



# St. Gregory Catholic School



## OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

O Gracious God,

We give you thanks for your overflowing generosity to us. Thank you for the blessings of the food we eat. Thank you for our home and family and friends. Thank you for our health, our work and our play. Please send help to those who are hungry, alone, sick and suffering war and violence. Open our hearts to your love. We ask your blessing through Christ your Son. Amen



### Thanksgiving School Mass

Our Thanksgiving Mass with Father Cosmas will be held on Thursday, October 4 at 10:30 am in the gym. Everyone is welcome to join us.

### Fresh from the Farm – Fundraising campaign

Our students have come home with our Fresh from the Farm fundraising order form. This is a great way to support farmers and our school. Families can collect orders from friends and family and input the order through School Cash Online. Once all orders have been processed, we will receive notice of family pick up date (Nov. – Dec). Please keep your order form for when you come to the gym to pick up your order.



### Lanark County Snowsuit Campaign

Family and Children’s Services of Lanark, Leeds and Grenville is collecting snowsuits for children in need of warm, winter clothing and have left a drop box at the school. Donations of gently used, clean snowsuits would be greatly appreciated. The drop box will be in the school until Friday, October 19th.

### Food Drive – The Hunger Stop



Our Thanksgiving Food Drive for the Lanark County Food Bank will take place October 3rd to October 12th. The Hunger Stop Food Bank are requesting donations to help replenish their shelves.

**At St. Gregory Catholic School we strive to teach our children about Social Justice and to be a positive force in their community. We thank you for your generosity!**

### WITS

Students are learning to use their WITS, to **W**alk away, **I**gnore, **T**alk it out and **S**eek help when faced with peer conflict. The acronym also provides common language that children and the adults around them can use.

How can I support WITS at home:

Parents play a critical role by teaching children to use their WITS in a variety of situations.

- Use WITS to help your child solve conflicts. Use the language when watching TV or movies to talk about how characters handle problems.
- Praise your child when you observe him or her using WITS strategies. Ask: How did you decide which strategy to use? How did you feel when it worked?

Want to know more? Explore the Using WITS with Your Child section of the WITS website at [www.witsprogram.ca/families/using-wits-with-your-children/](http://www.witsprogram.ca/families/using-wits-with-your-children/)

### Do you shop on AMAZON?

The Easiest School Fundraiser Ever!

We are excited to introduce our Amazon Affiliate Program.

We have added an Amazon.ca link button on the homepage of our School Website. <http://stgregory.cdsbeo.on.ca/>



If you are planning to buy something from AMAZON.ca just start by clicking on our link. That will launch you directly to AMAZON and then you can shop. It is really that easy! It cost you nothing extra and our students benefit.

The school will receive a commission of 4-8% of eligible purchases. It doesn't get any easier than that!



You Shop - Our Students Win!

Please share this link with family and friends

### Subway lunch days

Beginning in October, the second last Wednesday of the month will be Subway lunch days. First order will be Wednesday, October 24. Please watch for the order form on School Cash Online coming soon!

## Reminders

- It is very important that parents call the school to report your child's absence. You may leave a message on the machine 24/7. This is part of the Ministry Safe School Act and we appreciate your help.
- School hours are 9:15 am to 3:25 pm. We begin each school day with O Canada and prayer. Children should arrive on time and ready to begin their day to avoid classroom interruptions.
- Supervision begins on the school yard at 8:55 am for student drop off.
- Any changes to end of day routine **should be written in the child's agenda**. This helps avoid classroom interruptions. For any emergency, last minute changes, please call the school by noon. Messages can then be relayed to the teachers at the lunch hour to avoid disrupting teaching time.
- We ask parents not to pick up their child out of the bus line at the end of the day. This presents a safety concern for our students. Students should be picked up at walker gate or car gate with a note in their agenda.
- Just a reminder for **students to keep their "valuables" at home**. If items are lost or stolen, the school cannot be held responsible. This includes Pokémon cards, iPods etc. Students are not allowed to bring/trade Pokémon cards at school. Please keep these prized possessions at home.



## Photo Re-takes

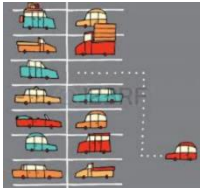
Photo re-takes will take place on **Wednesday, October 10<sup>th</sup>**. Once you receive the photo proofs, you must return your child's photo package, in order to receive a re-take. They will use the barcode on the re-take order form to process the photo.

## Catholic School Council

Our first official meeting of the school year will be held on Wednesday, October 10 at 6:30 pm in the school library. Everyone is welcome to join us. If you are interested in becoming a member of our Catholic School Council, please fill in a Nomination Form and return it to the school before the meeting. Forms can be requested at the office or downloaded from our school website.

<http://stgregory.cdsbeo.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/271/2014/10/Parent-Candidate-Nomination-Form.pdf>

## Parking Lot



To ensure the safety of all students and visitors to our school, please drive slowly and carefully through the parking lot. Additionally, please do not park in the bus loading zone in front of the school or the handicap spaces, unless you have a permit. When buses are loading or unloading, please do not cut through the parking lot if coming from car gate. For student safety, please allow our school buses to drive to their bus line ups. At the end of the day, we are moving over 430 students ranging in age from 3 yrs to 8yrs. Their safety is our number one priority.

## Kinder Morning Rituals



A note to parents/guardians of kindergarten students who drop their children off at walker gate in the morning: kindergarten students start their day at 9:15 with all other students. Please help us make their transition from home easier by leaving the walker gate area once you have dropped them off. This will encourage them to socialize with their peers and be ready for their day.

## Terry Fox Walk

Our Terry Fox Walk was held on Thursday, September 27<sup>th</sup> at 2:15 pm. Thank you for your donations through School Cash Online at [cdsbeo.schoolcashionline.com](http://cdsbeo.schoolcashionline.com)



## School Cash Online: [cdsbeo.schoolcashionline.com](http://cdsbeo.schoolcashionline.com)

Thank you to our families who have registered for School Cash Online. This enables families to pay for school expenses online. The school activity fee of \$13.00 (this includes student presentations ie Mary Lambert, will help subsidize school trips, skating, swimming, etc.) is posted online as well as Terry Fox and our Kindergarten field trip. Please note, families will use the School Cash Online payment method this year. Thank you so much for your support to this time-saving program. Once you have registered, you will receive an email notifying you each time a new item is posted that applies to your child/ren.



## Social Media

At St. Gregory Catholic School, we care about the well-being of our students. If you have any questions, comments or concerns, please call the school to address them directly or write a note to your child's teacher in the agenda rather than taking to Facebook and other social media. Please help us continue to build a positive school community for all our students and families.

## SEAC Meetings

Our CDSBEO Special Education committee meets once a month at the Kemptville Board Office at 6:00 pm. Please note the dates of meetings for this school year:

Wednesday, October 24, 2018  
Wednesday, November 28, 2018  
Wednesday, January 30, 2019  
Wednesday, February 27, 2019

Wednesday, March 27, 2019  
Wednesday, April 17, 2019  
Wednesday, May 22, 2019  
Monday, June 3, 2019



***We wish our families a Blessed Thanksgiving Holiday***