



The Cougar Column

ST. JOSEPH - NEWSLETTER

Jan. 9, 2018

A Message from the Principal...

I wish a very Happy and Healthy New Year to everyone! It is hard to believe that Christmas is already over and we have begun our New Year! Our Christmas concert was well attended and a great success! Thanks to everyone who attended and those who worked hard to make the performances so wonderful. The calendar for January can be found with this newsletter. It outlines the activities we have planned for this month.

We congratulate Mrs. Furlott on her new position at Pope Francis. She will be replaced by Mrs. Buhler starting the first week back. We are also awaiting a new staff taking the place of Ms. Sparks who has taken full time employment closer to home. Congratulations and best of luck to both!



Mrs. Pichette

SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

changed due to availability of members
 Wednesday, Jan. 17, 2018
 at 6:30 pm
 Everyone welcome!
 (planning for Parent info night)



FOCUS ON FAITH

Our monthly mass will be celebrated on January 18th at 9:30 at St. Joachim Church.



It is with great pride and pleasure that at that mass, we are also welcoming many new people to the Church through the Sacrament of Baptism. Following mass, we will have a celebration for those involved at the school in the gym (11 am).

The Virtue of the month is Forgiveness.

The goal of this virtue:

Live your life in a way that makes others know you are a follower of Christ.

The first step to forgiveness is to take responsibility for your actions.

If you want to be forgiven, you need to make sure you forgive other people.

By embracing forgiveness, you can also embrace peace, hope, gratitude and joy.



As a school staff, we work with the children to ensure that in their actions, they work toward forgiveness in

the following way:

In having made a mistake, they must:

☺ Take responsibility for their actions.

☺ Apologize to those affected.

☺ Make amends or “make things right” by fixing the problem.

☺ Work on strategies which will help focus on new behaviours so it doesn’t happen in the future.



ATTENDANCE

Regular and punctual attendance is directly related to success in school. Did you know that research has shown that students who do not attend school regularly

and on time in the primary grades are at risk for not graduating? Good habits begin at an early age!

Most of our classrooms have Mathematics and/or Language classes scheduled first thing in the morning. It is the parents' responsibility to ensure that the students arrive at school on time. Absent students should be reported by 8:45 a.m.

Did you also know that students who get enough sleep can concentrate better and learn more? For elementary school children, that means 10–11 hours per night. Make getting into bed on time a regular routine – it will benefit your child(ren) academically and give you some time to yourself!

DARE

The Dare program is set to begin with the Gr. 6 students the week of January 15th. Stay tuned – we will keep you posted!



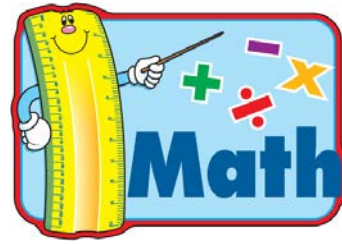
CITRUS FRUITS – ALLERGY

We no longer have anyone with citrus fruit allergies – so please feel free to send these items in lunches again!



PIZZA/MILK DAYS

We will no longer have daily milk delivered, however, we will have it on the same day as pizza – once per week. We are also making our payments for pizza/milk bimonthly to lower the immediate costs to parents.



FOCUS ON INSTRUCTION

One of our goals for School improvement this year is for students to “Justify or Explain” their thinking, particularly in Mathematics. You can help at home by asking them questions such as, “How do you know that?” or “Show me how you got that answer” and asking them to show you more than one strategy for getting an answer.



PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT

We are hosting a Parent information night on Wednesday, January 24th from 6 – 7:30 pm. We will have various guests to present information for parents. For instance, Mike Buhler – our Faith Ambassador from the Board will be here to talk about our Virtues program and how we bring the Catholic Graduate expectations to life every day in our school. We will also have someone explaining how we are using “Mental Math” to help children with explaining their thinking when problem solving. We are planning to have various community agencies to support us in this endeavor also. See you there!

