MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL’S DESK

A new year has begun! We welcome our new kindergarten students along with several new families! We are excited to start fresh and journey together these next ten months, learning, playing and praying together as a school community. You continue to be an integral part of our pyramid – parish, school and family! You are the primary teacher of your child and we thank you for “lending” them to us so we can impart some of our knowledge and assist in character building, social skill development and of course, helping them grow in their faith. Pope Francis will guide us this year. We will be sharing much of his messages with each other and following his path to Jesus.

Please pray for many of our families in our community who are suffering, either spiritually, physically, emotionally or financially. Each one of us has the ability to make a huge difference in someone’s life. Children learn what they live – we have an incredible responsibility right before us.

Marie Finnerty, Principal

STAFF

Kindergarten: Mrs. D. Klobouk
ECE, Kindergarten: Mr. R. Pinkerton
Grade 1 / 2: Ms. I. Coulas
Grade 2 / 3: Ms. S. Corrigan
Grade 4 / 5: Mrs. W. McGrath (.8)
Grade 6: Mrs. H. Shulist
Grade 7/8: Mr. J. Artyuko
Grade 7/8: Mr. D. Afelskie
Special Education: Mrs. K. Etmanskie
French: Mrs. K. Strack
Music: Ms. P. Voorand
Principal: Mrs. M. Finnerty
Educational: Ms. M. Cherry
Assistants: Mrs. M. Greene
Ms. A. Prince
Mrs. S. Yandernoll
Secretary: Mrs. G. Blank
Custodians: Mr. R. Yantha
Mrs. B. Walsh
Noon Hour: Mrs. J. Plebon
Supervisors: Mrs. B. Walsh
Family & Children: Ms. L. Varley
Services Worker: Fr. C. Shalla
Clergy: Fr. M. Coulas
Trustee: Mrs. M. Borutski
Language Facilitator: Ms. L. King

PUPIL INFORMATION UPDATE SHEET

Pre-printed information forms will be sent home at a later date with your child. Kindly check and return the form signed with, or without, changes as soon as possible.

BOUQUETS TO...

Sr. Bernice Mintha for donating substantial school supplies, back packs, pencil cases, etc., to families in need.

Fr. M. Coulas for celebrating our first school mass.
ABSENCES

In order to ensure the safe arrival of your child, it is critical that the school be notified of all absences. There is an answering machine to report absences and if the school is not notified, we will call the parent each day the child is absent.

If your child is to leave the school early for any reason, please send a note to the teacher. It is especially important that you give us a 'heads-up' if someone other than you will be picking up your child.

LUNCH HOUR

Students are not permitted to leave the school at lunch unless a parent has provided written approval. If a student leaves the school, with permission, they are not to return until the outdoor recess period (i.e. 12:00 noon). A note may be written in your child’s agenda giving permission for him/her to leave the school at lunch for the entire year.

MICROWAVES

Our busy lives lead us to purchase quick lunches that are made with many additives, nitrites and trans-fat. In addition to the high cost of these items, the associated garbage with these products is overwhelming. Time taken to not just warm up food, but COOK the food, makes for less time outside to play. We plead with you to make an attempt to cut back on lunches that require the microwave.

NEWSLETTER DELIVERY

Please visit our website for the newsletter at http://jbosco.rccdsb.edu.on.ca We are set up to have each classroom highlighted with up-to-date information. Have a look! We are committed to being good stewards. If you can access the newsletter online, please let us know and we will not send a paper copy home. Otherwise, a monthly hardcopy of our newsletter will arrive home with your youngest child on the last Wednesday of each month.

STUDENT PICKUP

The school requires written permission for your child(ren) to be picked up by another person(s). Please ensure that we have that person’s name in a written note in your child’s agenda, with your signature.

NEVER pick up someone else’s child without the other parent’s permission.

HEALTHY SNACK VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Healthy Snack program is looking for volunteers to help manage the distribution of healthy snacks to classrooms. If you are interested, please send a note in your child’s agenda, or call the school.

VULNERABLE SCREENING CHECKS

Volunteers at the school do require a Vulnerable Screening Check to help ensure student safety. If you do not already have a current check, you are invited to pick up a form at our office. If you completed the form last year, a waiver will be sent home with your child shortly, so that you can continue to volunteer this school year. Every person who is involved as a volunteer at the school (e.g. chaperone for class trips, tournaments) is required to have a vulnerable screening check. If you are planning to chaperone for a class trip later in the school year, checks must be completed now and not a week or two before the class trip. Because of the turn-around time needed to process a check, we will not accept any new applications for the current school year after December 31, 2014.

LITTLE CAESAR’S FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN FOR GRADE 6 CLASS

Students in Grade 6 will be selling pizza kits beginning this month. If anyone is interested, please contact Mrs. H. Shulist or one of the Grade 6 students, for an order form.

CELL PHONES, IPODS, ELECTRONICS

The use of the above devices in the classrooms has risen, even by the younger students. Teachers are spending important class time trying to deal with such issues. Students are distracted from their learning by these devices. This rule has been established for several years and is listed prominently in our school agenda.

Students have been advised to leave their devices at home if they cannot manage to leave them in their backpacks until they leave school property.

Consequences will be given to students who choose to deviate from this plan. The first offence will lead to the device being held by the teacher for the day. The second offence will lead to the device being kept at the office for the day. On the third offence, the device will have to be picked up by the parent. Grade 8s will have to follow this plan next year in high school, so we are hoping to help prepare them for that reality as well.

Please help us help students stay more focused on classroom instruction and maximize their learning while at school by having a chat with them at home, if you permit them to bring these devices to school.

PARTRIDGE RUN

The Annual Partridge Run will be hosted by St. Mary’s School, Wilno, on Friday, September 26, 2014. Thank you to Mr. D. Afelskie, Mr. J. Artymko and Mrs. H. Shulist for coaching this event. Students are encouraged to train at home so that they are ready for the run. If your child is participating in this extra-curricular event and has any health issues, please contact the school.
**OPEN HOUSE / BBQ**

Our teachers and support staff look forward to meeting the parents on Thursday, September 11, 2014, from 5:00-7:00 p.m. We will be providing hot dogs and juice boxes free of charge to our students and their parents. You must RSVP in your child’s agenda or call the school by Tuesday, September 9, 2014. New this year, will be a Rainbow Bouncer in the senior yard.

**MEDICATION**

School Staff are not permitted to administer medication, including Tylenol and Aspirin without a “Request for Administration of Medication” form completed and signed by a parent/guardian along with your family physician. A properly labelled container is required, including instructions and conditions that are to be followed for the administration of the medication. Parents of children with life threatening medical concerns/allergies are asked to notify the school office to complete a “Request for Administration of Medication” form each September and return it to the school as soon as possible.

All medication is stored in the office area. The only exception to this requirement is for any child who, due to a life-threatening allergy, must carry medication. A child is not to be sent to school with medications without written permission.

**ANAPHYLAXIS**

All parents should be aware that there are several children in our school with severe life-threatening food allergies. This is a medical condition that causes a severe reaction to specific foods and can result in death within minutes.

Although this may or may not affect your child’s class directly, we want to inform you so that you may send to school with your child food items that are free from peanuts or nut products, as we strive to be a nut-free school.

**SAFE SCHOOLS**

To maintain safety in the school building, we will continue to have all exterior doors locked. Please remember that to many children you are a stranger. All visitors / parents entering the school must report to the office to sign in and obtain a badge. Prior to leaving, please sign out and return your badge. Anyone wandering through the school without appropriate identification will be asked to go to the office. We will be happy to relay messages, lunches, etc., to your child should it be necessary. Please help us provide a safe and welcoming environment for your children and to keep interruptions to your child’s learning to a minimum.

Thank you for your assistance in ensuring the safety of our children.

**BUS SAFETY**

It is very important that responsible conduct be maintained on the school bus to make your child’s trip to and from school as safe as possible.

When a child causes trouble on a bus, he/she can distract a driver’s attention from the road with serious consequences.

Should a child misbehave on the bus, the parents will be contacted and, if inappropriate behavior continues, the child will lose the privilege of this service.

**A MESSAGE FROM THE RCJTC (Renfrew County Joint Transportation Consortium)**

A video surveillance system, which may also include audio/sound recording, may be installed/activated on any student transportation vehicles during the school year. This is one mechanism which can be used to monitor the ride to ensure everyone’s safety and compliance with all rules while on the vehicle. Cameras could be positioned in various locations inside the vehicle, and outside as well. A sign is posted within the vehicle informing that surveillance may be in operation. Privacy is always respected according to RCJTC and Board policies. RCJTC, school principals and/or vice principals may view any recorded video. If you have any questions or concerns, you can contact the RCJTC at 613-732-8419.

**ALWAYS DRIVE SLOWLY AND CAUTIOUSLY ON SCHOOL PROPERTY**

**SPORTS DAYS**

Parents, please be aware that on days when students are away at sporting tournaments, students who are not participating are expected to be at school, where there will be regular class programming for the day. Some students tell parents that “nothing is going on” so they can stay home. On the contrary, these days provide an opportunity for catching up or extra support. Please encourage students to attend school on these days.

**TOONIE FOR TERRY**

On Friday, September 12, 2014 (raindate: Monday, September 15, 2014), we will be joining together to walk or run in memory of the efforts of Terry Fox, one of Canada’s true national heroes. Teachers and students will follow a specific route around the school and away from school. It is suggested that each child donate a toonie on this day towards Cancer Research. For each $2.00 donation, you will be given a sticker to wear and you can write who you are running for. If you are able to help us supervise traffic areas, please contact the school. Parents wanting to run with the students are more than welcome to join us. Thank you to Mr. J. Artymko, Mrs. K. Etmanskie, Mrs. M. Greene and Mrs. D. Klobouk for organizing this event. Cancer touches all of our lives.
The *No Child Without* program offers a free MedicAlert membership to students who attend our school and are between the ages of 4 up to their 14th birthday. If your child has a medical condition or allergy or is required to take medication on a regular basis then you should consider a MedicAlert membership through this program. MedicAlert is your child’s voice in an emergency.

MedicAlert membership;
- Gives emergency first responders immediate access to your child’s medical information on their MedicAlert bracelet or necklet.
- Enables first responders to quickly obtain up to date medical information by means of the child’s Electronic Health Record through the 24 Hour Emergency Hotline.
- Communicates with the parent or emergency contact upon activation of the Hotline
- Allows free updates of the child’s medical record as needed.

MedicAlert identification can alert school staff, friends, coaches and others about your child’s medical condition should an emergency occur.

For further information, come to the office for a brochure or go to [www.nochildwithout.ca](http://www.nochildwithout.ca).

To register your child you will need a *No Child Without* brochure from the office.

If your child is already part of the *No Child Without* program and there have been changes to his/her medical condition, medications or emergency contact information, call MedicAlert at 1-866-679-3220 to update your child’s file.

**SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS**

Our first School Council meeting will be on Monday, September 15, 2014, at 5:00 p.m., in the school library. Elections will be held for council positions that evening. The purpose of the School Council is to advise the principal on a variety of school matters which enhance the learning of students attending St. John Bosco School. All parents are encouraged to attend. It is also an excellent way to stay current with school issues and to support the School Council in its efforts.

*We NEED more parent members!*
Can’t make it to every meeting? No problem, we will send our minutes via email - we’ll still be able to keep you up to date!

**STUDENT AGENDAS**

In an ongoing effort to assist students to become more independent and responsible for their learning, all students from Grades K – 8 should have a Student Agenda. If you would like your child to have an agenda, please forward the $6.00 payment to school office if you have not already done so.

**Students are responsible for:**
- recording all classroom assignments in their agenda;
- carrying the agenda to and from school each day;
- keeping the agenda neat and tidy; and
- completing all homework assignments.

The agendas are an excellent vehicle for school/home communication. Parents are asked to assist with the agenda program by signing the agenda on a regular schedule. We request your support in taking the time to also “walk” through the agenda with your child and encourage him/her to use it on a daily basis. Thank you for your support. Helping our children develop good organizational skills should go a long way to foster independence and future success.

**PRE-ORDERING MILK**

Starting mid-September, the school will be using the pre-paid milk program. If you pre-order milk for your child, it means you don’t have to remember to send money to school every day.

Use the attached order form for ordering. Payment can be made in cash or cheque (payable to St. John Bosco Catholic School). Order forms will be sent home on a monthly basis.

White and chocolate milk sell in 250 mL cartons for 65 cents.

**PARENT RESOURCES**

School Council received a grant five years ago to purchase some parent resources. Resources are ready to be signed out from our school library. Topics include: homework, self-esteem, drugs, diet/nutrition, bullying, family/living skills and parenting.

Please see Mrs. Sharon Yandernoll if you wish to sign out any resources.

**MUSIC LESSONS**

This school year Timothy Baklinski will be offering music lessons during classroom hours to all grades. If you are interested in starting your child on the piano or guitar or wish to continue with lessons from the previous year, please contact him at 613-757-0025 or 613-281-0854 or by email at: baklinski.music@gmail.com

**BATTERIES, CAN TABS AND CAMPBELL SOUP LABELS**

Please continue to send in can tabs, batteries and Campbell soup labels.
**STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE**

**Kids Plus™ Accident Insurance**

For your convenience, we have made arrangements for families to voluntarily purchase student accident insurance through the Kids Plus™ Accident Insurance program, underwritten by Industrial Alliance Insurance and Financial Services Inc.

Kids Plus™ Accident Insurance offers protection against the unexpected costs of injury from accidents, and is especially valuable for families who:

- do not have medical or dental plans,
- have limited plans, as it may help supplement health and dental benefits, or
- have active children who enjoy sports and outdoor activities.

Kids Plus™ Accident Insurance has a selection of plans to suit most budgets. Benefits include coverage for:

- The full school year (September to September), 24 hours a day, whether at school or at home;
- Expenses that are often limited or not covered by private or group insurance plans, or Provincial Health Insurance Plans - such as ambulance, physiotherapy, private tutoring, counselling, and much more;
- Injury-related dental treatment (including future dental treatment up to age 26);
- Out-of-province or country emergency medical expenses.

If your address changes during the school year, your Kids Plus™ Accident Insurance plan is transferable from school to school, anywhere in Canada.

Insurance premiums are $13.50 and $31.95 per year, depending on the plan selected, and your child is covered all the time, not just while at school. A discounted premium is available for families with 3 or more children.

For more information or to apply online, please visit [www.kidsplus.ca](http://www.kidsplus.ca), or speak with a Kids Plus™ Client Service Administrator at 1-800-556-7411.

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**HEALTHY HAIR CHECKS**

Head lice are very common among young children, especially in child care centres and schools. Parents are encouraged to check hair regularly for nits, looking carefully close to the scalp, behind the ears, on the back of the neck, and on the top of the head. Nits (eggs) are greyish-white and oval shaped. They may look like dandruff but cannot be flicked off. One of the first signs of head lice is itching and scratching the head, but it is possible to have head lice without any symptoms. Please check your child’s hair regularly and report to the office if lice are found.

The local pharmacy has medication for lice and instructions for ridding the home of the pests. Unfortunately, when head lice are found, bedding, hats, stuffed toys and much more have to be cleaned.

Your assistance in this matter is greatly appreciated. We will endeavour to keep you informed as we progress through this year.

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**EXTRA HELP FOR YOUR STRUGGLING STUDENT**

Lots of children need special help in school. Following are ways you can help your children at home to develop skills that will help them in the classroom:

1. **Make directions specific and simple.** Break complicated tasks into small steps. Limit your child to short activities, and reward persistence with praise and encouragement.

2. **Help your child become organized.** Have a place for everything, and require that things are always put back where they belong. Establish routines for doing daily chores and activities, and provide work charts or checklists as reminders for complicated tasks.

3. **Repeat learning experiences.** Don't assume that once your child has learned a skill or task, such as spelling his or her name or tying shoes, he or she will retain the knowledge. An hour later, the child may seem to have forgotten it completely. Repeat directions, perhaps using different words.

4. **Cooperate with the school.** Request conferences with the teachers, and ask them to inform you about methods you can reinforce or additional activities you can do with your child at home.

5. **Establish clear rules and consequences.** Talk about and agree upon consequences with your child. Write them down as a sort of formal agreement, and post them where every member of the family can see them easily. Then be consistent about enforcing the rules that you decide upon.
CALL FOR HELP!

A successful school and education is very dependent on the dedication of teachers and parents who give of their time and energy both in the classroom and by participating in the many volunteer programs. Please consider being an active member of YOUR school. There are so many areas where the benefits could be realized in our school. Here are just a few of the areas where we could use your help:

- Helping from home (book orders, preparing crafts, etc.)
- Sharing special talents (sewing, computer skills, baking)
- Gardening (keeping our front entrance neat and appealing)
- Terry Fox Run (helping monitor check points)
- Healthy Snacks Nutrition Program (preparing, cutting up fruit/veggies)
- Classroom (reading, math, art)
- Coaching (helping with and supervising school sports)

Whether you volunteer once or on a regular basis, it all counts! Please consider sharing your time for the benefit of the students. Please give us a call.

SCHOOLS OUT EVENT

The Madawaska Valley Public Library and the Barry's Bay Railway Station have come together to offer programming for children during the scheduled "PD" days throughout the year. Each program will have a theme based on the current exhibition at the South of 60 Art Centre. The programming will include readings at the library and activities at the Railway Station.

The first Schools Out event will take place on Friday, September 19, 2014, from 1:00-3:00 p.m. The afternoon will be divided into two age groups (ages 4 - 7 and 8 +). The 4 - 7 year olds will start at the Library at 1:00 p.m., and then switch to the Railway Station at 2:15 p.m. The children aged 8+ will start at the Railway Station and then switch to the Library at 2:15 p.m. The September theme is all about Railways in conjunction with the Railway Revisited exhibition at South of 60 Art Centre.

Each child is to be accompanied by a parent or guardian over the age of 18. For registration please contact the Library at 613-756-2000.

RENFREW COUNTY & DISTRICT HEALTH UNIT NEWS

COLOUR YOUR LUNCH

Help your children to eat plenty of colourful vegetables and fruit every day. Growing children 4 to 8 years need at least 5 Food Guide Servings; children 9 to 13 years need at least 6 Food Guide Servings. For tasty school snacks send bite-sized, ready-to-eat fruit and vegetables. Try cherry tomatoes, baby carrots, sliced cucumber, melon balls, kiwi quarters, individual fruit cups/applesauce blends - the choices are endless.

Visit Canada’s Food Guide online at www.hc-sc.gc.ca/foodguide

Renfrew County & District Health Unit
Health Info Line
613-756-4060 or 1-800-357-1897, ext. 606
Website: www.rcdhu.com
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<td>HOLIDAY</td>
<td>School Begins</td>
<td>WELCOME BACK</td>
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<td>Opening School Mass – 9 am – St. Lawrence O’Toole School Assembly -10:55 am</td>
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<td>Masses: St. Hedwig’s 8 a.m. &amp; 11 a.m. St. Lawrence O’Toole – 9:30 a.m</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Please RSVP numbers for Open House BBQ in your child’s agenda. No Charge.</td>
<td>September/ October Milk Pre-Order due today.</td>
<td>Open House BBQ 5-7 pm</td>
<td>Terry Fox Run 9:00 am Remember your toonie. Student Council Elections-am</td>
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<td>Masses: St. Hedwig’s 8 a.m. &amp; 11 a.m. St. Lawrence O’Toole – 9:30 a.m</td>
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<td>Confirmation Retreat – Grade 7 &amp; 8 students – St. Lawrence O’Toole Parish</td>
<td>Partridge Run, Wilno School Dance 7-9 pm for Grades 6 to 8</td>
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PRE-ORDERS FOR MILK

Parent’s Name: __________________________________ Family
Student(s): __________________________________________
__________________________________________
__________________________________________
__________________________________________
Parent/Guardian Signature: ________________________________

INSTRUCTIONS: Please place a “W” in the box for each day you wish your child to receive white milk and place a “C” in the box for each day you wish your child to receive chocolate milk – 65 cents each. (Example: Mary – C; John – W)

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO THE SCHOOL BY SEPTEMBER 10, 2014, WITH PAYMENT ENCLOSED.

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White Milk (W): ___ Chocolate Milk (C): ___

Total Enclosed: __________________________