



Home of the **CARDINALS!**

October 2018 Newsletter

"By Our Works, We Show Our Faith," (James 2: 16 - 18).

Principal's Message

October is the month to give thanks. We should give thanks for the food that God has provided and for the blessings He has bestowed on all of us. Our faith and personal relationship with God should be something that we foster on a daily basis and not taken for granted. When we trust in God, He will guide and provide for us. "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct your paths." -Proverbs 3:5,6

Pope Francis Elementary School continues to grow and strengthen due to the bonds that have been created between our school, the community, our parish, and the overwhelming support that is provided by our families. During the month of October the school will be collecting non perishable food items for the Timmins Food Bank. I am hopeful that during this month that you will help us, help those individuals in need in our community.

As we approach our Thanksgiving weekend, we should be mindful of the many things in our lives that we can be thankful for. We are grateful for our publicly funded Catholic Schools, our health, the love of our families and friends and for the gifts of life.

In closing I would like to share this Thanksgiving Prayer:

This Thanksgiving let those of us who have much and those who have little gather at the welcoming table of the Lord. At this blessed feast, may rich and poor alike remember that we are called to serve on another and to walk together in God's gracious world. With thankful hearts we praise our God who like a loving parent denies us no good thing.

We pray though Christ our Lord.

On behalf of the entire school community, we wish you a Happy Thanksgiving surrounded by family and friends!

Yours in faith and education,
Mr. Berthier
Principal



Reminders:

OUR SCHOOL DAY

- 8:50 - Entry & Opening Exercises
- 10:00-10:15 - Morning Recess
- 11:35-12:05 - Lunch Recess
- 12:05-12:35 - Lunch Inside
- 1:55-2:10 - Afternoon Recess
- 3:20 – Dismissal

OFFICE HOURS

- Open from 8:00 am to 11:35 am
- Closed from 11:35 am to 12:35 pm
- Open from 12:35 pm to 4:00 pm

As a safety issue, we would like to remind you that the supervision of the school yard does not begin until 8:30 a.m. It would be best if students who walk or are dropped off at school do not arrive to school before then. Also, during the lunch hour, there is no one at the office to open the door. Please refrain from coming to the school between 11:35 and 12:35.

Monthly Virtue: Gratitude

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. One quote for this virtue “This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad” (Psalm 118:24) will be the foundation of 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 we are.

EQAO results are in!

The Education Quality and Accountability Office (E.Q.A.O.) has released the results of the provincial assessments administered to all grade 3 students in May of last year. The individual student results have been sent home to this year's grade 4 students.

Overall Achievement Percentage at Levels 3 and 4

Grade 3	Pope Francis			Board	Province
	English	French Immersion	Overall		
Reading	54%	76%	65%	67%	75%
Writing	42%	66%	54%	58%	72%
Math	46%	59%	52%	51%	61%

Outside Play and Respect

Please remind your child of proper play outside with other students and on the equipment. Recess is an important time for student to socialize and play. Respecting themselves, other children and the staff is extremely important and something that we take seriously at Pope Francis.

Breakfast Program

General Information

Our school provides a nutritious breakfast for those who are in need to ensure that our students are well fed and ready to learn. Various independent studies have found that when students eat a nutritious breakfast they perform better academically.

The Importance of Eating Breakfast

Food is fuel for learning. By starting each day with a nutritious breakfast students are able to approach their school day with energy and enthusiasm. Although all students are encouraged to eat breakfast at home, we recognize that there may be circumstances that make this difficult. The Breakfast Club is in place to assist students in starting their day off right.

Our program is available to all students every day starting at 8:30 to 8:50 in the Breakfast room or Atrium. Foods provided meet the Ontario Ministry of Children and Youth Services (MCYS) Student Nutrition Guidelines and focus on fruit/vegetables, milk/milk alternatives and whole grains.

How is Our Program Funded

Funding for our program is provided by the Canadian Red Cross School Breakfast Program. As well, our school welcomes any parental contributions of money or food towards our school's own program.

Parental Contributions

Our school's Breakfast Club is a safe and friendly place where children in need can eat a nutritious breakfast. The program is offered every day and is run by Mrs. Savard, Mrs. Maille and Mr. Berthier. Most, but not all of the funding for this program is provided to us by the School Breakfast Program. The Breakfast Club is always looking for donations. Money or grocery store gift cards are always appreciated and food donations will be graciously received as well. All of our food must be peanut/nut free. For more information on this program, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Berthier.

Student Attendance

The Education Act states that students must attend school regularly and be punctual. It is imperative for the safety of students that parents please call the school if your child is absent.

If a child has not arrived at school and a phone call or a note has not been received, the secretary will attempt to alert parents by telephone at home or at your place of employment, if necessary.

When a pupil returns to school, he/she should find out what work was missed and complete it within a reasonable amount of time, as decided by the teacher. Extended periods of absence for reasons other than health, require permission of the principal.

Punctuality

All students are expected to be punctual and to adhere to the school hours. They should quickly be seated and ready for morning activities. Attendance is taken daily. Students who are late for a valid reason must bring a note. They are to report to the office where their time of arrival and reason for

being late will be recorded at the office. They will be issued a late slip, which will be necessary for admission to class.

Persistent tardiness and absences may result in a discussion, consultation or other consequence perhaps involving parents/guardians, school board attendance counsellor, etc.

Community Liaison Officer

The entire staff would like to take this opportunity to welcome back Constable Trevor Southcott and Constable Durepos to our team. Both Constables have been assigned to our school again this year and will be supporting and visiting our school a few times a month.

Welcome Constable Southcott and Constable Durepos!

THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY:

Pope Francis Elementary School will be closed on Monday, October 8th to celebrate Thanksgiving. We wish you and your family an enjoyable Thanksgiving holiday.

Closing Message:

"Everything is God's to give and to take away, so share what you've been given, and that includes yourself." Mother Teresa

Important Dates for October

October 1st – Commissioning Ceremony in the gym

October 5th – World Teacher Day

October 6th – Last day for the food drive challenge

October 8th – Thanksgiving

October 10th – Wear your Spirit Wear Cardinal t-shirt

October 11th – Local Big Crunch

October 17th – IEP's go home

October 31st – Halloween – Wear your costume.



Contact Information

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Superintendent: Mrs. Brumwell (705) 268-7443

Board website: www.ncdsb.on.ca