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# St. Joseph's Catholic School Newsletter

Volume 1

September 2015

Principal's Message	Upcoming Dates																
<p>Welcome back everyone. It seems like only yesterday that we left for Summer break. We hope that everyone enjoyed a much needed, and very warm vacation, and we are so happy to see so many smiling faces. A special welcome goes out to all our new students and families.</p> <p>If you have any questions or concerns as the year gets underway, do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher, the office or me!</p> <p>We will be having our meet the teacher/opening BBQ on Tuesday, the 22nd of September (more details will follow). We will see everyone there.</p>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td><b>September 1</b></td> <td>First Day of School</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>September 7</b></td> <td>Labour Day</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>September 8</b></td> <td>School Council 6:30 p.m.</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>September 10</b></td> <td>Opening School Mass 9:00 a.m.</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>September 18</b></td> <td>Crazy Hat/Blue Jays Day</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>September 22</b></td> <td>School BBQ</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>September 25</b></td> <td>P.A. Day</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>September 29,30</b></td> <td>Picture Days</td> </tr> </table>	<b>September 1</b>	First Day of School	<b>September 7</b>	Labour Day	<b>September 8</b>	School Council 6:30 p.m.	<b>September 10</b>	Opening School Mass 9:00 a.m.	<b>September 18</b>	Crazy Hat/Blue Jays Day	<b>September 22</b>	School BBQ	<b>September 25</b>	P.A. Day	<b>September 29,30</b>	Picture Days
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## New Faces

We welcome Mrs. Dewar who joins us as a kindergarten teacher from St. Thomas in Renfrew. She joins Mrs. Epp Teaching grade 4/5 from St. Joseph's Calabogie. A hello goes out to Ms. Pecoskie who is our new French teacher.

We also welcome back Ms. MacLaren in Special Education and Ms. Schmidt as the Early Childhood Educator working with Mrs. Hunt.

## Opening School Mass

We will be celebrating our back to school Mass on Thursday, September 10th at 9:00 am. All parents and families are invited to join with us.



## Busing Update

All transportation requests are handled by the Renfrew County Joint Transportation Consortium (RCJTC). IF you are experiencing difficulty, please give us a call and we will do our best to help you sort it out.

Please be reminded that under our board's busing policy, bus passes are only to be issued by the principal for emergency situations. Going to a friend's house for a birthday party, sleepover or to complete homework is **not** an emergency and it is the parents' responsibility to arrange transportation outside of the school venue. Thank-you for your co-operation.



## Volunteer Guidelines

As mandated by Ontario Law, any parents or community members who volunteer in a school setting (i.e. drivers for sporting events, helpers in classrooms, lunch providers, supervisors etc.) must have a current vulnerable screening/background check on file with the school. These checks are done by the OPP and are free of charge for those who are volunteering with an organization such as a school.

If we already have documentation on file for you, you do not need to re-do the check, we just need you to sign an offence declaration form. These are available at the office. As well, we will have a table set up at the BBQ with volunteer information.

## Allergy Reminders

As mandated by Sabrina's Law in Ontario, we ask for your assistance in creating a safe environment for our students and visitors.

**PLEASE DO NOT SEND NUT PRODUCTS TO SCHOOL FOR SNACKS AND LUNCHES.** **As well, we ask that you do not send home baking in as a treat for a class.** Research indicates that most anaphylactic injuries and deaths come from cross-contamination, i.e. a trace of peanut butter that is left on a hand, a knife, a desk, on playground equipment or on another object. Your support and respect in this manner will help us keep the community of St. Joseph's as safe as possible.

**Parents of new or newly diagnosed students**

## Safe Arrival

If your child will be absent from school, please call and inform the office. As well, if your child is a bussing student and you plan to pick them up, please write a note to the classroom teacher or call the office to inform us of any changes. Upon entrance to the school at any time, please report to the office to sign in. Also, we ask that you wait until the end of recess at 2:30 to pick up your children. If you have an emergency and you need to leave early, please inform the office and we will make every effort to locate your child on the yard and bring them to you.

Thanks for your co-operation in ensuring the safety of all our children.

## Safe School/Locked Door

After an arrival window between 8:00 and 8:30, you will notice that the interior front door is locked. Please push the buzzer and someone will grant you access. As has always been the case, please report directly to the office. If you are dropping off your small child, staff will come to the office to collect them.

## Our School Hours

Below, please find our daily schedule:

<b>8:00</b>	Arrival On The Yard
<b>8:15</b>	School Day Begins
<b>10:25-10:40</b>	Morning Recess
<b>11:20</b>	Lunch Begins For grades 1-8
<b>12:05</b>	End Of Lunch
<b>1:15-1:30</b>	Intermediate Recess
<b>2:15</b>	Last Recess for K-6 begins
<b>2:30</b>	Dismissal

## Quick notes

\*As part of the Safe School's Act, we ask that parents refrain from entering the playground area during recess times. If you need to collect your child early, please come to the office and we will help you out.

\* Our class numbers are very close to the class size cap in kindergarten and the primary grades. We may need to make a few changes over the next two weeks to be in compliance with regulations. If your child will be affected we will be sure to contact you.

## Cash Online

The following link can be found on the homepage of the board website:  
[www.rccdsb.edu.on.ca](http://www.rccdsb.edu.on.ca)  
 Register to pay many school fees online.

### Pay School Fees Online

Secure credit card payment  
 24/7 convenience  
 Easy registration  
 SchoolCashOnline



**Register Now**

## Staff List

Kindergarten	Mrs. Christina Dewar Mrs. Lori MacKenzie
Kindergarten	Ms. Sabrina Hunt Ms. Lauren Schmidt
Kindergarten	Mrs. Tiffany Gallagher
Grade 1	Mrs. Jacki England
Grade 1	Mrs. Amber Barclay
Grade 2	Mrs. Nancy Brisson
Grade 2/3	Mrs. Maureen Hawel
Grade 3	Mrs. Cathy Valleau
Grade 4/5	Mrs. Amanda Epp
Grade 5/6	Mr. Al Ferguson
Grade 6	Mrs. Melanie Van Bentham
Grade 7	Mrs. Cathy Quinn
Grade 7	Mr. Andrew Smith
Grade 7/8	Mrs. Karen Grace
Grade 8	Mr. Nathan Hisko
Grade 8	Mrs. Dana Hisko
FSL	Ms. Kara Pecoskie
FSL	Mme. Anne-Marie Strack
Special Education	Ms. Audrey MacLaren
FSL	Ms. Jenny Solar
Music	Mrs. Janice Hawthorne
School Principal	Mrs. Mary-Lise Rowat
Vice Principal Special Education	Mr. Derek Lennox
School Secretary	Mrs. Patricia Duhn/Gerarda Giamblanco
Educational Assistants:	Mrs. Leanne Gordon Mrs. Kathy Bailey Ms. Karen Irwin Mrs. Lynn Johansson Mrs. Bonnie Kwiatkowski Ms. Karen McNulty Mrs. Lise Zamojski Mrs. Joanne Buch
School Counselor	Lisa Dellezay

## Our Lady Of Perpetual Help

For those children in Grades 2 and 7, including home-schooled children, preparing for 1<sup>st</sup> Penance/1<sup>st</sup> Communion or Confirmation and **whose families who are currently living within parish boundaries or are already a registered family with Our Lady of Perpetual Help parish**, there will be a 'sign-up' opportunity after each of the SUNDAY MASSES during September or by contacting the parish office TUE or THU during office hours at 613-623-6819 (or [perpetualhelp@bell.net](mailto:perpetualhelp@bell.net)).

**A parent will be asked to fill out the application form upon approaching to be registered for their child's sacramental preparation.**

An all-parents meeting to start the year will be at 6:00pm the Tuesday after Thanksgiving – Oct 13<sup>th</sup>. The sacraments are tentatively scheduled for either the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in May 2016 will be the day for Confirmation and 1<sup>st</sup> Communion.

## St. John Chrysostom

***It is NOT TOO LATE to register for Sacramental Preparation!***

Do you have a child in grade 2 or higher who hasn't received the Sacrament of Reconciliation or Holy Communion? Do you have a child in grade 7 or higher who hasn't yet been Confirmed?

You **can still register them** for Sacramental Preparation 2015 - 2016, at St John Chrysostom Parish Sunday **September 13<sup>th</sup> after the 10:00 Mass** in Meeting Room #2. You will need to submit: a **COPY** of the child's Baptism certificate; an application form (pick up and fill out on the spot, or during office hours from the office); \$25 - the fee in exact cash or cheque. In exchange you will get a folder with a list of all dates to mark off in your home calendars!

You will all be happily expected and welcomed at the 10:00am Mass - but the parents and children preparing for Reconciliation and First Communion will be asked to sit in a reserved section closer to the front, as at this Mass you will be asked to stand as a special group to receive a blessing as part of a "rite of commitment". **Any questions?** Leave Anda a message on email or phone, and I will get back to you the next time I am in the office. [andaone@sympatico.ca](mailto:andaone@sympatico.ca) 613-623-2282 ext 3

## Milk/Pizza Orders

Milk order forms will go home shortly. Stay tuned for pizza order information next week.

With regard to milk and pizza orders, please remember that if you pay by cheque, there needs to be a separate cheque for Milk and one for Pizza to facilitate our mandated accounting procedures.

Thanks for your co-operation.

## School Council News

All parents are welcomed to join us at our first School Council meeting to be held on Monday, **September 8th** at 6:30 in the school Library.

Please mark down **September 22th** on your calendar. This will be the date of our annual **BBQ**. We hope all families will be able to attend. Stay tuned for more information - A Flyer and volunteer sheet will be sent home next week.

## Spirit Day/ Student Reps

Tate McIntyre and Hayden Lacasse, our School Council Student reps, invite all students to participate in our first St. Joseph's Catholic School Spirit Day on September 18th.

We are going to start the year with a **CRAZY HAT DAY/Blue Jays Day**. We hope all students will do their best to take part. The class with the most individuals in hats will earn a prize of indescribable Value

We will be following up this activity with our annual Thanksgiving food drive. Stay tuned for more details.

## Snack Program

At St Joes we have a free healthy snack program three days a week. A bowl of healthy snacks are delivered to all classrooms and all students are invited to enjoy a snack if they need a little boost.



# September 2015



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 First Day of School	2	3	4 Reminder to sign up for CashOnline for easy payment of school fees.	5	
6	7	8 School Council Meeting, 6:30	9	10 Opening School Mass	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18 Crazy Hat/Blue Jays Spirit DAY	19
20	21	22 Meet the Teacher BBQ: 4:30–7:00	23	24	25 P.A. Day	26
27	28	29 School Pictures	30 School Pictures			