



St. Gregory Catholic School



FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

Heavenly Father,
 Most good and gracious God, make our family a place where holiness and love abound. Help us to learn to be like Jesus in all our actions. Aid our family to imitate the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. Help us to learn from the good example of others and to give good example to everyone. Help our family life to lead only to Jesus, the source of true happiness. Please give wholesome habits to our family.
 We ask this through Christ Our Lord.
 Amen

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR SEPTEMBER



KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR SEPTEMBER 2019

We invite our families to register for Kindergarten in September. Our Kindergarten programs help students get off to the best possible start through playing, watching, listening and exploring while discovering the many gifts God has given them.

Tell your family, friends and neighbours, Kindergarten registration for September 2019 has begun. Please drop by the office to pick up a registration package. If you would like a package sent home with an older sibling, please write a note in your child's agenda. Children who are 4 years old by December 31, 2019 (born in 2015) are eligible to register for Junior Kindergarten for this September.

Students currently attending our Junior Kindergarten program do not have to register again for Senior Kindergarten.

Please bring the following documents with you to register: Child's Birth Certificate, Child's Baptism Certificate, Copy of proof of address (ie: tax bill, hydro bill or phone bill) We are also accepting registrations for students grade one to three for September!

Please call the school at 613-257-8468 should you have any questions.

Kindergarten Orientation will take place on

Thursday, April 11 from 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Valentine's Day - Nutrition at St. Gregory Catholic School



At St. Gregory we strive to foster healthy eating habits for our students, as well as ensure that students with allergies are not put at risk. In light of this, we ask parents **not to send in candy or baked treats to the school** at any time. Many of our students are allergic to nuts and different food additives and dyes that are often found in candy and baked treats. We also have parents that do not want their children eating additional sugars. **Please do not send Valentine cards with candy treats attached to the school.**

We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

Report Cards

Report cards for students will be sent home on Monday February 25. Although there is not a formal parent-teacher interview schedule after term 2, interviews may be arranged on an as needed basis when requested by the teacher or parent. Please send a note in your child's agenda if you would like to schedule an interview with your child's teacher.



Last minute emergency pick ups

As parents we all know the importance of routines. Sometimes, last minute emergencies come up where you will need to pick up your child from school. Whenever possible, please call the school at 613-257-8468 before you arrive. It gives us time to prepare your child (are they in gym, library, reading buddies, outside?) for pick up. Thank you for your support!

The
Season
of
Lent



Looking for Volunteers – Shrove Tuesday Pancake Breakfast

Shrove Tuesday is the day before Ash Wednesday. One Catholic tradition is to give up sweets and other rich foods during the Lenten season. To prepare, people cleaned their cupboards of the rich foods made with butter, eggs and fat, such as pancakes.

We will be celebrating Shrove Tuesday with our students on March 5th. If you can help us with cooking, serving or cleaning up we would appreciate the support. As you can imagine, serving 430 children pancakes is a large undertaking so we are looking for 17 volunteers. If you happen to have a griddle that we can use, we would appreciate you letting us borrow it.

Please go to <http://signup.com/go/XaDgAdc> to sign up for a time slot.

To reduce paper plates and plastic cutlery, please send your child with a re-usable plastic plate and fork in a bag on this day.



Spirit Week Activities: February 11 to February 15

Monday, February 11	Tuesday, February 12	Wednesday, February 13	Thursday, February 14	Friday, February 15
100 th day of school Pyjama day	Mismatch day	10:30 am – School Mass	Valentine Day Wear red, white or pink	Winter Carnival Outdoor Activities (weather permitting) Wear your favorite Team jersey

WITS and Bucket Fillers

The WITS Program is designed to help children deal with problems such as yard conflicts, disagreements, unkind actions and bullying. Often small issues can be dealt with using our WITS, **W**alk Away, **I**gnore, **T**alk it Out and **S**eek Help. As a school team, we help children learn these effective strategies and use them to resolve issues. At the same time, we help them learn ways to be kind and helpful to create a school culture of kindness, compassion and understanding.

We often use the term ‘Bucket Filler’ to describe our good actions that fill our friend’s emotional buckets. The good news is when we fill someone else’s bucket we fill our own at the same time! For more information on Bucket Filling, you can go to <http://www.bucketfillers101.com>. This is a great way to teach compassion and positive actions using kid friendly language.

Crazy Hair or Hat day

St. Gregory students will be participating in Crazy Hair or Hat Day on Friday, February 22nd to raise money to support the Sandy Lake First Nation K-12 school in North Western Ontario. This board wide initiative has raised over \$6600.00 in the past year. Families can donate through SchoolCashOnline.

Let’s see your CRAZY hair dos and hats!!



Eco School Initiative

Our Eco School team is continuing Boomerang lunches every Thursday. Whatever your child brings in their lunches will go home with them encouraging the use of washable containers.

Absence Reporting and Absences on Snow days

The Safe Arrival Policy of the Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario mandates that we account for each child who does not arrive at school. On that note, we ask parents to call the school if your child is not coming or will be late. This is so helpful to Mrs. Hammersley, as she completes the Ministry daily attendance requirements. Our voicemail is available 24 hours a day or you can jot a note in your child’s agenda about an upcoming absence. Please call the school even if your child was sick the previous day or went home early the previous day due to illness. We must hear from a parent every day the student is not at school.

On inclement weather days, all students who normally walk or are driven and are not coming to school, a phone call must be received at the office. We need to know you are safe at home and not stuck on the road coming to school. Parents of bus students do not need to call the office.

Winter Clothing

Please dress children appropriately with warm clothing for outside. A spare set of clothes for ALL students, not just JK/SK students, is a good idea in case students get wet at recess. Be sure to label all belongings so they may be returned.



Trips – Student Absences

If you are taking your child out of school for a week or more, please complete the board’s Temporary Absence Form. You can pick one up at the office or put a note in your child’s agenda to have one sent home.



Bussing Information

Please do not make changes to bussing directly with STEO or the bus company. Bussing arrangements must be done through the school so we can be kept up to date on how your children are going home at the end of the day. When parents make changes on their own, there is a chance the school will not be notified and errors can happen at dismissal time. Please allow 3 days for changes to take effect.