



St. Gregory Catholic School December Newsletter



Almighty God,

I give honor and praise to express my joy for Your great love in the gift of Your Son, Jesus Christ. With a glad heart I wish all everyone a Merry Christmas and may I always remember the angels' song,
"Peace on earth, good will toward men."

Amen

Welcome Advent



December 2nd marks the beginning of Advent. We look forward to the coming of Christ in the Christmas season. We will focus on the themes of each week in Advent, centered around the candles in the Advent wreath. The first candle represents a time of Expectation and Hope. The second candle leads to a discussion of Peace that is to come. The third candle represents Joy and the promise of the Incarnation. The fourth candle stands for God's love for humanity. Students will participate in school and community programs to put their faith into action. Our prayer services during this season will focus on getting our hearts ready for the coming of Jesus at Christmas. On behalf of the staff we wish all families a happy and holy Advent season, filled with hope, peace, joy and love.

Angel Tree

Many of our classrooms are participating in the Angel Tree Program. Parents can donate to the Angel Tree at SchoolCashOnline until December 12th. We thank you for your generous donation during the Season of Advent.

Kindergarten Christmas Crafts

Our kindergarten classrooms will be hosting a Christmas Craft day with their families. We appreciate the help of our families for committing to one day from the list below to help with space limitations.

Please see the schedule below for your child's craft day:

Date	Time	Teacher/Classroom
Monday, December 17	1:00 pm – 2:00 pm	Mrs. Bruder/Ms. Horner, Mrs. Nephin/Mrs. Lalonde, Mrs. O'Connor/Ms. Clifflen & Mrs. Nolan
Tuesday, December 18	1:00 pm – 2:00 pm	Mrs. Bruder/Ms. Horner, Mrs. Nephin/Mrs. Lalonde, Mrs. O'Connor/Ms. Clifflen & Mrs. Nolan
Wednesday, December 19	1:00 pm – 2:00 pm	Mrs. Publow/Mrs. Soares, Mme. Emard/Ms. Kerr, Ms. McCaw/Mrs. McDonald
Thursday, December 20	1:00 pm – 2:00 pm	Mrs. Publow/Mrs. Soares, Mme. Emard/Ms. Kerr, Ms. McCaw/Mrs. McDonald

Christmas Caroling in the Community

Friday, December 14

We invite parents to join us as we bring some Christmas music into our community.

Between 10:30 and 11:15 our students in grades 1-3 will be caroling at various locations around the community.

We would love for families to join us for this event at one of the locations.

We will be grouping children from families of siblings together. The exact location that children will be signing at will be sent home closer to the date.

We anticipate returning to the school for 11:30 to enjoy some hot chocolate and a few more songs.

Parents are welcome to join us for this if they wish.

Winter Clothes

Please dress your child(ren) appropriately for the weather with warm coats, mitts, hats, etc. It is also a good idea to pack a spare set of clothes in case they get wet at recess. If you have any mitts or hats that your child has outgrown and would like to donate them to the school, we would be most appreciative. We like to have a stash on hand in case someone forgets theirs. Children should come to school ready to be outside for recess, this way they know they have all the outdoor clothing they need for the day.



Library books

All library books are due back by Friday, December 7. This will enable Mrs. Santos to prepare the library for the new year. Thank you for encouraging your children in their love of reading.

Catholic School Council



MacMillan's Fundraiser –Pick up day is December 17 or 18 (we will confirm closer to delivery date)

Thank you to our students and families who participated in the MacMillan's Frozen Food Fundraiser. The fundraiser was a "great success! The proceeds help support students in need and enhance the quality of education at our school by providing extras" which are unable to be funded through our regular school budget. Mark your calendar for Cookie Dough pick up – December 17 or 18.

Movie Night

Thank you to all our families who attended the Catholic School Council Movie Night on Friday, November 30th. The gym was filled with laughter, popcorn, drinks and a good time was had by all. Special thanks to all the volunteers who helped make it a success.

Nutrition Program - We would also like to thank the parents who volunteer their time to help with the Nutrition Program. Thanks to you, our children excel in school.

Next meeting – Parents are always welcome to join us for Catholic School Council meetings. Our next meeting will be held on **Wednesday, January 16 at 6:30 pm**. See you there!

Snow Day Reminders – Bus Cancellations

There are several methods that can be used to check for school bus cancellations:

- Access STEO's website www.steo.ca, click on the link "Delays and Cancellations". Cancellations will be posted by 6:15 am.
- Subscribe to STEO's Parent Portal for updates on delays and cancellations, specific to your child's transportation. Sign up at www.steo.ca under Parent Login.
- Follow STEO on Facebook for updates.
- Call 1-866-629-0629 to access a pre-recorded message.
- During inclement weather the message will be posted by 6:15 am.
- Announcements regarding bus cancellations will be aired on local radio and television stations, beginning at 6:15 am.
- Please do not call the bus companies as the radio and website reflect the most accurate information.



If buses are cancelled due to inclement weather, all school events in the evening are cancelled as well, that includes community user group events. If a snow day falls on a pizza day, pizza (and milk) will be served to those students who are here and who have paid. For those students who do come to school on a snow day, drop off will be in the school yard and pick up is from the main office beginning at 3:10 pm.

Missed Calls

If you have a missed call from the school, **please check to see if there is a message before calling the school back**. It will help us be more efficient in redirecting your call if we know who called you. If there is no message, please be assured that the staff member will call you back. In the event of an emergency, we will call all numbers on file and leave a message at each one.



Sick Day

Tis the season for cold, flu and stomach bugs. Illness can spread very quickly in classrooms, so please keep your child at home when they are sick. They will be more comfortable in their own home and there will be less chance of others in the class getting sick as well. Remember to call the school to report your child's absence.

CDSBEO - Personal Support Worker program

Did you know that the province of Ontario is experiencing a shortage of Personal Support Workers?

The CDSBEO PSW program is hosting an information session for the upcoming February-June 2019 program. This full-time accredited program certifies graduates to work as a PSW in long term care homes, community agencies, personal residential homes and community hospitals. Visit www.coned.cdsbeo.on.ca for locations, dates and more information.

Check out our website and Facebook pages!

Website: www.stgregory.cdsbeo.on.ca

Facebook: StGregoryCP



Merry Christmas to all...

