

# St. Pat's Pulse

Volume 7,  
Issue 1

September 5th,  
2012



## *Upcoming St. Patrick School Events:*

### Sept. 10

-Professional Activity Day (No school for students!)

-Agenda planners to arrive this week

### Sept. 13

1st Annual Back to School Spaghetti Supper & Information night. 5-7pm

### Sept. 18

Fall picture day—bring your smile

### Sept. 20

School council nominations due today

### Sept. 27

Terry Fox Walk

### Sept. 28

I.P.R.C. meetings today

Bake Sale @ lunch

### Oct. 23

Catholic School Council Meeting @ 6pm

### Schedule for 2012/2013

8:00—Office open

8:20—School yard open for students

8:40—Warning bell

8:45—School starts

10:05-10:20—Recess

11:20-11:55—Lunch recess

11:55-12:15—Lunch

1:40—1:55—Recess

3:15—Dismissal

4:00—Office closes



## From the Principal's Desk

### Welcome Back!

I am very excited and thrilled to be the principal of St. Patrick School. I look forward to working with you and your children over this upcoming school year. This year we will be focusing on educating "hearts and minds" through faith-based education with numerous opportunities for your children to grow academically, socially and emotionally.

We have numerous wonderful opportunities awaiting the children of St. Patrick School. Teachers have been busy preparing their classrooms and programs over the past few weeks. We are just putting the finishing touches on our School Improvement Plan (SIP) which will be shared with all stakeholders by the end of September. I am thrilled to offer you a sneak peak at our major goal this year, which is **READ TO SUCCEED: STRIVING FOR 100%.**

By the end of the school year, we hope to have 100% of our students reading at their grade level. Many of

our activities this year will focus on reading with the hopes of increasing comprehension, accuracy, fluency and expanding vocabulary. In order to achieve this very ambitious goal, we will need your help! We ask that each family commit to having their children read each night. You may need to start out by reading for a few minutes and gradually increase this time each night in order to build stamina. Read as a family, read to each other, read by yourself or even read to a pet. The standard homework for each of our students is to: READ, READ, READ! As a staff, we believe that success in reading will lead to success in every other academic and non-academic area for students. Each month, you can expect to hear from myself and your child's teacher in order to help your child with reading.

### Agenda Planners

There was a printing error which will result in our agenda planners not arriving until next week. In order to keep the lines of communication open between school and home, I

would encourage you to purchase an agenda. They are available at the cost of \$8.00.

### Teaching Staff:

Isabelle Boulet, Lynne de-Montigny, Debby Oldaker, Christine Bergeron, Pierre Dube, Kelly Piche, Angelina Tremblay, John Casonato, Joelle Casonato, Guy Les-sard, Peggy Sirosky

### Support Staff:

#### Educational Assistants:

Susan Blanchard, Doriana Smokowich, Kevin Stewart,

#### Child and Youth Worker:

Nadine Trottier

#### Secretary: Paulette Clinton

Custodial Staff: Barry Shadd, Joanne Millette (covering for Cindy Guenette)

### School Board:

Director: Glenn Sheculski, Superintendent: Tricia Weltz, (1-877-422-9322)

If there is anything that I can do for you or your family this year, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I am looking forward to a wonderful year.

705-335-3241

gmorgan@ncdsb.on.ca

Yours in Education,

Mrs. Gretchen Morgan

# Weekly Communication Folders



We will once again be using the weekly communication folder system so that critical information and newsletters make it home. Each Wednesday, your child's teacher will send home information from the office, permission forms, newsletters, community flyers, tests to sign, completed work, etc.

The total number of items each week will be indicated on a coloured piece of paper (communication tracker). Simply complete your part of the tracker, sign items which need to be returned to school, remove all other items and send communication folders back to school on Thursday morning. As the year

progresses, we hope to decrease the amount of paper sent home; we are planning to have information available on our school website. It can be accessed by going to [www.ncdsb.on.ca](http://www.ncdsb.on.ca) – click on “our Catholic Schools”, then “St. Patrick – Kapuskasing”. Be sure to check your child's bag each Wednesday.

## School safety reminders and volunteers



Your child's safety is our # 1 priority. Thank you for your cooperation. We look forward to seeing you at St. Patrick School.

### Parents & Visitors must sign in:

Parents are welcomed to the school throughout the year, however, for the safety of our staff and students, parents and visitors must use only the front door for entry and must sign in at the office every time you visit the building. If you are not a registered student at school, you will need to sign in.

As part of our commitment to ensuring student safety, the doors remain locked during the school day; visitors need to be buzzed in with our buzzer system and report to the front office. Visitors are not entitled to go to the classrooms as this

is a disruption to student programming. If you need to go to the classroom, arrangements can be made in advance with your child's classroom teacher. Parent messages and deliveries (keys, lunches, etc.) are handled through the office. Student lunches can be left on the shelf outside the front office. Don't forget to label your child's lunch.

Since the hallways are busy during pick up times, siblings and parents are asked to follow this procedure: students taking the bus will use the back door by the Church; students being picked up by an adult will

be signed out by a staff member using the front door while students who walk or ride their bikes will use the doors by the gym.

### Volunteering @ St. Pat's

If you are interested in volunteering at the school you are required to present the school administration with an original copy of a valid criminal record check. An application can be picked-up at the office. If you provided us with a copy in the past, you are asked to sign an offence declaration form which can also be completed at the office. We appreciate your help and involvement!

## Student absences & special arrangements

### **Student Absences**

Student safe arrival at school is paramount. If your child will be absent, please call the school at 705-335-3241. If your child is late for school, they must check into the office to get a late slip before proceeding to class. If children are leaving prior to the end of the school day, children

must be signed out at the office by an adult.

If there is a change to your child's regular routine at the end of the day, please contact the office by 2:30 p.m. with any special instructions. This will avoid any confusion and ensure that the message is properly relayed.

### **Special Arrangements**

If your child has an appointment that requires him/her to leave throughout the day, we ask that you write the details in your child's agenda, indicating when the child will be picked-up and when they are expected to return.

Thank you.



## Catholic School Council Elections

A nomination ballot is attached to this newsletter for your convenience. Our School Council meets a minimum of four times throughout the year and

supports the school in promoting student achievement. We hope many parents will allow their names to stand for election, as it is an excellent forum to

communicate your ideas and concerns.

**The first meeting is scheduled for October 23rd at 6:00 p.m.**

*Volunteer to help make your child's school a better place. Become involved in our School Council. No experience necessary...just a willingness to make our school better.*

## 1st Annual Spaghetti Supper & Info Night

The staff were eager to establish a new tradition of eating a meal together as a wonderful way to start the school year. Our first annual spaghetti supper and information night will be held on Thursday September 13th. We would like to have at least one adult representative per family in order to not only

experience this great community-building opportunity but to also receive important information from the office and teachers. This is a FREE event, simply complete the RSVP, send it back to school and come to the Parish hall (Church basement) on Thursday September 13th.

### Schedule:

5:00—5:55 Spaghetti Supper in St. Pat's Parish Hall  
6:00-7:00 Dessert will be served in core classrooms at the school, with staff information presentations

We can't wait to see you on September 13th @ 5pm!

