



St. Jerome Journal

October 2013

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



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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 18th. 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.

Fresh From the Farm



Orders for this fundraiser are due to the school office by Friday, October 18th. Visit the EatRight Ontario website for updates on Fresh from the Farm, Healthy Fundraising for Ontario Schools www.eatrightontario.ca/en/freshfromthefarm

School Picture Retakes

School picture retakes for the 2013-2014 school year will be taken by Lifetouch on Thursday, October 24th in the AM. 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	Mrs. Tania McGinnis	Ms. Renee Willmott
Ms. Sara White	Mr. Wayne McGinnis	Mrs. Melissa Coupland	Ms. Debra Tinney
Mrs. Julila Hemphill	Ms. Vicky Groves	Mrs. Julia Spadetto-Forward (Teaching Rep.)	
Mrs. Pat Spadetto (Community Rep.) Father Wayne Mills (Parish Rep.)			

Meetings will take place on the 2nd Wednesday of every month. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, November 13th at 7:00 p.m. following the parent / teacher conferences. 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.

Cookbooks

St. Jerome School cookbooks are still available for purchase at the school office. Books are \$10.00 each and proceeds are going to the improvement of our playground. Thank you for your support!

Halloween Day / Activities

On Thursday, October 31st we will be celebrating Halloween with some special activities. Students are asked to wear orange and black. **No costumes please!**



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