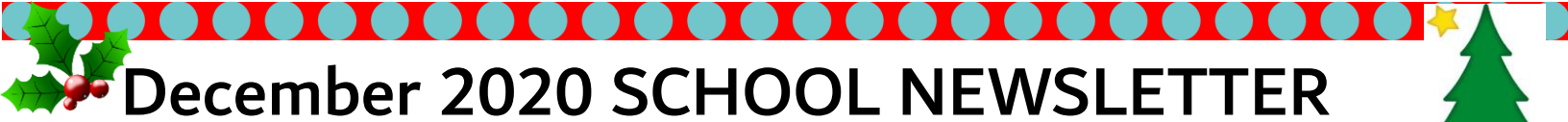




NOTRE DAME SCHOOL

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December 2020 SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Message from the Principal

It seems hard to believe that almost one-third of the school year has passed and that the Christmas Holidays are (unbelievably) drawing even closer. First term ends on December 4th and then teachers will be busy working on report cards and helping to coordinate the final touches on our Annual Christmas Concert for this year. Even though the delivery of the concert will be in a new way, the excitement from the students and the talents they will be sharing will be sure to steal your hearts. So set your calendars for the release of Notre Dame's Christmas Concert performance on December 17th.

On behalf of the Notre Dame school team, I would like to wish you and yours a restful break and a happy and holy holiday season. We hope it is full of festivity, family and friends.

Please remember that my door will continue to be open in the new year to answer questions or listen to any concerns. Working together is the best way to support all students in their personal growth.

God Bless, C. Richard

Important DATE!

Important Monthly Dates

Tuesday, Dec 1st – PSG Meeting over Zoom at 6:30

Thursday, Dec. 3rd - Hat & Jeans Day bring a toonie

Friday, Dec, 4th – Second Week of Advent, End of 1st term and Gr.3J Prayer


Wednesday, Dec. 9th – Christmas Concert Videoing for Grades

Thursday, Dec. 10th – Christmas Concert Videoing for Grades

Friday, Dec 11th - Dress in **Red & Green** Day 

Friday, Dec, 11th – Third Week of Advent, Gr. 3J & 3F Mass Service with Father Vener

Wednesday, Dec. 16th – Christmas Basket Raffle Draw

Thursday, Dec, 17th - Christmas Concert Watching and Wear Plaid Day 

Friday, Dec, 18th – Pajama Day and Grade 7 Prayer

Dec 21st to January 1st - Christmas Holidays

Newsworthy and Special Notice

Our Christmas Concert Delivery in a New Way

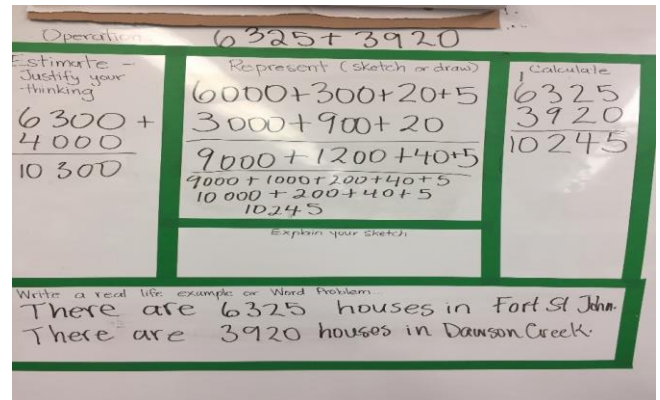
Due to COVID-19 guidelines we are not able to host our annual Christmas Concert in the gymnasium. However, Notre Dame staff and students are excited to deliver a Christmas performance in a new way. On Wednesday, December 9th and Thursday, December 10th students will perform with classmates, a recording will be made of each class and then a Christmas concert video will be put together to share with families over Zoom.

Zoom permission forms were sent home in November to be signed and returned to the school. If you said 'no' to a zoom performance and wish for your child to perform in the Christmas concert please contact the office for a new form to be sent home before December 9th. If you prefer your child not to appear in the video then they will participate off screen and not be seen.

Classroom Sharing

This month's classroom sharing is an image from [Mrs. Weingart's grade 4 classroom](#):

A Math Snap task showing student understanding of numeracy skills:



News From the Parent Support Group (PSG)

Happy Holidays Families of Notre Dame,

Our basket raffle fundraiser is underway! The students in each grade have been tasked with building a basket filled with brand new items that have been donated by the students, who are then responsible for selling raffle tickets, and are required to return all tickets back to the school in order for us to be able to properly draw for the prizes. It is one of our yearly fundraisers that is traditionally drawn at the Christmas Concert and eagerly anticipated by the families within our community, however, this year, all baskets will be drawn at the school on December 16th at 3 pm. Thank you to all who participated in the Purdy's Fundraiser, your continued support is greatly appreciated.

We are so happy to have hot lunch underway at Notre Dame! If families have any questions about hot lunch please email at ndspsghotlunch@gmail.com.

We want to wish all of the students, parents, guardians, teachers, support staff and administration a wonderful holiday season. We wish an abundance of health & wellness, happiness & laughter, and peace & renewed strength for the upcoming year.

The Notre Dame Parent Support Group

News From School Council

Notre Dame School Council held their AGM meeting on November 17th. We would like to introduce Notre Dame's School Council members who have been elected for the school year 2020-21:

Chairperson - Charmaine Moeller

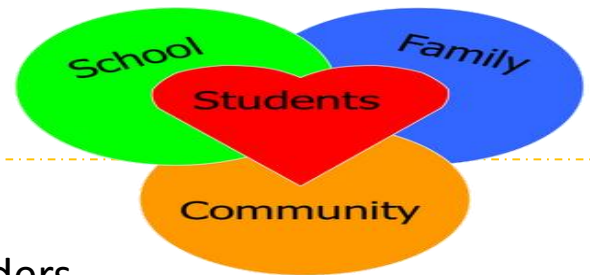
Vice-Chairperson - **Vacant**

Treasurer - Glenda Macarat

Secretary - Marika Sherman

Directors - Jim Kinnear & Pauline Gerwien

We are looking for a person to serve as vice-chairperson. If you are Catholic, an active member of our parish, and would like to volunteer, please contact Father Vener for more information at the Notre Dame Parish.



Reminder!

Notices and Reminders

Health & Safety Checks

Parents / caregivers are required to continue 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.



Hand Hygiene

Students are reminded to wash their hands before coming to school and upon arriving at school. [Review information on hand hygiene in a school setting](#) from the BCCDC.



Cold Weather



Cold weather has arrived! A reminder that all students are required to play outside at recess, and noon time, weather permitting. Please speak with your child about the importance of being prepared for outside activities each day and to wear appropriate warm winter clothing. For some students—don't forget a change of clothes to keep in the bottom of a backpack or to leave at school in case of wet socks, spills, etc. It is great to have a change readily available to change quickly instead of having to wait for someone to make a delivery from home. Please mark your child's clothing with his/her name, as there are numerous students who may have the same colour and make of items. Thank you for helping to keep everyone cozy!



Walk with Jesus our Living Hope

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, parking lot gate is locked

8:45 am – Second bell, bus gate is locked

8:50 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 - Grades 7,4/2, 1 & K exiting on to the playground from two different doors

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

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



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.



Students are reminded that snacks and lunch are to be eaten in the classroom. We cannot eat recess snack or lunch on the playground for safety reasons such as allergies.

Parking Lot Safety: Thank you for your continued support in helping to keep our students safe!



The Notre Dame Staff Parking continues to be **closed at the beginning and 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.

Notre Dame Parishioners & School Community Members

A team of seven young Catholics will be ministering to eight schools and their parishes of the Diocese this year! They are in need of food donations while they are in Dawson Creek! **If you are interested in being a part of this missionary initiative by helping provide for the food needs of our NET Team, please see the attached letter from the NET team on how this can be done.** The NET have identified some COVID Protocols that will need to be followed.



The NET Team will need food donations from the Dawson Creek community starting **January 10th – 16th, and then March 28th – April 10th.**

Thank you so much for your generosity, and for being a part of this missionary initiative in our school, parish, and Diocese.

Staying Connected to the Lily Pad



Kindness is a virtue and truly matters.

– as Aesop said – **“No act of kindness, how small, is ever wasted.”**

Walk with Jesus our Living Hope