



St. Jerome Journal

October 2012

A Prayer of Gratitude

Gracious God in this busyness of my day, I sometimes forget to stop and thank you for all that is good in my life.

My blessings are many and my heart is filled with gratefulness for the gift of living, for the ability to love and be loved for the opportunity to see the everyday wonders of creation, for sleep and water, for a mind that thinks and a body that feels.

I thank you too for those things in my life that are less than I would hope them to be. Things that seem challenging, unfair or difficult.

In the silence of my soul, I thank you most of all for your unconditional and eternal love.

Amen



Celebrating Gratitude In Our Classrooms

The Importance of Gratitude

The choice to be grateful is not always without effort.

Gratitude is the virtue that makes us aware and appreciate the gifts we receive each day. Our quote for the month "This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad" (Psalm 118:24) will be the foundation for our work. To express thankfulness is a simple way to share our faith as it fills our hearts with a

readiness to cherish all that we have. In this age of consumerism and the "me-centered" focus of today's culture, we must refrain from feelings of self entitlement. Materialism and consumerism prevent us from enjoying and being appreciative of all that we have. We cannot think that we have a right to demand without giving anything in return and without giving thanks for all that we are.

128 Woods Street
Kirkland Lake, ON
P2N 2S4
705 567 5800
705 567 5838 Fax

Karen MacGregor,
Principal

Caroline Harvey,
Secretary

Glenn Sheculski,
Director of Education
877-422-9322

Tricia Stefanic-Weltz,
Superintendent
877-422-9322

Steve Malciw,
Trustee
705 643 2172

Rick Brassard,
Trustee / Chair
705 544 8055

Fr. Wayne Mills,
Pastor
Holy Name of Jesus Church
705 567 3932

We are on the web: <http://www.ncdsb.on.ca/>

Developing Character through Gratitude

The goal of this virtue is:

- To help our students give thanks for what they have and for who they are instead of focusing on what they are not and do not have.
- To help our students and ourselves learn to be attentive and to stop and enjoy the moments of happiness and joy in our lives. It is important to not lose our sense of wonder and thanksgiving for the simple things.
- To teach our children to be grateful for life itself and to live in accordance to the purpose which we were created for.

Exemplifying gratitude means:

- Giving thanks to God for the many daily blessings we have.
- Focusing on the good in our lives and the good in others.
- Not lamenting on what we do not have.
- Recognizing the good in ourselves and giving our best to improve or to help others.
- Appreciating others and the work they do for us.
- Taking care of your things, keeping them in order and sharing them with whoever needs them.
- Not wasting your gifts (water, food, electricity).
- Develop learning goals and success criteria for the virtue of Gratitude using the goals and exemplifying the gratitude article.

Student Absences

Student safe arrival at school is paramount. If your child is absent, please call the school to notify. This procedure helps to ensure the safe arrival of all students. If your child is late for school, they must check into the office before proceeding to class. Children must be signed out at the office by an adult.

Student Pick-Ups

If you are picking your child up from school, you must call the school by 2:30 p.m. to advise us of this change to their regular routine. You are asked to report to the teacher on duty at the back of the school and sign your child out. You **are not** permitted to walk into the school yard to get your child. We must be able to account for every student that leaves the school.

School starts at 8:45 a.m. !

Please be reminded that school begins promptly at 8:45 a.m. We are trying to teach the students to be responsible and be ready to begin their day of learning on time. Please support this goal by ensuring your child arrives on time before the final bell at 8:45 a.m. Together we are working to set a standard of behavior that will serve your child well in the future. Thank you for your support!

MacMillan's

Our MacMillan Frozen Goods fundraiser has started. Please make sure that you have submitted your order form by Friday, October 19th. This is our major fundraiser of the year and we depend on the profit we make to support the many activities our students participate in. While we don't encourage door to door sales we hope that all friends and family will support this fundraiser.



Please ensure that cheques are made payable to St. Jerome School and that your orders are pre-paid. Orders will not be placed unless money has been received at the office.

School Picture Retakes

School picture retakes for the 2012-2013 school year will be taken by Lifetouch on Monday, October 22nd. Please mark your calendar! **RETAKE PROCEDURES for Elementary Schools:**



If a retake is requested, please **do not** send the retakes and the non-orders to Lifetouch. Instead, please keep them at the school, and have the students provide them to the photographer on retake day. This will help the photographer, and make for a smoother retake day!

Catholic School Council

Congratulations to our parent representatives who have shown interest in our council:

Mrs. Angela Davis-Witty

Mrs. Trish Adair

Ms. Jewel James (Community Rep.)

Ms. Renee Willmott

Ms. Melissa Burnside

Mr. Wayne McGinnis

Mrs. Candice Danchuk

Ms. Sondra Laporte (Teaching Rep.)

Mrs. Pat Spadetto (Community Rep.)

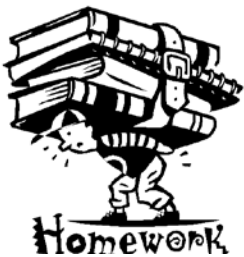
Father Wayne Mills (Parish Rep.)

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, November 13th at 6:00 p.m. All meetings are open to all parents, so feel free to join us!

Bullying

As you are aware Bullying has been the hot topic of many news reports lately. It saddens us to see how bullying can affect a child and his/her future. At St. Jerome we strive to create a safe and caring environment for your child. Unfortunately, there are times when one child may tease or strike another child. We take these incidents seriously and deal with them as soon as we can. It is important to remember that Bullying is a repeated pattern of behavior over a prolonged period of time. An isolated incident is not bullying. We appreciate parents calling and letting us know about incidents of bullying but some of you may prefer using our confidential electronic form. Log on to www.ReportBullying.com and choose Kirkland Lake on the drop down menu on the left. The form will appear with our school name. The password is: Jerome (lowercase). We understand that sometimes students share things in the evening at home and busy parents may find using this confidential form more convenient.

The Last Word... Homework



At St. Jerome School, our homework expectations are very simple. Our goal is to have parents engaged in their child's learning and to support you in that process. In order to develop strong literacy and numeracy skills we ask that you participate in the following activities with your child.

Monthly theme activities – JK & K “Star of the Week” – JK & K

Book bags – JK to grade 3 which include various literacy & math activities.

We are on the web: <http://www.ncdsb.on.ca/>

Student Health

Get your flu shot, not the flu. The seasonal flu shot prevents the spread of influenza between children and their family, friends and community, reducing sick days from school and work. It is proven to be safe and effective.

This year, the Timiskaming Health Unit will be offering extended evening hours as well as community clinics with evening hours in place of school flu clinics. To book flu shots for your family call your Timiskaming Health Unit office or visit www.timiskaminghu.com to view the community clinic dates.

Being active for at least 60 minutes daily can help children and teens feel happier, do better in school and improve their self-confidence. Parents and caregivers can help plan daily activity for their child or teen. Visit www.participaction.com for physical activity tips and guidelines.

Halloween Day / Activities

On Wednesday, October 31st we will be celebrating Halloween with some special activities. Students are asked to wear orange and black.

No costumes please!



Save the Date

Snack and Breakfast Program Training for Volunteers

Theme: Reading Nutrition Labels & Grocery Store Tour

When: November 7, 2012 Kirkland Lake
November 8, 2012 New Liskeard

Time: Day and evening trainings available

We are on the web: <http://www.ncdsb.on.ca/>