



NOTRE DAME SCHOOL

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SEPTEMBER 2020 SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Message from the Principal

Our first day of school is here! We have missed our time with our students and look forward to a new year of possibilities in delivering our programs and sharing school events in a unique, new way. The COVID-19 pandemic has caused us to think outside of our 'normal' way of doing things at Notre Dame. The staff have worked hard the last few weeks to come up with new ideas and ways to allow all our students to be involved in events we would normally do. Please be open to these new methods as we approach education in a new normal. Our key priority is your child(ren), their health and safety, while providing him/her with the best learning opportunities in a time with new guidelines.

As I begin the year as Principal, I can tell you that Notre Dame is a special place where students are cared about by our whole school team. My door is always open to discuss concerns, new ideas and anything else that comes our way.

Warmest Welcome, C. Richard

Important Monthly Dates



Tuesday, Sept, 8th – Virtual Meet the Teacher at 6:30, watch your email for the Zoom link.

Thursday, Sept. 10th – First Day of School, 10:30-1:45

Friday, Sept 11th – First full day of School

Tuesday, Sept. 22nd – School Council Zoom Meeting at 6:30

Monday, September 21 - Terry Fox Run with Mr. H

Monday, Sept. 28th – Non Instructional Day, No school for students

Wednesday, Sept. 30th – Orange Shirt Day

Newsworthy and Special Notice

Meet your Partners in Education

Principal	Mrs. Colleen Richard
School Secretary	Mrs. Gen Cabrera
Kindergarten	Mrs. Cindy Giesbrecht
Grade 1	Mrs. Nikki Chmelyk
Grade 2	Mrs. Dawn Mountifield
Grade 3J	Mrs. Bobbi Johnson
Grade 3F	Ms. Emma Ferguson
Grade 4	Mrs. Sharlene Weingart
Grade 5	Ms. Elaine TeBokkel
Grade 6	Mrs. Alice Jerome
Grade 7	Ms. Catherine Biollo
Physical Education	Mr. Joshua Haukenfrers
French/Library/ADST	Ms. Shaughnessy Niven
Learning Resource Teacher	Mrs. Jenna Gilbertson
Educational Assistant	Ms. Lorena Wilson
Educational Assistant	Mrs. Bradi Willich
Educational Assistant	Mrs. Nicole Mackrell
Educational Assistant	Mrs. Shannon Duff
Library Assistant Volunteer	Ms. Melissa LaJeunesse
Pastor	Rev. Venerando Sabacan



News From the Parent Support Group (PSG)

The Notre Dame Parent Support Group (PSG) is comprised of parent volunteers that work together to provide support to the students and staff. In past years we have done this through various fundraisers (i.e. Purdy's, Mom's Pantry, school apparel), Read-a-thon, and our annual carnival). While the major project is additional equipment for the playground, PSG members have also hosted pancake breakfasts, hot chocolate days, student and staff appreciation events, purchased smart boards and classroom furniture, and supported the Grade 6/7 trip, field trips, classroom celebrations, and so much more. Due to Covid-19 our monthly meeting format may be different, but we will be aiming to continue monthly meetings in a safe format. We would love to have you join us! Watch for information in the monthly newsletter and on the school website for updates for the upcoming school year. We are looking forward to a safe and productive school year.

Notices and Reminders



Our New Bell Schedule & Staggered Times in Learning Cohort Groups:

8:30 Playground gates open:

Students join their designated learning cohort line upon their arrival and enter the school with a teacher at staggered times.

8:40 am – First bell

8:45 am – Morning announcements

Recess Breaks:

10:15-10:30 - 1st Recess –, Grades 7, 4/2, 1/K

10:30 – 10:45 - 2nd Recess –, Grades 6/5, 3F/3J

Lunch Breaks:

12:00-12:20 - Grades 7, 4/2, 1/K will play outside,

12:20-12:40 they will eat in their classrooms.

12:00-12:20 - Grades 6/5, 3F/3J will eat inside,

12:20-12:40 they will play outside.

End of the Day:

2:45 – K will exit doors at the Gym Foyer on 10th Street

2:45 - Grades 7,4/2 & 1 exiting on to the playground from two doors.

2:55 - Grades 5/6, 3F/3J exiting on to the playground

Afterschool supervision is over at 3:00pm, students must be picked up on time.



Staying Connected to the Lily Pad

Courage is confidently acting in accordance to your beliefs, despite fear, difficulty, or opposition.

~T. Dunagan



Health & Safety Checks

Parents / caregivers are required to assess

their child daily for symptoms of common cold, influenza, COVID-19 or other infectious respiratory disease before sending them to school (self-assessment tool:

<https://bc.thrive.health/covid19/en>). If a student develops symptoms while at home, the child is to remain at home.



Students are reminded to wash their hands before coming to school and upon arriving at school.



Notre Dame School is "Allergy AWARE". Please check with your classroom teacher for allergy alerts. Consider peanut/nut alternatives for individual student lunches and snacks out of consideration to our students and staff with food sensitivities/allergies. Please call the office or email the classroom teacher for more information if needed. Thank you for helping with the safety of everyone at Notre Dame.



Parking Lot Safety:

The Notre Dame Staff Parking lot will be closed at the end of the day for student safety. The large gate at the parking lot will be open for students to exit while physical distancing. This will allow for easier student exiting at the end of the day. **Please park along the road** and walk to the gates or have your child meet you at the sidewalk. Thank you for your support in this safety issue.

Walk with Jesus our Living Hope