online for pizza and sub days starting in November. Orders must be placed on school cash and late orders will not be accepted.

Parents must screen each child daily before sending them to school using the online screening tool at:

<https://covid-19.ontario.ca/self-assessment>

If the screen advises against sending your child to school, please adhere. Also, please read and follow the next steps section on the lower half of the 'do not go to school' screen.



A few reminders...

- Board policy states that no parents or visitors are allowed on school property (unless an appointment has been made that can't be handled on the phone or virtually). Thank you to our parents dropping off who are saying good bye at the property edge- you are making it much easier for your children and us to follow protocols.
- Kindergarten parents- we need to keep working on the 'kiss and go' process in the morning. We understand that the first month is hard but as we move into October let's work towards dropping and leaving with our staff. We have many parents hanging around in the morning which is considered 'congregating'. Also, we have other students who need to pass through the courtyard area to get to the school yard and the path for them needs to be cleared. Thank you for helping us with this so that we can continue to have kindergarten parents on the school yard.
- Please do not park in the bus loading zone before/after school. In the morning we have two busses that are still arriving after the morning bell.
- We continue to reinforce no students or parents on the hill between the parking lot and the school. The hill is dangerous and we do not want anybody to get hurt. Please use the stairs or walk around to the path. Parents picking up- please do not allow your children to play on the hill.
- Parents/grandparents/aunts/uncles who are picking up children from the Nairn Street side of our school- please do not park along Nairn Street as it is extremely dangerous with cars coming up the hill. Also know that we will not be allowing students to run across Nairn Street to meet an adult on the other side- please cross and wait with other adults on the sidewalk.
- Check your child's Brightspace page daily for announcements and communication from the classroom (remember we do not have agendas this year)

Back by popular demand...

St. Patrick's School Spirit Wear!

Are your kids growing? Are you new to our community?

We have spirit wear again!

Watch our website and classroom Brightspace announcements for further information after Thanksgiving.



School Hours

Start of Day 8:45 a.m.

First Nutrition Break 10:25- 11:10 a.m.

Second Nutrition Break 12:50- 1:35 p.m.

Dismissal 3:15 p.m.

Supervision begins at 8:30 a.m.

*Please avoid late arrivals as it is disruptive to the class and your child's learning. **All late arrivals must check in at the office for attendance purposes.***

Thinking about getting involved?
Join our S.A.C.!
Our first virtual meeting is Oct. 7 at
6:45 p.m.! Let the office know if you
are interested in being on our council
this year.

Please remember that we are a peanut/nut free school.

That means there should be NO tree nuts & peanuts in the ingredients. The item should also be made in a TREE NUT & PEANUT FREE FACILITY. The label can NOT say "May Contain Nuts" or made on equipment that also processes nuts, or anything similar. Peanut butter substitutes (e.g. Wow Butter) are not allowed either.

We have a number of students in the school with life threatening allergies to food products. As a result, no sharing of food will be permitted. Please refrain from sending in treats to share with the class (e.g. birthday treats) as these will be packed up and sent back home. It is our responsibility to keep everybody safe and we appreciate your support with this.

Lots of questions about Halloween at school this year... While we have yet to finalize plans, we will be celebrating Halloween in some way. We will not be able to mix cohorts (classes) and must ensure physical distancing and mask wearing regardless of it being Halloween. Costumes must follow our values and have no blood or gore and costume mask are not permitted.

More info to come!



Due to COVID restrictions we are unable to allow anything from home to be brought into the school to share with classes (e.g. pencils, stickers etc.) for special events/days. If something is sent, we will keep it safe and pack it up to take back home. Thank you for adhering to this and helping us to help everybody stay healthy.

This is our yearly fall reminder to regularly check your children for head lice. Students who are found to have head lice or nits will be excluded from school until treatment has been completed and they are deemed to be free of all head lice and/or nits. After treatment, parents will bring their child to school and remain while the student is examined by a trained person prior to beginning school again.

Dress for the Weather

Please ensure your children dress appropriately for the weather....we are beginning to experience a wide variety of temperatures and conditions as fall is upon us. Classes continue to spend as much time outdoors as possible so dressing for the changing temperatures across the day is important. Also know that our field gets muddy- proper footwear and a change of clothes is always a good idea.

Transportation Delays/ Cancellations, are you getting notified?

Did you know that there are ways to see if your child(ren)'s bus is running behind schedule or has been cancelled?

The ways that you can be notified of an interruption include:

- 1) downloading the bus delays app from either the Google Play or Apple store; detailed instructions on setting up the app is available by visiting <http://www.stsbhn.ca/faqs> and clicking on the last FAQ labelled "Delays and Cancellation App".
- 2) register to receive email notifications. To register simply visit <https://transinfobhn.ca/Login> and create an account. After your account has been created, connect your child(ren)'s bus service to your email address by logging in and clicking the "Add Student" button. Detailed instructions on setting up your account is also available by visiting <http://www.stsbhn.ca/faqs> and clicking on the FAQ labelled "having trouble logging into the Parent/Student portal". For parents who look up bus information before the start of school, you have already completed this option!
- 3) visit <https://transinfobhn.ca/Alerts> daily to see if your bus is running behind schedule or has been cancelled.

If you are having trouble with any of these methods, please reach out to the transportation office by emailing transportation@stsbhn.ca or by calling 519-751-7532.