



Principals' Report

Monday, September 13, 2021

Be Strong, Be Brave, Be Fearless. You are Never Alone.

KUDOS (Rori-Lynn)

- Thank you to all members of the School Council for sharing your gift of time and talents, our community greatly benefits and is better as a result of all of your hard work. We are looking forward to working with each of you this school year.
- Our staff and students are very thankful for the purchase of Soft Start materials, this is allowing for increased opportunities for our students and staff to build connections and start the day off on the right foot. THANK YOU SCHOOL COUNCIL!

STAFF PROFESSIONAL LEARNING FOCUS for August/September (Rori-Lynn)

School Focus for the 2021-22 school year:

- Faith: focus on the 8 Characteristics of Catholic Identity specifically on Community and Tradition.
- Wellness for staff and students: Trauma Informed Care
- Knowing our Learners: what is our student data telling us and how do we use it to inform our instruction & intervention (Reading Comprehension)
- Assessment Practices: continue to develop formative assessment that provides meaningful feedback to learners and informs our day to day instruction
- Indigenous Teachings: staff are committed to our call to Truth and Reconciliation and learning about reconciliation from local Elders, knowledge keepers and allies (division Indigenous Support Team) and how they can permeate these teachings into their instructional practices

Technology Fair

- Teachers are sharing effective programs to help enhance student learning, engagement and assessment

School Culture

- Celebrating student success from the 2020-21 school year from our collective approach to meet all learning needs of our students
- Guest Speaker: Superintendent, Mrs. Kathleen Finnigan - Holy Family vision and beliefs: collective efficacy- together we can and do accomplish great things

Breaking Open Division Faith Theme

- Be Brave. Be Strong. Be Fearless. You Are Never Alone. Joshua 1:9
- Liturgy and watercolor artwork

Indigenous Teachings

- Sept. 30 day of acknowledgement and appreciation (*Treaty and Metis Flag Ceremony*)

Know your learner

- Learning & the Brain: Reviewing student response models, developing meaningful lessons and intervention to meet the needs of our students.
- Responsive model of Student Supports implemented

Wellness

- Trauma Informed Care: during the 2020-21 school year all staff were Level 1 and Level 2 trained
- To continue to build on our learning staff are engaging in a book study
 - Fostering Resilient Learners: Strategies for Creating a Trauma-Sensitive Classroom; Book by Kristin Souers and Peter A. Hall
- September Focus is on Self Care

SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

2021-2022 Student Population (Rori-Lynn)

- 399 students Kindergarten to Grade 5
 - This includes 11 at home learners; we are welcoming over 50 AHLs back into the classroom that have been out of the classroom since March 2020
 - Decrease of 45 students from previous school year

Kinder	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5
71	67	60	62	62	77

- 11 students at home learning
 - Our in classroom students are 387
 - Current average class sizes
 - Kindergarten to Grade 2 is 21
 - Grade 3 to 5 is 21
 - Excellent opportunity for teachers to provide enhanced intervention to all our students

Celebration (Rori-Lynn)

- 2020-2021 Spring Literacy Data WOW...lot's to celebrate!!!
- Our school wide commitment to a collective “all hands on deck” approach yielded positive results for student literacy learning and achievement

Holy Family Fountas & Pinnell DATA Overview

F&P Spring Data	At or Above Grade Level	Approaching	At-Risk
2020-2021 Spring	81.78%	12.5% (27 students)	5.71% (13 students)
2020-2021 Fall	66.38%	23.28%	10.34%
2019-2020 Spring	N/A	N/A	N/A
2019-2020 Fall	76.14%	18.63%	5.23%
2018-2019 Spring	67.48%	26.02%	6.5%
2018-2019 Fall	74.21%	20.70%	5.10%
2017-2018 Spring	74.07%	19.53%	6.4%
2017-2018 Fall	76.85%	16.78%	6.38%

Note: this data does not include our over 50 students returning from AHL for the 21-22 school year

Staffing (Rori-Lynn)

- 37 staff members (down 3 from this time last year)
- Please join us in welcoming new staff members:
 - Mrs. Kelley Labrecque (office)
 - Miss Alyssa Letaba (Educational Assistant)
 - Mrs. Sandra Hodder (Educational Assistant)
 - Mrs. McKenna Heidebrecht (Educational Assistant)
 - Ms. Rae-anne Gies (Kindergarten Teacher)

School Wide Opening Mass (Stacey)

- A livestream mass is being planned by students/staff from Gr. 5 Edens and the HFS Faith Coach. Father Mirek will join us for this mass at our school in the atrium.

Believe in God: The BIG block (Stacey)

- BIG (Believe in God) lessons are faith based and taught to all Kindergarten to Grade 5 students 16 times throughout the year.
- The first BIG lesson has students learning about our school division faith theme, “Be Strong, Be Brave, Be Fearless. You Are Never Alone.”
- The lessons will promote student’s spiritual well being through activities and discussions specifically tied to the school division faith characteristics of community and tradition (i.e. God glasses, prayer)

Schedule (Stacey)

- Supervision: Outside supervision starts at 8:11 am and ends after school at 3:08 pm
- Staggered Entry and Dismissal
- Staggered Recesses

Mindful Mondays (Rori-Lynn)

- Our Wellness Team will be continuing to plan lessons this year; the focus being on growth mindset, positive affirmations, mindful breathing, gratitude, wellness, being welcoming and respectful of others. These practices help our learners in being happy, healthy, regulated, positive little humans. Staff report feeling better as well as they participate alongside the students,

Administrative Procedures Review (Rori-Lynn)

- There are no administrative procedures to review this month

SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Parents often ask how they can best support their child’s classroom teacher and the school community. Asking your child specific questions at the end of the day that are framed in a positive manner that promotes a growth mindset. For example:

- What was your favourite part of the day today?
- Who did you play with at recess?
- What made your teacher smile today? What made him/her frown?
- Who is the friendliest person in your class?
- Was there anything that made you sad today?
- What are you looking forward to at school tomorrow?
- Tell me about something kind you did for someone today. Did someone do something nice for you?
- Who is someone at school that could use a friend?
- Tell me something that made you laugh today?
- What are you looking forward to tomorrow at school?

Thank you to all families for:

- Greeting all families and staff warmly as you move around our school
- Communicating respectfully and thoughtfully to teachers - in emails, on the phone and in face to face communications
- Supporting your child with their learning goals
- Meeting your commitments with transportation fees and staying in touch with the office if you need extra time or consideration
- Supporting your child’s social emotional growth: learning the value of: good manners, appreciating difference, contributing to the greater good, saying sorry, learning to forgive, working hard and playing hard too, being kind to ourselves and to one another, the power of prayer, giving service to others...

ADVISORY QUESTION

We aim every year to make our division faith theme come alive with our students, our staff and our parent community. We are looking for your input and ideas.

- How can we as a staff make our division’s faith theme, “Be Brave. Be Strong. Be Fearless. You Are Never Alone” become part of each parent’s faith journey this year?

- This is the year to really live being brave and courageous.

PARENT COMMUNICATION

We will be continuing with our week at a glance which is posted on social media and Edsby as well as emailed to parents. Parents are always welcome and encouraged to discuss questions or concerns with the classroom teacher or school administration. Teachers welcome parents to contact them directly by calling the school or sending them a message on Edsby. Please note that if they are teaching, on supervision or unable to take your call we ask that you leave a message and they will get back to you by the next work day.

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.

