

# St. Pat's Pulse

Volume 7,  
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September 19th,  
2012



## Upcoming St. Patrick School Events:

### Sept. 20

School council nominations  
due today

### Sept. 21

Hat day—pay \$1.00

### Sept. 23

Pancake breakfast @ Church  
after 9:30 Mass

### Sept. 27

Terry Fox Walk (10:20-  
11:20). Bring \$2.00 and wear  
Green & Yellow

### Sept. 28

I.P.R.C. meetings today

Bake Sale @ lunch (.50 &  
1.00)

### Sept. 30

School Community Mass

### 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

### D.E.A.R. TIME

In order to meet our ambitious school improvement play target of 100% of students meeting their individual year-end reading benchmark in both the English and French Immersion program, we have started a new daily program called D.E.A.R. Drop Everything And Read is an opportunity for staff and students alike to read daily for 10 minutes. This time is above and beyond their daily literacy block and is an opportunity to not only improve their reading skills but is FUN!

Happy reading!



### School

### Community Mass

We are inviting all staff and students to bring their family to our school community Mass which will occur on Sunday September 30th at 9:30. Please see the invitation in this week's folder and return to school by the end of the week. We look

forward to seeing you. There will be a special surprise for all children who attend.

### Terry Fox Walk

St. Patrick School has been involved with the annual Terry Fox walk since 1992. It is with great pleasure that St. Patrick School will participate in the annual Terry Fox School Walk which will occur nationwide for thousands of schools on Thursday September 27th. This year, we have two ways to raise money for the Terry Fox Foundation:

1. We are asking all staff and students to bring a twoonie for Terry on or before Sept. 27th
2. We are having a hat day this Friday (Sept. 21st). If your child would like to wear a hat—just pay \$1.00 for the privilege.

Feel free to participate in one or both! We are hoping to have at least one

parent for each classroom walk with us. If you are interested in volunteering on Sept. 27th (10:20-11:20) please contact the school (705)335-3241. Everyone is encouraged to wear school colours (green and yellow). Thanks in advance to Mr. Lessard who is organizing this event.

### Spaghetti Supper

Thank-you to all families who joined us last Thursday for our first annual back to school spaghetti supper. Congratulations to the Meilleur family who won our 50/50 draw of \$130.00. Our portion of the tickets will be used to offset the cost of the supper. Special thank you to all staff members, members of the Catholic School Council and former students who helped us make this event a success.



Mrs. Gretchen Morgan

# Bus Loading Zone

We continue to experience difficulties in our bus loading zone at the beginning of the day. Here are a few reminders to ensure all student, staff and parent safety.



The bus loading zone needs to remain **off-limits to all vehicular movement from 8:35-8:45**. This will allow for our buses to safely drop off students.

In order to ease congestion,

we are asking parents to observe the following requests:

**MORNING:** Drop off your children at the back fence gate by Church. Remember it is single file—so cars & buses will need to wait for each other and unload **ONE AT A TIME**. Our driveway is a **SINGLE LANE** and One Way.

Students are encouraged to use our crossing guard.

Together, we can make our bus loading zone safe for everyone.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

# Parent Pipeline

**CAFÉ Strategy: Check for Understanding**



*Read to Succeed: Striving for 100%*

As part of our school improvement plan, we will be sending home monthly tips in order to help develop reading strategies called the Parent Pipeline. CAFÉ stands for Comprehension, Accuracy, Efluency and Expanding vocabulary.

Even as an adult reader, there are times when we are reading a story and we get lost and am not sure what has happened. Fortunately, when this happens, we have strategies we use to help us understand a story. The same thing happens when children read. However, with children they often keep reading and do not realize

they lost comprehension until the end of the story. They are too concerned with reading accurately and forget to take the time to think about what they are reading. How can we help them gain comprehension? We can teach them the comprehension strategy: check for understanding because good readers stop frequently to check for understanding or to ask who and what.

How can you help your child with this strategy at home?

1. When reading to your child, stop periodically and say, "Let's see if we remember what I just

read. Think about who the story was about and what happened." Do this 3 to 4 times throughout the story.

2. When reading to your child, stop and have them practice checking for understanding by saying, "I heard you say..."
3. Ask your child the following questions:
  - Who did you just read about?
  - What just happened?
  - Was your brain talking to you while you read?
  - Do you understand what was read?
  - What do you do if you don't remember?

Thank you for your continued support at home.

*Ideas and strategies taken from: The CAFÉ Book, written by Gail Boushey & Joan Moser.*

## 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

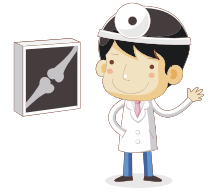
must be signed out at the office by an adult.

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!

