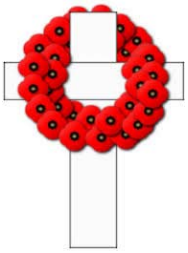
Shamrock Times

St. Patrick Catholic School November 2016

St. Patrick School Remembers!

St. Patrick School …. a great little school to believe in

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. Once again, St. Patrick School students will attend the traditional ceremony at the Cobalt Cenotaph on November 11th. In addition, classes have participated in **Valentines for Vets**. The valentines will be sent to Veterans Affairs Canada and then distributed to Veterans living in long-term care facilities all across Canada! They will also create and offer up class remembrance wreaths at our **All Souls Mass** on November the 2nd. We will remember them!



On behalf of the staff and students at St. Patrick School, I would like to thank everyone who assisted with the **Santa's Little Helper Fundraising Campaign!** A reminder that the forms are now due in the office. Once we have our final totals, we will be sure to let you know the results! Thanks so much for your support!

November's virtue of the month is **Justice**.The theme of justice leads us all to "make things right". When the school, home and church work together, we can bring JUSTICE to our small corner of the world – and beyond. From a young age, students have a strong sense of what is fair. As they grow, they develop the capacity to decipher right from wrong and to make ethical decisions. The theme of Justice ties in with the Catholic Graduate Expectation of a Responsible Citizen – one who gives witness to Catholic social teaching by promoting peace, justice and the sacredness of human life. Traditionally, our Catholic Schools have made outstanding contributions to society through Social Justice Causes. Students at St. Patrick School have raised funds to support many causes both locally and abroad. These include the Terry Fox Foundation, Heart and Stroke, Community Cancer Care, Share Lent, and Development and Peace! This month, students will also have the opportunity to support the Christmas Wish Campaign and Operation Christmas Child. More information is to follow! We are very proud of the contributions our students have made and continue to make through their altruistic efforts.

- A reminder that the Northeastern Catholic District School Board has challenged its schools all across the district to **reduce photocopying costs by 25%.** Beginning this month, only monthly calendars will be sent home! Calendars and newsletters will still be available via the Facebook page and email. If you are not a member of our Facebook group, please make sure Mrs. Purdy has your email address so that calendars, newsletters and reminders can be sent directly to you by email!

- **Progress Reports** will go home on **Wednesday, November 9th** and **Family-Teacher Conferences** are scheduled for **Thursday, November 17th** from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

- **NOTE:** This year's **Christmas Concert** will take place on **Thursday, December 15th, 2016 at 1:00 p.m.** in the gym! All are welcome!

- St. Patrick School is once again proud to participate in **CJTT's Annual Christmas Wish Telethon**. This year our daily challenges will run from Wednesday November 9th – Wednesday November 16th. More information is to follow!

- Our next **Parent Council Meeting** will take place on Thursday, November 3rd at 6:00 p.m. in the Library. Parents are welcome to attend!

November Birthdays!

1st - Gordy W. 3rd – Landen D.
5th – Norman C. 6th - Ethan R.
16th - Jade L. 19th – Kevin C. 20th - Symphony S.
23rd - Morgan B. 24th - Rose S.
25th - James B. 28th - Liam H. and Cameron S.

We will be celebrating our **All Souls Mass** with Father Wayne on Wednesday, November 2nd at 10:30 a.m. in the gym. All are welcome!

In preparation for this mass, students may bring in or draw pictures of their loved ones (cats, dogs and birds included) who have died and we will pray for them throughout the month of November!

NOVEMBER CURRICULUM FOCUS - In Mathematics, students will begin to focus on Data Management and Probability (attributes, graphs). In Reading, students will continue to focus on retelling and summarizing ideas in order to demonstrate meaning and in Writing students will focus on the recount, procedural and explanatory writing form.

-Please note that the student body from JK to 8 has the opportunity to visit **Village Noel on Friday, November 25th** in the afternoon! Once again, we are looking for parent volunteers! If you are able to assist with this event, I would ask that you please contact your child's teacher or the office. We must comply with the board's supervision ratio in order to attend. Your support is greatly appreciated!

-St. Patrick School is once again pleased to continue its partnership with the Healthy Kids Community Challenge and Timiskaming Health Unit. This year, our focus will be on the **Water Does Wonders Campaign!** Students will take part in the Sip Smart Ontario initiative and learn more about the importance of avoiding sugary drinks and making water and milk a more regular healthy choice!

Sacramental Preparation Dates:

Confirmation Rite of Enrolment
Saturday, November 5th at 5:00 p.m. at St. Patrick's Parish in Cobalt

Attendance and Punctuality
Regular attendance is critical to academic achievement and overall student wellbeing. When a student misses school or is late for class regularly, this has a direct and serious impact on learning. We want to work with families to ensure each student is getting the most from his/her school year. Please note that the Northeastern Catholic District School Board now has an Attendance Counsellor. Should you or your child require any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact Kim Meunier at 705-286-7443 extension 3511.

Tips for Family-Teacher Conferences

Family-Teacher Conferences are opportunities for **parents, students and teachers** to talk together about how to help each child succeed and be happy at school. Conferences are short (10-15 minutes) so it is best to prepare before the conference to make the best use of that short time.

PREPARE

Read your child's progress report. Make notes about your questions and concerns. Talk to your child about the report. Is she/he happy with her/his progress? Was she/he surprised by any comments on the report? Ask the child to predict what the teacher is going to tell you. Then, ask what she/he would like you to discuss with the teacher.

ASK QUESTIONS

Arrive on time. Bring your child's progress report and your list of questions with a notepad and pen to make notes. Family-Teacher conferences are strictly confidential, so you may share personal information that might be affecting your child's progress or behaviour at school (e.g. family illness, job search, new baby). This information will help the teacher understand your child better. The main function of the interview is to point out areas where your child has room to develop. Strive to keep the lines of communication open and friendly!

L. Hurtubise, Principal