

MONSIGNOR CLAIR CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2017

PRAYER

IN FLANDERS FIELDS POEM

By Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae

**In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place: and in the sky
The larks still bravely singing fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.**

**We are the dead: Short days ago,
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved: and now we lie
In Flanders fields!**

**Take up our quarrel with the foe
To you, from failing hands, we throw
The torch: be yours to hold it high
If ye break faith with us who die,
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields**



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Let us rejoice and be blessed with all of the wonderful October weather we have been fortunate to have. The students are looking forward to our Halloween dance on October 31st. As the months become darker and colder as we head into Winter, let us keep in our thoughts and prayers those who have served our country. As we gather on November 10 at school - let us remember them. All families are encouraged to attend the cenotaph ceremonies on November 11th to remember the people who died for our freedom.

We have had a very busy two months of school with many teams and activities getting under way. Congratulations to all cross-country athletes and coaches who did a fabulous job representing our school. Our Recycling Team, Junior and Intermediate Volleyball and Basketball, Patrollers, Choir etc. are in full swing. Encourage your children to become involve with the school as more activities pop up.

Progress Reports will be going home on November 15th – parents are encouraged to make an appointment for Thursday November 16th in the evening or Friday November 17th to meet with your child's teachers. These conferences are meant to celebrate the growth and learning that each student has experiences so for this school year. More information will be coming home to sign up for times.

Your school community council next meets on Tuesday November 7th at 6:30 p.m. in the school library. This is a great opportunity to be a part of what makes our school a great place! Please join us!

SAFETY & SECURITY IN OUR YARD

Our school playground is supervised in the morning starting at 8:45 a.m. and in the afternoon until 3:40 p.m. Please be aware that for the safety of our children, no pets are allowed on school property. This includes lap dogs or dogs that are carried.

We ask that the parents/guardians use the walkway, on the west side along the front fence of the schoolyard to wait for children. At the end of the school day, please wait for children in this area only and not in front of the school along the wall on the east side. The congestion created by parents waiting to pick up children is creating a safety concern for our bus students who are loading buses at this time. All students who walk home should exit out their assigned doors and walk through the field area, along the sidewalk at the front of the school or around the back to the catwalk in the parking lot area. Parents are not to wait on the school yard or in the back yard area. Please arrange for a spot to meet your child. Through this practice we will be able to ensure that your child can exit the school safely.

SIMCOE COUNTY INCLEMENT WEATHER ZONES

To limit bus cancellations if weather conditions warrant, the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium (SCSTC) has developed "Inclement Weather Zones." These four zone areas have been determined based on weather patterns, school catchment areas, routes that cross over catchment areas and special needs transportation. The four weather zones - North, South, Central and West - will allow for partial cancellations. For example, when the weather in the Collingwood area is such that it is not safe for the buses to travel the roads, then buses in the West Weather Zone would be cancelled, while the buses in remaining three zones would continue to run. No school belongs in more than one zone. **Monsignor Clair School is in the Central Zone.**



PICTURE RETAKE DAY

Picture retake day is scheduled for Wednesday, November 2, 2017. If your child did not have their picture taken on October 6th they will have their picture taken on this date.

PIZZA-Q

Thank you to Mrs. Bradley and the Pizza-Q committee, all of our St. Joseph High School volunteers for once again putting on a wonderful event. A special thank you goes to **Pizzaville** on Bayfield St. for supplying the Pizzas.

INDOOR/OUTDOOR SHOES

Due to health and safety regulations, it is required that students wear indoor shoes at all times. Please make sure your child has one pair of indoor shoes that can be worn while at school.

FROM THE LIBRARY BOOK EXCHANGE

Book Exchanges are now up and running. Unfortunately, there are many outstanding and damaged books that have not been returned to the library from last year. Reminder notices will be given to students to return library books as soon as possible, or if not found/replaced, we will ask for the replacement cost.



WILD WEST BOOK FAIR...YEEHAW!

Thank you to staff, students and families who supported the book fair this year. Many students received new reading materials and we also raised close to \$600 which will be used to purchase more hardcover books related to various aspects within the Ontario curriculum.

Thank you to our parent volunteers who helped with us set up, take down and working the cashiers table.

A special thank you to our Grade 4 student Jaxon C. who did an amazing job promoting the Wild West Book Fair over the announcements with an authentic cowboy accent.

TOUR FOR HUMANITY BUS

We are thrilled to announce that the **Tour For Humanity Bus** will be visiting our school on **Friday October 27th** from 9:00 - 3:30. This is a state of the art, technologically advanced, mobile human rights education centre. The goal of this program is to create and to motivate everyone to create positive change within the home, school and community. The topics covered will compliment the work that is taught within the junior/intermediate classrooms. Friends of Simon Wiesenthal Centre for Holocaust Studies (FSWC) works to promote tolerance, justice and human rights. FSWC is guided by the concept of Tikkun Olam - a Hebrew term meaning "Repair of the World".

Funding has been made available in partnership with the Ontario English Catholic Teacher's Association (OECTA) and the Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board (SMCDSB).

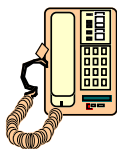
Parents are invited to take part in the Tour For Humanity experience.

LOST AND FOUND

Every year, each month we will be bagging and donating all lost and found items. Please remind your children to check the lost and found frequently if they are missing any articles. The donation will be made at the end of each month. Mr. Laurin will bag up lost and found items on November 4th. Please remember to label all items and toys with your child's name. This way we can assist in returning lost items to the rightful owners.

TELEPHONE USE

The school phone is in constant use by our staff. Students are not permitted to use the phone except in the case of an emergency. Please remember to make all arrangements with your child ahead of time for dismissal or pick up from any extracurricular activities. In order to ensure the safety of your child at all times, a note to the classroom teacher or the office is the best way to deliver a change in their daily schedule. If there is no note concerning instructions for your child we will default to the regular routine.



LUNCH TIME

Students are outside for 40 minutes each lunch hour. Please ensure your children are dressed appropriately for the weather.

Students are not permitted to go to the local plaza without parental supervision. They must be signed in/out at the office by a parent/guardian. Students who go home for lunch on a regular basis must have a note filed with their teacher.

VISITORS

For the ongoing safety of the children, please continue to sign in if you are visiting the school. Please do not go into the school yard without a visitor tag. This includes in the morning before classes start. Visitor tags are available at the front desk in the office. Please set an appointment with the teacher if you wish to visit the classroom or speak to the teacher.

If you are signing your child out early please come to the office and Mrs. McVeigh or Mrs. Everett will call your child to the office. If you are signing your child in late we are encouraging all children from grades 1-8 to walk to class on their own. We are trying to minimize interruptions during instructional time.

ST. MARY'S PARISH

St. Mary's Church is located on 65 Amelia Street Barrie 705-728-2985. Weekend Masses are at 5 p.m. on Saturday and 8:00, 10:00 a.m. and 12 noon as well as a Youth Mass at 4:00 pm on Sunday. Msgr Marco Laurencic is the Parish Pastor.



RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR CHILDREN

(R.C.I.C.) - If your child has not been baptized, he or she may participate in the R.C.I.C. Program.

Classes begin this weekend on Sunday October 22 at 11:15 a.m. for 7 to 11 year olds preparing for Baptism. RCIC will run parallel to First Communion preparation.

Questions? Please contact Mickie Oakes, Pastoral Associate in the parish office at ext. 110.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Now that Parent meetings are completed, any parent who still wishes to enroll their child for First Communion or Confirmation, registration is now open. You may pick up a package at the parish office.

ST MARY'S ANNUAL MEMORIAL MASS

Thursday, November 2nd at 7 pm

The memorial Mass is just over three weeks away. Please watch the bulletin over the next couple of weeks for further information.

FAMILY MASQUERADE DANCE

Our Annual Family Masquerade Dance will be on Saturday, October 28th from 7:30 to 9:30 pm. in the parish hall. Wear your favourite costume, prizes to be won and a light lunch will be served. Dance away with a local DJ! Tickets on sale this weekend after all Masses or from the parish office. \$5.00 each or \$20.00/family

CHRISTMAS TUCK SHOP

Back by popular demand, Christmas shopping at school! In December, students will have the opportunity to shop for Christmas gifts for their family members. We are looking for donations of new or gently used items that could be sold in the Tuck Shop. Please keep in mind that we do not have much storage space and students will need to be able to bring their gifts home in their backpacks, so items need to be small. We will also gladly accept Christmas wrapping paper and gift tags. All money raised will be used to help support our school Christmas Cheer. Details about shopping days will follow in November. Donations will be accepted until early December. If you have any questions or donations, please direct these to Ms. St-Onge. Thank you for your support.



THANKSGIVING DONATIONS

Thank you to all of our Monsignor Clair Families for their wonderful giving to our Thanksgiving Food Collection. Our donations were used to help local families and our Barrie Food Bank. Once again we thank-you for your efforts with helping us to work together at Monsignor Clair School.



QSP – MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTIONS

Once again we have organized a Magazine Fundraiser through QSP. Our online catalogue offers over 700 magazines at savings up to 80% off newstand prices. Don't forget Magazines make great Birthday and Christmas gifts. You can shop ON-LINE only all year long. Go to www.qsp.ca our school group number is 3720604. This is an easy way for out of town family and friends to participate. Thank you for supporting Monsignor Clair School.



TERRY FOX WALK

On Thursday, September 28, our school participated in the Terry Fox Walk. This event was to commemorate and carry on the work of a young Canadian - Terry Fox. The total school student community displayed a keen concern for this very important charity event. Terry Fox's Marathon of Hope goal was to raise \$2 per person in Canada to help with the research of cancer. Terry's life was cut short when he succumbed to cancer at a very early age, however our efforts have helped to continue with his dream. Our goal as a school community was to collect a toonie from each student, which would have had our donation close to \$500. As a community we collected a total of \$250 for this worthy cause. It is with these efforts that we may someday conquer this disease. **Well done MCS!**



MCS CATHOLIC SCHOOL COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The School Council has held a September meeting. There has been an excellent turn out. The minutes from both meetings are posted on the bulletin board outside the main office. Our Executive is as follows: Co-Chairs – Mrs M. Catallo and Mr L. Triskle, Secretary – Mrs P. Sisak. The next regular council meeting will take place on Tuesday, November 7 at 6:30 pm. in the school library. Please watch for upcoming details about our Fundraising initiatives for the 2017/18 school year.

NOON HOUR SUPERVISION

We are in need of a Noon Hour Supervisor as well as **on call** Noon Hour Supervisors. This is a paid position with the Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board.

The position entails working 1 hour per day from 11:55 am to 12:55 pm Monday to Friday from September to June. The candidate would provide supervision for students combining indoor and outdoor supervision. The position pays \$15/hour.



CROSS COUNTRY

Congratulations to our Cross Country running team. Despite the terrible rainy, cold weather our team performed well. Congratulations goes to Luca, Luke, Sophia, Kayleigh, Liam, Viggo, Tanner, Devon, Ayva, Sage, Ari, Jacob, Dawson, Ryan and Theron for moving forward to the Championship Meet at Mount St. Louis on October 17th.

LOOKING FORWARD TO...

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| October 27 | - | Tour for Humanity Bus |
| October 30 | - | PA day – no classes |
| October 31 | - | Halloween Spirit Dance |
| November 2 | - | Picture Retake Day |
| November 7 | - | Fundraising Kick Off Assembly |
| November 10 | - | Remembrance Day Para Liturgy |
| November 16 & 17 | - | Three way conferences |
| November 17 | - | PA Day |

