



St. Jerome Journal

November 2010

Remembrance Day

On November 11th, Canadians all across the country stop and remember the men, women and children who were killed in wars. There are parades and memorial services. Everybody stands in silence as they remember the more than



100 000 brave Canadians who were killed. World War One Armistice was signed on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month. That is why November 11th is called Remembrance Day.

Every year on November 11th, Canadians pause in a silent moment of remembrance for the men and women who have served, and continue to serve our country during times of war, conflict and peace. We honour those who fought for Canada in the First World War (1914-1918) and the Korean War (1950-1953), as well as those who have served since then. More than 1 500 000 Canadians have served our country in this way, and more than 100 000 have died. They gave their lives and their futures so that we may live in peace.

November's virtue is **Prudence**.

Prudence is one of the cardinal virtues. The four cardinal virtues (Prudence, Temperance, Fortitude, Justice) are practices on which all the other virtues hinge (cardinal, meaning hinge in Latin). These practices are learned and developed over time.

Our quote for this month is "How much better to get wisdom than gold, to choose understanding rather than silver!" (Proverbs 16:16) Prudence has three steps: seeking the proper, most loving thing to do; judging what is the best choice; and confidently acting. A prudent person asks, "What is the right, most loving thing to do?" She considers others' advice, and looks to the Gospel and Church teaching to guide her conscience. She prays and thinks things through, then confidently acts in truth and love. In this way, practicing prudence unites us more closely both with God and neighbour. Prudence is visible in our Catholic schools when we reflect as Jesus' disciples and act in His love.

This month at St. Jerome School, we will express our prudence by thinking before we act.

In Flanders Fields

In Flanders Fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.
We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.
Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from falling hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields

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

Dance-a-thon

Our students enjoyed a fun afternoon of dancing last week. Helen Miller and friends led the students in line dancing steps. In total \$ 1,407.00 were raised towards student activities and supplies. Top fund-raisers were Brennan Goulding, Brianna Blackburn and Dustin Ramsay-Seaton who received prizes for their efforts. Thank you to everyone for your support.

School Photos – Retakes



School photo retakes will take place on Wednesday, November 17th during the afternoon. If you missed our original picture day please make note of this date.

Evening with Santa

Mark your calendars for our “Evening with Santa” to be held Wednesday, November 24th from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The evening will consist of a penny sale, bake table, Christmas Craft table and the opportunity to visit with Santa and have your family (or individual) picture taken. Please see the separate note enclosed for further details. Thank you to our staff for arranging this special night for our students.



Remembrance Day

You are welcome to join us in the gym for our Remembrance Day Service on November 11th at 10:45 a.m. We encourage our students to wear red and white to demonstrate their pride in being Canadian.



End of Day Pick ups

We ask that if you are picking up your child at the end of the day that you notify the office before 3 p.m. and that you meet your child outside by the back door, since the students are already outside for recess from 3:00 to 3:15. Please see the teacher on duty to sign your child out. Students should not be picked up earlier than 3:15 except for appointments. We are sorry but unless it is an indoor recess due to inclement weather, we cannot have your child “ready and waiting” at the office after 3:15 since it produces too much confusion and congestion at the office. We thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Flu Vaccine

Please continue to help us curb the spread of colds and flu by keeping your child at home when he/she shows signs of flu-like symptoms. Symptoms are usually fever, body aches and fatigue as well as a cough. The Timiskaming Health Unit nurses will be at St. Jerome School on Friday, November 26th to give out vaccines to students and staff. Please complete the permission form and return it to school a. s. a. p.



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Report Cards...

With the release of *Growing Success, Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting in Ontario Schools (2010)*, a number of changes have occurred in reporting practices in elementary schools as outlined in the letter sent home at the beginning of the year.. There will no longer be three report cards per year. Instead, you will be receiving a progress report to be sent home on November 17th, and two provincial report cards to be sent home on February 1, 2011 and June 24, 2011.



The progress report provides initial information, early in the school year, about a student's progress. It is designed to show a student's development of the learning skills and work habits, as well as a student's general progress in working towards the achievement of curriculum expectations (*Growing Success*, pg. 50). For these reasons, the November Progress Report does not include marks.

Should you have any questions regarding your child's progress after receiving the Progress report, please feel free to contact your child's teacher.

First Reconciliation

Please remember that the first session for students planning on making their first reconciliation in December is November 8th at 11:00 a.m. Mass at Holy Name Church

From School Council

St Jerome Catholic School Council will be meeting on the following dates:

Dec 1st, 2010, January 26th, 2011, and March 2nd, 2011. Further dates will be planned in the new year. Some of the items identified by our new school council for discussion and possible action include:

- ✓ Grade 3 end of year school trip
- ✓ Improvements to our existing playground

We would like your input on these items. Please forward your comments to the office or come to our next meeting. Your opinion matters!!!

School council has also been granted a PRO grant to offer a curriculum night and follow-up workshops to parents, more information to follow...

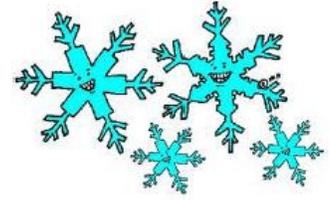
Hot Lunches

As part of our Healthy Foods awareness program we will begin to offer an alternative to Hot Dog days starting in December. Stay tuned for further information.

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Cold Weather

During the winter season the school receives calls from concerned parents as to how we determine when children will or will not be allowed outside for recess. It is generally accepted that when the wind chill factor drops below -28°C , students should not go outside for recess. The Northeastern Catholic District School Board policy uses a wind chill factor of -25°C as the determining temperature. With the arrival of colder weather, students are reminded to dress appropriately (hats, mitts, etc.) and to wear all clothing that they came to school in. For health reasons, we ask that students have indoor shoes that are kept at school. Another reason for indoor shoes is that in the event of an emergency evacuation, students will not have the opportunity to put boots on. Please make sure clothing is labeled— this will help in the return of lost items.



The Last Word

FLU PREVENTION CHECKLIST

You can play an active role in staying healthy and preventing the spread of influenza, whether it's the seasonal flu that circulates each winter or pandemic H1N1 influenza.

Follow these simple steps:



- ☺ Get an annual flu shot: Make sure your family members get a flu shot too! If you have questions, consult with your family physician.
- ☺ Wash your hands frequently: Twenty seconds of hand washing with warm water and soap helps remove bacteria and viruses. Remember to wash before and after eating, after using the bathroom, after coughing or sneezing, and after touching surfaces that may have been contaminated by other people. If you cannot wash with soap and water, use hand sanitizer that is 60% alcohol based.
- ☺ Cover up when you cough or sneeze: Use a tissue, or raise your arm up to your face to cough or sneeze into your sleeve. If you use a tissue, dispose of it as soon as possible and wash your hands immediately.
- ☺ Keep shared surface areas clean: Doorknobs, light switches, telephones, keyboards and other surfaces can become contaminated with all kinds of bacteria and viruses. Regular cleaning and disinfecting of these surfaces can help.
- ☺ If you get sick, stay home! If you go out when you're sick, you may spread your illness to co-workers, classmates, neighbours or others. It may take you longer to get better if you are not well rested. Wait until you no longer have a fever and your cough is improving.