



St. John Catholic Elementary School

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Newsletter 2019

*With glad hearts we open ourselves to the wonder of this world.
May delight resonate through our school and out into our community.
May we proclaim Good News to all by our kindness and courage.
May all ears hear the wonderful story that we bring to the world.
We make this prayer in the name of Jesus. Amen*

Happy New Year 2019!

Welcome back everyone! We wish all our families a blessed New Year. We hope that the Christmas Holy season was blessed with joy, family and friends. On behalf of the entire St. John Catholic School staff, a special welcome is extended to all new families who have joined our school community in this new year. Please keep our Grade 2 students in your prayers as they begin preparations for the Sacrament of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion.

Upcoming Dates:

Friday, January 11th Swimming begins for Ms. O'Neil's & Mrs. Stranberg's classes in p.m.
Friday, January 11th Mrs. Brackenbury's class curling p.m.
Tuesday, January 15th Gr. 6 Open House Workshops @ SJCHS
Tuesday, January 15th Catholic School Council Meeting @ 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday January 16th Kindergarten Open House 4:30-6:30 p.m.
Wednesday, January 16th First Communion & Reconciliation Meeting 6:00-6:45 p.m.
Wednesday, January 16th SJCHS Open House for Gr. 7 & 9's for 2019-2020
Thursday, January 17th Mass @ 12:45 p.m. Grade 4 Bible Celebration
Friday, January 18th Mrs. Bryden's class curling in p.m.
Sunday, January 20th Enrollment Sunday
Tuesday, January 22nd Enrollment Mass Make up @ 4:30 p.m.
Friday, January 25th *Be Holy* Assembly @ 9:00 a.m. in the gym
Friday, January 25th Good Samaritan Trust Fund Fundraiser
Friday, January 25th Mr. Lapointe's class curling in p.m.
Friday, January 25th *OPP Kids* begins for Grade 6
Thursday, January 31st PA Day

St. John Catholic Elementary School

Holy Mass

in Celebration of

The Handing on of the Holy Bible,

The Word of God to

Grade Four Students



is being held on Thursday, January 17, 2019
at 12:45 p.m.

Please join us in this celebration!

Sacramental Preparation: Reconciliation and First Holy Communion

St. John the Baptist Parish, together with the school and families of our Grade 2 students begin preparing to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. We invite parents/guardians of Grade 2 students to an information evening on Wednesday, January 16, 2019 from 6:00 p.m. – 6:45 p.m. in the school gym. A detailed information package will be available and reviewed at the meeting.



Enrolment Masses will be held Sunday, January 20th at 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Enrolment make up Mass- Tuesday, January 22nd at 4:30 p.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation- Wednesday, February 27th at 6:00 p.m.

Sacrament of First Holy Communion- Sunday, May 5th at 9:00 a.m. Mass



KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR SEPTEMBER 2019

We invite our families to register for Kindergarten in September 2019. 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 will begin the week of January 14th.

On Wednesday, January 16th there will be a Kindergarten Open House from 4:30- 6:30 p.m. at the school. Please call or 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

One of the following: Tax, Hydro or Phone Bill to verify home address. Note, a copy will be kept with Registration paperwork

Please call the school at 613-267-2865 should you have any questions.

Winter Carnival Activities and Events

Tuesday, February 19 th	Ski/Snowboard/Snowshoe/Tubing Day Grade 3-6 Outdoor Activities- Kindergarten to Grade 2
Wednesday February 20 th	Crazy Hair/ Hat Day Junior Hockey Tournament <i>Let's Talk Science</i> in Primary classes
Thursday, February 21 st	Jersey Day Skating in morning Mass @ 12:45 p.m.
Friday, February 22 nd	Pyjama Day (and voluntary donation for Student Senate fundraiser) <i>Be Holy</i> Assembly Ms. O'Neil's class curling in p.m.

Reminders:

- **Safe School Arrival Policy:**

Parents/Guardians are asked to call and inform the school of student absences or late arrivals before 8:40 a.m.

You may call the school at 613-267-2865, where you can leave a message at any time.

If arriving late, please remind your child to stop by the office for a late slip when dropping them off.

Children who arrive late or are picked up early are recorded as such to the ministry, so please continue doing your best to minimize them. Classroom interruptions are always an educational concern as it disrupts the lesson and the attention of other students.

- **Visitors to the School:**

Please remember that to other children you may be a stranger. All visitors entering the school must report to the office to sign in and obtain a visitor's badge. In order to limit classroom interruptions, the office will relay messages and lunches at recess time. **For end of day emergency, last minute changes (not in agenda), please call the school before 2:30 p.m. to allow enough time to relay changes.**

Thank you for your help in keeping our children safe!

- **Pizza and Snow Days**

When buses are cancelled on a Thursday for inclement weather, Pizza Day will be rescheduled.

If you are sending your child/children on snow days, please remember to send a lunch along with their snack.

Make it your New Year's Resolution to Go Green in 2019!

As part of our Eco Schools initiatives, we are bringing back the Golden Lunchbox award in full force this year. Each day, anyone who has a LITTERLESS lunch will be given a ballot. At the end of each week, the class that has the most ballots will win the Golden Lunchbox for the week.



In conjunction with our school's goal in reducing our garbage, the students from the Green Team have proposed and gone around to each class with the initiative of eliminating plastics from our school community. Their first goal is to eliminate the use of all plastic spoons. Students have been asked to permanently keep a reusable spoon as part of their lunch bags. This will decrease our plastic impact on the Earth, as well as allow more funding to be put into buying even more nutritious food for our wonderful Nutrition Program.



Our school has also become an official Call2Recycle battery recycling program. There is a box in the office where you can drop off used single use AND rechargeable batteries, as well as old cell phones. Please individually bag all lithium and cell phone batteries. Instructions are posted in the office, or you can visit <http://www.call2recycle.org/> for more information.



Skating Rink:

Students are reminded that they may skate at lunch recess. Classes may make use of the rink for Phys. Ed. programs as well. Students must wear a helmet and gloves/mitts at all times when on the rink. The rink is open evenings and weekends to all who would like to enjoy the great outdoors in a fun wintery way. The school will gladly accept donations of used skates/hockey helmets for the use of students who may not have their own. Thank you to Mr. Brackenbury, Mr. Lapointe and M. Struthers for getting the rink ready this year.

Cross Country:

The St. John Cross Country Ski Club got an early start to the season with a wintry December. There are now 50 skiers from grades 3 - 7 equipped for the trails - a record high for our club!

Grade 4,5 and 6 skiers meet on Tuesdays after school and Grade 3 skiers meet on Thursdays. We are currently practicing at the school, but we will move over to Conlon Farm once we get some deeper snow.

We are able to have such a large club only because of a **generous grant of \$1500 from the Perth and District Community Foundation and a \$100 donation from Oztrek**, a local business which allowed us to buy up a large amount of second-hand gear from Pakenham Ski Hill. We will be having a bake sale in early February to offset the final \$200 cost.

It is great to have such a large and enthusiastic bunch of skiers. Bring on the snow!

Hockey:

Hockey practice will begin on Monday, January 28th, February 4th and February 11th for Grade 5 and 6 hockey players. Students will leave the school at 2:30 p.m. and are to be picked up at the Perth Arena for 4:00 p.m. We are in need of some parents to help tie skates at the practices. Grade 5 & 6 Mixed Hockey tournament will take place in Carleton Place on February 20th.

Please refer to our website at www.stjohnelementary@cdsbeo.on.ca for our school news blog, calendar of events, newsletters, school cash online, and registration information.