Parent Newsletter

September 2012

Northeastern Catholic District School Board

Providing Catholic Education to all of our learners, in a safe, nurturing, equitable and inclusive environment that prepares them for life.

NCDSB Nuggets

- Congratulations to all students who participated in Provincial Assessments during the Spring of 2012. We are very proud of your accomplishments.
- Please complete and return your child's STUDENT INFORMATION FORM as promptly as possible. This helps us ensure that we have the correct personal and emergency contact information for your child.
- Stay current with all NCDSB stories by visiting our website: www.ncdsb.on.ca

Dear Families,

We are thrilled to welcome you and your family back to our Catholic District School Board for the 2012-2013 school year. We remain committed to working in partnership with you to ensure that your child has various opportunities to develop academically, spiritually, and socially.

As part of our system priorities, we are focusing on our communication strategies with our stakeholders. We believe that it is important for you to have current information about our Catholic District School Board to support your child's learning. We encourage you to form strong partnerships with your school community and be as active as possible with your child's progress and learning. Let us continue to work together and support each other to maximize your child's success!



We wish all of our students and their families a successful school year with the NCDSB.

Professional Activity Days 2012-2013

Please take note of the scheduled Professional Activity Days for the year. A reminder that students do not attend school on these days!

Monday, September 10, 2012

Monday, November 12, 2012

Friday, February 1, 2013

Monday, April 15, 2012

Monday, June 10, 2013

SCHOOL LIBRARIES

Over the course of the 2012-2013 school year, we are redefining our school libraries and making some modifications to the learning space. Our intention is to ensure that our students have access to high quality materials and technology to support student learning in the 21st century. We welcome the feedback of our parents through your Catholic School Council. We expect that our collaborative efforts will have a positive impact on all of our students.

Northeastern Catholic District School Board
SERVING THE COCHRANE AND TIMISKAMING DISTRICTS OF ONTARIO

Providing Catholic Education to all of our learners, in a safe nurturing, equitable and inclusive environment that prepares them for life.

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Glenn Sheculski
Director of Education

Richard Brassard
Chair of the Board

NCDSB System Priorities 2012-2013

IDENTIFYING & RESPONDING TO STUDENT LEARNING NEEDS

During this time of instructional accountability our planning, assessment, and monitoring must be deeply connected to the needs of students. Our instructional design must be based on current student achievement data and ensure that teaching practices lead to continuous student learning and improvement.

ACTIVELY PREPARING STUDENTS FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

Our students require the skills and abilities to be active and contributing members of our global community. Our students must master the skills of problem solving, critical thinking, communicating their ideas, understanding media, working with various technologies, and collaborating in teams to achieve maximum results. Our instructional design must engage our students in relevant, authentic tasks that help them develop and refine these required competencies to ensure future success.

NCDSB Virtues Program

The NCDSB is very proud of the monthly virtue program which is in its third year of implementation. Our students are engaged in various learning opportunities and activities designed to help all students develop the habits and practices of a virtuous person. A virtue is described as a habitual and firm disposition to do good. It allows the person not only to perform good acts, but to give the best of themselves. The Monthly Catholic Virtues for the 2012-2012 are listed below.

September:	Faith
October:	Gratitude
November:	Prudence (Wisdom)
December:	Charity
January:	Fortitude (Courage)
February:	Temperance (Self-Control)
March:	Forgiveness
April:	Justice
May:	Humility
June:	Hope



Theme for Catholic Education Week 2013
Growing Together in Faith.

Understanding Combined Grades

At the start of every school year, many parents express their concern about their child's enrolment in a combined grade setting. It is important that parents understand that combined grades are neither better nor worse than single-grade classes. Every classroom, regardless of its grade composition, includes students with a range of skills, needs, and abilities. There is a lot of research and information available to you to help you gain greater insight into the combined grade classroom. We encourage you to visit the Ministry of Education website listed below to access an excellent parent resource entitled *An Introduction to Combined Grades*. Please take the time to locate this resource online. You are encouraged to speak with your school principal, should you have any further questions or concerns.

http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/combinedClassrooms/index.html