



# The Cougar Column

ST. JOSEPH - NEWSLETTER

October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017

A Message from the Principal...

**W**e made it through the first month of school! Our virtue of the month continues to be FAITH. Thanksgiving is just around the corner and as parents, you are the primary teachers of your children, hence, you can model faith by letting them know all of the things that you have to be thankful for. Ask them to consider all of the things they are thankful for. I am thankful for the increased enrolment at St. Joseph's that has allowed us to add a classroom in our primary division. We now have straight Grade 1, 2 and 3 classes for the first time in many years! I do apologize for the very quick turnaround and the surprise you must have felt with the last minute notification. I too was pleasantly surprised and did my best to notify you as quickly as possible. We welcome Mrs. Levesque who is joining our staff to teach the Gr. 2 class as of Monday. She has experience in the primary division – and has taught at various schools within our Board over the years, in both English and French. There will also be another teacher joining us for one Day per week – I will let parents know as soon as I have more information. For Thanksgiving – I would like the St. Joseph community to know that I am thankful to be here and it is a joy and privilege to be a part of your lives. I am wishing you a safe and happy Thanksgiving holiday and ask that you be especially safety conscious on Hallowe'en.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Pichette



## REMINDERS - Safety is our priority!



Please be aware that our school is **NOT supervised until 8:35 am**. If your child walks, bikes or is dropped off at

school, be sure not to send him/her too early!

When you visit the school – please check in with the secretary and use a visitor's pass if you are walking in the building. We work at teaching the children that people not wearing passes who are not staff in the building – may not belong here and need to be reported to us. It is for their safety in the event that a stranger gains access to the building.



Letters will be going home shortly to all children in Gr. 4 with their EQAO test results. St. Joseph School has done well - Way to go!



## FOOD DRIVE

We will be collecting food from Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup> to the 6<sup>th</sup> for Thanksgiving for families in need. Please send in canned or dried goods. We will be sorting, counting and dropping off the goods before Thanksgiving. We would like to thank everyone who is able to donate – we are teaching the children to count their many blessings and about CHARITY – another virtue. It is also in keeping with the Grandfather teachings – respect for all people, no matter their circumstances.

# FAITH

(F) FORWARDING  
(A) ALL  
(I) ISSUES  
(T) TO  
(H) HEAVEN

In order to develop our faith, we can turn to prayer, scripture, sacraments and to what the Church teaches. When we develop our faith, we get to know God in a deeper, more loving way. Faith gives us a new way of seeing God, ourselves and everything around us, above all, the needy. We then are better able to seek and do God's will. Faith is very powerful! It inspires and influences our daily actions. It is not enough to simply believe in God, we are also called to be living examples to others and to also profess our beliefs to all.

**Looks like:** serving others, lending a helping hand, going to Church, living the Ten Commandments, praying, involvement with the faith community, having a strong work ethic, being responsible, putting the welfare of others ahead of their own welfare, and sacramental engagement.

**Sounds like:** prayer, song, positive attitude, words of kindness and encouragement, responding and singing in Mass.

**Feels like:** A strong connection with God, safe and secure, comfort, confidence, patience.

A faithful friend or person...

- Is confident God will never withdraw His love or break His promises
- Is a loyal, supportive friend
- Can be trusted to fulfill promises and commitments
- Prays when they can, learns from Scripture stories and knows that we are all loved by God.

School Council Meeting  
Wednesday, Oct. 11<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm  
All parents welcome!



Our monthly mass will be celebrated on October 5<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 at St. Joachim Church. Students are working toward their Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Communion with the Parish. Please encourage them and if your child is not participating – it is not too late!

## Reconciliation

Parents only: Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 - Parish hall

Celebration of Commitment : Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am Mass

First session of Reconciliation: Sunday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 - Parish hall

Second Session: Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 - Parish hall

Celebration of Reconciliation: Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm - Parish hall

## Eucharist

Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm - Parish hall

Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm – St. Joseph school

Sunday, April 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 pm - Parish Hall (Palm Sunday)

## Celebration of Eucharist

Sunday, April 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am Mass at Parish

## FOCUS ON INSTRUCTION

October is Learning Disabilities Awareness Month across the province. Timmins is hosting awareness events throughout the month. Small blue flags will be planted in our community representing the number of students identified with a learning disability. Timmins will also be hosting a free community workshop designed for families of children with learning disabilities as well as professionals that work with these students. Look for details in the Newspaper.