

September Celtic Update

St. Patrick's School,
Caledonia

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.

A message from the school...

The staff of St. Patrick's school was so happy to welcome everybody back to school this week. We are a growing and vibrant community with many exciting things to celebrate and our time away made it even sweeter to be back together again. To our returning friends- we look forward to continuing our Catholic Education journey with you. To our new friends- we are so excited to meet you and for you to experience our fantastic St. Patrick's community.

As you all know the current pandemic is making for unprecedented times and has led to significant changes in the way we do things. I am pleased to say that all of our students have been working very hard to remember and become accustomed to our routines and protocols. Things like entering and exiting the school and hand washing will take up an extra amount of time but we know that these are important routines to establish and maintain for the health of everybody. We keep reinforcing with our students that these precautions are 'for now and not forever' and we thank you for helping us to reinforce this at home.

We cannot promise that everything will run smoothly along the way but we will do our best! We will teach perseverance, determination, resiliency, and commitment in the face of any challenges that arise along our journey. We couldn't have made it here or continue along this journey without you. Thank you for your continued showing of patience and ongoing support. It does take a true partnership between home, school, and parish to build our children into the fine people that they become, ready to take on the future.

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on Twitter for important

St. Patrick's Staff

Secretary

Mrs. McCurdy

Kindergarten

Mrs. Fitzhenry, Miss Boersema

Kindergarten

Mrs. DeSantis, Mr. Morin

Grade 1

Mrs. Goulding

Grade ½

Miss Verkuyl

Grade 2/3

Mr. Morabito

Grade 3

Mrs. Lichty

Grade 4

Mr. Haddow

Grade 5

Miss Krawesky

Grade 6

Miss Santilli

Grade 7/8

Mr. Clannon

Grade 7/ 8

Miss Stanisa

SERTs

Ms. Szalay, Mrs. Skrzypek

Educational Assistants

Mrs. Czepek, Ms. Robinson, Mrs. Petrucelli, Ms. Woods, Mrs. Brow, Ms. Galway

French

Madam May and Madam Sciuolo

Custodians

Mr. Westhaver, Ms. Anderson

Lunch Monitor

Ms. Fenech

Primary Prep

Mr. Stephen

Librarian

Christine Gohn

STEM Teacher

Mrs. Mosher

Principal

Mrs. Becks

PLEASE ASSESS YOUR CHILD DAILY for SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19. We are expecting families to complete a self-assessment DAILY before sending your child(ren) to school. Please complete for each of your children.

SELF-ASSESSMENT can be located online at: <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/self-assessment>

Common symptoms include: fever, new or worsening cough, shortness of breath, sore throat or difficulty swallowing, altered smell or taste, nausea/vomiting, diarrhea/ abdominal pain, running nose, nasal congestion (unrelated to allergies). If your child has new or worsening or unexplained symptoms related to COVID-19:

- Do not enter the school (any household member)
- Seek assessment and testing ASAP
- Self-Isolate while waiting results
- If results are negative— self-isolate for 24 hours after symptoms resolve.
- If results are positive, or test is not completed, self-isolate for 14 days from 48 hours before symptom onset and contact health unit & school
- If your child has an underlining condition— please share this info with the school

NEW! CHECK EMAIL DAILY BY 6PM— any info about a cohort (school, bus, etc.) needing to isolate will be emailed to you.

HOME-SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

Again this year, our school will not be using agendas. Every child will have their own Brightspace account where daily updates and teacher messages will be posted. This is the same online tool that we used during our period of remote learning last year. If you have to communicate with the classroom staff, please use email (which can be accessed from the Brightspace page).

Please check Brightspace each day just as you would have checked an agenda.

All parents/visitors/volunteers must make an appointment as there are new requirements related to COVID self-assessments and vaccination status for visitors and volunteers this year.

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.- no earlier**

Please avoid late arrivals as it is disruptive to the class and your child's learning.



Orange Shirt Day
September 30- further information to come!

STUDENT VERIFICATION FORMS have been sent home. This is the standard form that goes home each year. We realize that family information and circumstances may have changed over the summer. Please review the forms carefully and make any corrections directly on the form. Your family email address is absolutely necessary as a great deal of important communication will come from the school and school board to that email address. Please double check it to make sure there are no errors. Please review, sign and return this form to the school as soon as possible.

Meet the Staff

Unfortunately, like last year, we cannot hold our regular "Meet the Staff" evening which would give you an opportunity to meet the staff. In lieu of this, on September 21, at 6:00 p.m., staff will be posting short videos to their Brightspace pages which will allow you to put a face to names and see some of the routines that are in place for your child(ren). This will also give you a little glimpse into our learning environments! We invite your family to sit down together and 'meet the staff' virtually.

School Advisory Council

Please watch for information coming soon about how to get involved in our S.A.C. 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. Policy also prohibits peanut butter substitutes.

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.

Transportation Delays/ Cancellations, are you getting notified?

Did you know that there are a number of 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.

AGAIN THIS YEAR

School Cash Online will be used for form completion requirements this year. Please make sure you have registered for School Cash Online as soon as possible in order to be able to access and complete a number of forms that are required. For help with School Cash Online please call the office.

A few reminders...

- School starts at 8:45 a.m. and with our new entry protocols in place late arrivals make it very difficult for office and teaching staff. Please ensure to have your children to school by 8:45 a.m.
- 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 have been granted permission to go as far as the courtyard to drop their children. Please ensure you are wearing a mask when you do so. Parents of our Cypres Childcare students have been asked to wear a mask in case of close contact with students so we owe them the same respect. As well, it is the school's responsibility to make sure we don't have large groups 'congregating' on property. Moms and dads of our kindergarteners- please look at the courtyard as a 'kiss and go' area. Get them safely to their area, wish them well for their day and then go about your day. The longer parents hang around the kindergarten courtyard the harder it is for other parents to drop off and we then begin to get 'congregation' which we need to avoid. Thank you for your attention and help with this.
- 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.
- If your child forgot something at home, we have a contactless delivery system available. Simply come to the main door and buzz. Staff will be sure to get the items to your child.
- Please remind your children to bring a refillable water bottle to school every day. We do not have drinking fountains but do have bottle refill stations. If students do not have a bottle they are unable to get a drink of water during the day.
- If you have to change the way your child is getting home during the day, please be sure to notify the school well in advance of the 3:15 dismissal time. Our school is very busy at the end of the day so we appreciate as much notice as possible to make it easier to get the message to your children.
- Take a few minutes tonight to ask your children if they had enough snacks for their day...we have some hungry and growing friends who seem to be looking for more snacks at nutrition break!

Again, thanks for your continued support and partnership as we work together to return to school with gratitude and hope!