



# ST. ANTHONY'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Newsletter

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## The Mission of St. Anthony's School Community

*Working in partnership with the home, school, parish and community to nurture the growth of the whole person, we are committed to giving witness to Christian values in a safe, joyful faith filled environment. We endeavor to inspire our students to become responsible life long learners who will be respectful of the uniqueness and dignity of themselves and others.*



## September 2015

### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

### IMPORTANT DATES

Welcome to a new school year! We have had a very successful start to what promises to be a busy and exciting school year.

I am pleased to welcome our new families to our school community. I am grateful to see that all returning students have been making the new students feel very welcome.

I would also like to extend special greetings to Father Sirosky at St. Anthony's Parish. We look forward to sharing our spiritual growth with him again this year!

This school certainly does seem to make so much happen in one year and in doing so we are teaching our students generosity, compassion, and a strong work ethic.

"Warmth, hospitality, good humour and joy" is definitely evident here at St. Anthony's School!

The many events that have already been planned for the 2015-2016 school year, will undoubtedly nurture the giftedness, self-worth and potential of each individual and I personally look forward to sharing these experiences with all of you.

Thank you for such a warm "Schools to believe in" welcome!

**S. Montgomery  
Principal**



#### MILK PROGRAM

Milk program will begin on Monday, September 14th

#### HEALTHY SNACK PROGRAM

Healthy Snack program will be on Monday, September 21st and run five days a week.

#### HOTLUNCH DAYS

Pizza—Friday, September 18  
Subs—Thursday, September 24



#### LITTLE CAESAR'S FUNDRAISING

Will begin Monday, September 14 and run until Monday, September 28.

#### SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

Monday, September 21st—Thursday, September 24th

#### OPEN HOUSE/ SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

Tuesday, September 22, 2015 from 5:30-6:30 p.m.

#### PARENT COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, September 29, 2015 @ 5:45p.m.

#### TERRY FOX RUN

Thursday, September 24, 2015 @ 1:30 p.m.

#### PA DAY (no school for students)

Friday, September 25th, 2015

#### SCHOOL PICTURES

Tuesday, October 6, 2015

Friday, November 20 Retakes and Graduation Photo's

### PRAYER FOR THE BEGINNING OF SCHOOL

*Bless what we are about to begin, O God. Open our eyes to discover. Open our ears to listen. Open our hearts to care. Guide our best efforts. Encourage us. Bless the teachers who instruct. Bless the volunteers who prepare the food for our lunches. Bless the maintenance people who care for the building. Bless the administration and the school board. Bless our parents, grandparents, family and friends. Bless our efforts during homework, reports, tests, sports, and all other activities this year. We pray this in your name. AMEN*

 **PEANUT/NUT/ALLERGY** 

In order to make St. Anthony's a safe school for our anaphylactic children, we ask your help and understanding in keeping our school a "nut free environment". It is imperative that we work together to ensure that our school remains free of any nut products. Please be sure to not send any foods containing nut products in your child's lunch or snacks. We encourage hand washing practices at school. Please encourage your child to wash their hands and/or brush their teeth before leaving home so as to avoid any possible cross-contamination of nut products from home. For the safety of these students, we also ask that parents refrain from sending in any baked goods to share with the classes. We appreciate your kindness and generosity, however we need to be vigilant in providing the safest classroom environments for our students. Thank you for your support with this critical endeavor.

**SCENT ALLERGY**

We remind our school community that St. Anthony's is also a "scent" free school due to a serious allergy.

**STUDENT ONLINE CLASSROOMS**

A key method in which you can communicate with your child's teacher is by using your child's online classroom tools. Regular communication with your child's teacher is key to help your child be as successful as possible. As a result of the entire school going online, some routines have changed. If your child has an infraction on the school, you may receive a slip to date and sign. In addition, it is important that each family read the Code of Conduct that was usually found at the beginning of the agenda.



**School Schedule**

Start and end times have essentially remained the same:

**Start time—9:10 a.m.**

**Recess—11:20 a.m. –11:35 a.m.**

**Lunch/Recess—12:15 p.m. - 1:05 p.m.**

**Recess—3:15 p.m.**

**Dismissal—3:30 p.m.**

**Supervision begins on the yard at 8:55 a.m.**

**Students should never be on the yard prior to that time. Students should also avoid being outside the school property lines much earlier than 8:55 a.m.**

**Receipt Program/Campbell Soup Labels**

Just a reminder that we will be collecting Campbell's soup labels again this year as part of the Labels for Education Program. As well as Valu-Mart receipts. Valu-Mart donates to the school a percentage of the receipts collected. Thank you!!

**HEALTHY SNACK**

We are pleased to announce that we will be serving a healthy snack daily to your child. The healthy snack program will begin on Monday, September 21st. Donations are always welcome. A big thank you to the CWL for assisting us with this each Friday!



**END OF DAY DISMISSAL**

Unless written permission is received from parents in advance, students will be dismissed from school to the same destination each day. On occasion, parents may need to make emergency changes for their child's destination at the end of the day. We ask parents to call the school **before 3:00 p.m.**, so that the information can be given to your child's teacher in plenty of time. Bus passes, if needed, can also then be issued. **Bus passes will only be issued for emergencies.** The office tends to be busy at the end of the day. We will do our best to deliver all messages in time, and we ask parents to try to call with any changes as early as possible. In addition, we have a sign-in/out page which will be left at the office. If you are picking up your child early from school for an appointment, please be sure to sign this form.



**OPEN HOUSE**

We will be holding an Open House on Tuesday, September 22nd from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. **BOOKS! BOOKS! BOOKS!** We will be hosting a Scholastic Book Fair on that evening and throughout that entire week!! We will also have order forms available to anyone who would like to purchase SAC clothing! Let's come out in big numbers! Some refreshments will be provided!



## SACRAMENTS

This coming year your child has the opportunity to prepare to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist for the first time (Grade 2 or higher). We would like to assure you that the faith communities of Our Lady of Good Counsel and St. Anthony's would like to help you and your child prepare for this special moment.

It is important that both family and parish cooperate to help these youth grow in their faith and eventually become young Catholic adults who understand and value their faith. Sacramental preparation is no longer administered through the school but through our parish community. One of the best ways to get started, is in regular participation of the Sunday Mass at either 9 a.m. at St. Anthony's or 11 a.m. at Our Lady of Good Counsel (or 4:30 p.m. Saturday).

A registration meeting for parents will be held on **Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. in the Parish Hall at O.L.G.C.** Details will be printed in the weekly church bulletin or are available by calling the Parish office at 613-584-3696 or by email: [olgc@magma.ca](mailto:olgc@magma.ca).

## SAFE ARRIVAL

**If your child will be late or absent from school, please contact the school at 613-589-2775. Messages may be left at any time on the 24 hour answering machine. If we have not been informed of an absence, a call will be placed to confirm the safety of your child.**

## OPEN COMMUNICATION

Open communication is key to building positive relationships. I encourage you to be in regular contact with your child's teacher, myself or Mrs. Keels, anytime you have questions or comments regarding the program or the progress of your child. We are here to serve.



## LUNCH

Our lunch begins at 12:15 p.m. and students will be outside on the yard at approximately 12:40 p.m. (weather permitting). Students who will be walking home for lunch require a note from parent/guardians so our teachers can confirm they have permission.

## BAKING/ANAPHYLAXIS



This is just a friendly reminder about our policy at St. Anthony's Catholic School with respect to bringing in baked goods and serving food for our students. Here is an overview of what we allow and not allow:

- ⇒ Any food which has been purchased and has a "peanut free" symbol on it is welcome to be distributed within the classes.
- ⇒ Parents are most welcome to send homemade or baked food in their OWN child's lunch, providing that there are absolutely NO nut products in the food. Under no circumstances do we want to dictate what parents can serve their children. However, we do NOT allow sharing of food amongst students so as to avoid any cross-contamination.
- ⇒ We do NOT allow any homemade or baked goods to be shared amongst students. Even if there are no nut products in the product.
- ⇒ Any hot lunches or food served at our school have been made with pans or dishes, etc that have never come in contact with nuts.
- ⇒ ALL Halloween treats must be nut free and contain the nut free symbol on the original packaging.

Parents, staff and myself really appreciate your support with this. While it may not always be the best or most fun scenario with respect to having food at celebrations, our NUMBER #1 priority is to keep our school safe for anaphylactic students.

## HOT LUNCH/MILK ORDER NOW AVAILABLE ON ON LINE BANKING

For safety and efficiency reasons, the Renfrew County Catholic District School Board would like to reduce the amount of cash and cheques coming into our schools. Attached to June's newsletter is step by step information on how to register for "School Cash On-Line". Hot lunches and Milk orders are now available for purchase on the NEW "ON LINE BANKING." Once you have registered, you will then begin to receive email notifications regarding upcoming events/ fees involving your child (ren) which are available to purchase online.

## THANK YOU

A big thank you to Mrs. Chapman and Mrs. Rabishaw for having the school looking so fantastic! Thank you to all staff for working so hard to make the school look so student friendly!

## HEAD LICE REMINDER

These unwanted visitors have a way of making themselves present in the school. Parents are asked to check their child's hair for any sign of their presence. They lay tiny tear-drop shaped eggs or nits which adhere firmly to the hair. Direct head-to-head contact with an infected person is the most common mode of transmission of head lice.

We will be conducting random checks at the school. The school policy is that students must be nit-free before returning to school.



## OPTIONAL INSURANCE FORMS

Please consider additional insurance for your child. Information has been sent home.

## SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

All parents are invited to attend the first school council meeting of the year on Tuesday, **September 29, 2015 at 5:45 p.m.** We always need parents to become involved in school council and school related activities. Studies indicate that students achieve greater academic success when their parents are actively involved in school-based activities. Please consider donating your time to St. Anthony's School Council.

Please contact the school at least one day in advance if you require a babysitter. The school will provide child care on-site, so that you can attend the meeting and relax!

## Criminal Reference Checks

As part of school board policy, all parents/ volunteers participating in any school events, must acquire a criminal reference check. Please contact the school for more information. If you did obtain one last year, you will be asked to sign an Offence Declaration and you will not be required to get a new one. Thank you for your cooperation.



## DISCIPLINE ON THE SCHOOL BUS



Parents have the first responsibility to ensure that their children know and obey all the school bus rules of conduct. Parents will be expected to cooperate with the school principal and bus driver to ensure their child's proper behaviour while riding the school bus. The consumption of food and drink is not allowed in the buses as per School Board Policy. This alleviates health and safety concerns regarding allergies (food) and choking. Should a driver be unable to secure the cooperation of a misbehaving pupil, she shall immediately report to the principal of the school the name of the pupils, and the nature of the offense using the Breach of Discipline Report Form provided. The principal will then take any action she deems necessary, which might include withdrawal of the school bus privileges. The principal shall notify the parents, in writing of any school bus suspension. Withdrawal of bus privileges does not exempt the pupil from regular school attendance.

## TERRY FOX RUN



Parents and community members are invited to join us in our walk for a cure for cancer. Please contact the school if you can join us for the walk. It will take place on Thursday, September 24, 2015 at 1:30 p.m.

## ANTI-BULLYING

Our school did a significant amount of work in the past few years with our students on anti-bullying and safe school practices. We plan to continue with educating our students on positive interaction and collaboration this year as we strive to promote anti-bullying and make our school a safe environment for all to learn. We have a zero-tolerance policy for bullying and violence at St. Anthony's. We appreciate your efforts at home to support us with this endeavour.