



Principal's Report

Monday, March 9, 2020

Lord, light the path and I will lead others

KUDOS

- Thank you to all the parents who participated and helped with organizing and supporting the January Family Movie Night!
- Thank you to all of the parents who helped with our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Breakfast, everyone loved the pancakes and sausages.
- Thank you to the many parents who have been volunteering to support our Hot Lunch program.
- Thank you to the many parents who completed the recent Milk Program Survey, the feedback was helpful with making a decision about the next steps of the program.

STAFF PROFESSIONAL LEARNING FOCUS for February/March:

- **Faith:**
 - **Father Leo Patalinghug:** Is a Catholic priest from Baltimore, and the host and founder of Grace Before Meals, and apostolate to strengthen families and communities around the dinner table. He even competed on the Food Network show “Throwdown with Bobby Flay” where he defeated Bobby Flay himself in a cooking competition. While Father spoke to us he also did a cooking demonstration, connecting food and faith. Father Leo hopes to bring people closer together- one meal at a time!
 - **David Wells:** Is a well known Catholic speaker who has spoken at more than 500 conferences worldwide. He is a regular contributor to the Religious Education Congress in Anaheim, California and has spoken at some of the largest teachers events in Canada and appeared on Canadian TV. He is a teacher whose roles have included working in London for the Catholic Education Service providing in-service training opportunities for staff in Catholic schools.
- **Know Your Learner:**
 - **Literacy:** Reading Assessment - Fountas and Pinnell continuation
 - **Individual Support Plans:** individual student goals
 - **English as a Second Language Benchmarks:** individual student goals
- **Assessment Practices:**
 - **Formative Assessment:**
 - Engaging Students in the Assessment Process
 - The Critical Role of Practice and Feedback
 - **Reporting:** EDSBY
- **Technology:** All Things GOOGLE Part 3
- **Safe and Caring:** Occupational Health and Safety / Emergency Protocols
- **Communication:**
 - Developing meaningful and effective Student Led Conferences and Parent-Teacher Conferences

SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten Registrations 2020-2021

Program	January 27th
Pre-Kindergarten	50 registrations
Kindergarten	70 registrations

- This is the highest registrations we have had for Pre-K at this time of year and the highest for Kinder at this time since Spring 2016.
- We will be continuing to advertise for both programs through social media and by sending existing families in the school emails encouraging them to register sooner and to help advertise with word of mouth to ensure your desired days/programming.

Registrations for Grades 1 - 5 2020-2021

- We will be opening online registrations for Grade 1-5 by the end of March

Parent Teacher Conferences

- **Wednesday, March 18--Student Led Conferences**
-this is an opportunity for students to demonstrate their learning to their parents/guardians during these 45 minute sessions.
- **Thursday, March 19--Parent/Teacher Conferences**
-this is an opportunity for parents to have a one-on-one conference with their child's teachers at their request or the teachers.

Spirit Days (Melissa)

March 19	Sock Day to support World Down Syndrome Day (March 21, 2020)
April 15	Hat Day
May 8	Book Character Dress Up Day
June 5	Privilege Day the same as last year. Students choose 3 privileges and bring in money to support our school Foster Child.

Preparing for Lent (Melissa)

- Lenten Project
 - Food Bank Donations
- Easter Mass (April 17 @ 10:30am at St. Mary's Parish- 5E and 2K leading)

Social Justice (Melissa)

- Good Neighbours Valentines- Grade 1 - Feb. 14
- Jeans Week to support a staff member
- Lenten Project: Grade 4's leading our school wide Food Bank Collection
 - March 2-6 - peanut butter
 - March 9-13 - juice boxes for lunches
 - March 16-20 - rice
 - March 23-27 - No School
 - March 30-April 3 - soup
 - April 5-9 - pasta or sauce
- Staff Ronald McDonald House Dinner: March 2 and March 30
- Endangered Animals: Grade 4GH and 4W: Bake Sale - March 10 and Bubble Gum Sale - March 19

First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Cultural Plan (Melissa)

- Continuing this year with the support of our Division Support Team
- Upcoming Date
 - Grade 3 Tipi Presentation- Mar. 5
 - Grade 4 Buffalo presentation-Mar. 12
 - Grade 2 Inuksuit and Inuit Sled Dogs Presentation- Mar. 18
 - PreK/Kindergarten Nature Walk- April 7,8,9
 - Grade 5 Sacred Heart of the First Peoples- April 8 (tentatively)

Mindset Mondays

Mindful Mondays touch on respect, kindness and our growth mindset in different ways; lessons are created by the Wellness Team and are delivered to all students by the teachers.

In the months of December and January we have focused on the following with our students:

- February 3rd - 7 Sacred Teachings - LOVE
- February 10th - Liturgical Season of LENT
- February 24th - Pink Shirt Day - KINDNESS
- March 2nd: Growth Mindset Success Stories
- March 9th - Seven Sacred Teachings - HUMILITY
- March 16th - Who is St. Patrick?

Administrative Procedures Review

Below are the administrative procedures to be reviewed by the division administration this month. Please provide Rori-Lynn with any feedback you may have prior to the March 17th via email and she can bring forward on your behalf to the meeting.

These procedures can be found on the division website <https://www.rdcrcs.ca/board/admin-procedures>

[Administrative Procedure 115 - Social Media](#) and

[Administrative Procedure 322 - Communicable Disease Control and Blood Borne Infections.](#)

Digital Citizen Resources

- **March Theme:** We know the power of words and actions (Relationships and Communication)
- **Catholic Connection:** The internet can be an awesome place to meet and connect with people, but it's important to create healthy online relationships. A healthy online relationship needs the same things all healthy relationships need: communication, trust and boundaries. You are aware that we are all created in God's image, and that our actions have an impact on the mental and physical well-being of others. Always strive for the common good - a good that is shared by all in common. Common good follows wherever the fundamental rights of the person are respected and humans can freely develop their full potential (Youcat 327).
- **Relationships and Communication:** Students reflect on how they can use communication skills to build and strengthen positive online collaboration and communities. They delve into the concepts of digital citizenship and digital ethics, and they reflect on their online interactions. Information provided by Common Sense Curriculum, www.commonsense.org.
- **Digital Citizenship Parent Resource** located on our Division Website. It is located at <https://www.rdcrcs.ca/learning/technology/digital-citizenship>

STARS Days Update

- Students Transforming, Actively, Responsibly and Successfully (STARS) Please contact Lindsay Franz if you feel like you can support a session for an upcoming STARS afternoon, [we are always looking for parents and community members to share their gifts and talents with our community](#)
 - March: Kindness
 - May: Wellness
 - June: Indigenous Showcase Day

March Virtue/Asset Focus Division Focus

- **HUMILITY** and the Catholic education characteristic of spirituality
- **Scripture:** "DO NOTHING OUT OF SELFISH AMBITION OR VAIN CONCEIT, RATHER IN HUMILITY VALUE OTHERS ABOVE YOURSELVES" PHILIPPIANS 2:3
- **Mental Health Strategy:** Share your gifts and talents: God has given each one of us our own unique abilities to bless those around us.
- **40 Developmental Assets Focus**
 - #8 Youth as Resources
 - #36 Peaceful Conflict Resolution
 - #38 Self-Esteem
 - #39 Sense of Purpose

WCB INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR VOLUNTEERS

- The Division purchased additional voluntary Workers Compensation Board of Alberta (WCB) coverage for volunteers not already covered by WCB. Volunteers providing services for curriculum based activities are insured under our primary WCB policy (e.g., parents assisting the teacher i.e., reading program, supervision for curriculum based activities i.e., museums, zoo, farms trips etc).The new coverage applies to volunteers that provide service outside the regular curriculum activities and are excluded under our primary WCB policy (e.g., volunteer coaches, service and playground projects, grad activities, fundraising events and field trips outside the regular school curriculum).
- Volunteers to date have been entered into the online WCB sign in form, moving forward the volunteer shall complete the online WCB sign in form to record hours of work.
- The volunteer sign-in link is located on our website under [Health and Safety](#).

SCHOOL WIDE PRESENTATIONS (Melissa)

Face2Face Ministries: March 11, 2020 POSTPONED DUE TO PRESENTER ILLNESS

- We will reschedule this retreat; will check availability for Fall
- As this presentation was being funded by the Red Deer Regional Catholic Education Foundation we will explore if there are other options available to our school to utilize this grant money

Concert Band Performance: April 16th @ 1:00 pm

- Monsignor Fee Otterson School concert band from Edmonton; this grade 8 and 9 school concert band will be performing for all students

MILK PROGRAM SURVEY

Parent Feedback:

- 95 Responses: 123 students
- 68.4% of the responders were aware of the milk program
- 35.8% of them currently access the program
- Responses from Pre-Kindergarten to Grade 5 (majority were parents of grade 3 students)
- 84.2% of responders are interested in accessing the Milk Program

Outcome: The school will promote the program, by developing a digital poster and send information to the parents and continue to offer the Milk Program

ADVISORY QUESTION

March Question:

School Supplies, Do you access School Start for ordering your child's school supplies? If yes, what is it that you like about it? (convenience, cost effective, time saving).

We have noticed that many parents have them delivered to home so they can label school supplies. Supplies that are delivered to the school potentially do not get labelled or the child misses instructional time to label.

Would you continue to order if the option was not available to have them delivered to the school?

OFFICE STAFFING UPDATE

Mrs. Christine Soroka has transferred to us from St. Gabriel Learning Center she will be in the office Monday thru Friday and Mrs. Frances Harris will be working on Thursdays. Mrs. Schmidt will continue to be in the office Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday each week.

PARENT COMMUNICATION

Parents are always welcome and encouraged to discuss questions or concerns with the classroom teacher or school administration.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

School Council is a means for parents and community to work together to support and enhance student learning. School Council provides a venue for parents to reflect their wishes of the broader community of education of its students and to actively participate in giving advice and support to the principal.

Roles that are not to be taken on by a School council include:

- School governance
- Employment issues
- School management
- Listening to complaints.

Thank you to our parents for continuing to work in a team to meet the goals of School Council

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **March 16:** CARE Presentation: Acceptance
- **March 18:** Grade 2 Dog Sled Presentation
- **March 18:** Immunizations Health Nurse
- **March 18:** Student Led Conferences
- **March 19:** Parent-Teacher Conferences
- **March 19:** Spirit Day - Crazy Sock Day (World Down Syndrome Day- March 21)
- **March 19:** STARS - Kindness
- **March 20:** LIEU DAY NO SCHOOL
- **March 23-27:** SPRING BREAK NO SCHOOL
- **March 30:** Staff Ronald MacDonald House
- **April 7:** T/TH Kinder Nature Walk & Smudge
- **April 8:** W/F Kinder Nature Walk & Smudge
- **April 8:** Grade 5 to Sacred Heart of the First People Church (tentative)
- **April 9:** Holy Thursday - Lent Ends
- **April 9:** Pre-K Nature Walk and Smudge
- **April 10:** Good Friday - No School
- **April 12:** Easter Begins
- **April 13:** Easter Monday - No School
- **April 14:** Spring Individual Photos and Kinder Photos
- **April 15:** Spirit Day - Hat Day
- **April 15:** Spring Individual Photos and Kinder Photos
- **April 16:** Concert Band Performance
- **April 17:** Easter Mass
- **April 17:** St. Marguerite French Celebration

“ THERE ARE TWO
WAYS OF
SPREADING LIGHT:
*to be the candle
or the mirror*
THAT REFLECTS IT. ”

EDITH WHARTON