



NOTRE DAME SCHOOL

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February 2021 SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Message from the Principal

During the month of February we will focus on the virtue of **LOVE**. We are called to live out our Gospel values and to use our God given talents and gifts in ways that help better this world and others. Mother Teresa's words help us to understand the importance of striving to bring love and kindness into all we do. Each small gesture of kindness has a ripple effect.

"Let no one ever come to you without leaving better happier. Be the living expression of God's kindness: Kindness in your face, kindness in your eyes, kindness in your smile, kindness in your warm greeting."

On **February 17th & 18th** students will be communicating their learning during student led conferences for second term. Please celebrate the wonderful effort your child has applied towards their learning and growth. Learning is an ongoing process and when children set personal goals to improve learning, they are better able to see the continuum of growth. By mastering small incremental steps towards a goal, children develop increasing confidence and are more willing to take risks. Teach them to embrace the power of the word "yet". A child may not have mastered a skill YET, but with support and guidance, parents and teachers help build a child's resilience and determination towards achieving the goal. Let's celebrate each milestone along the education journey.

Please remember that my door will continue to be open 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 Monthly Dates




Mon., Feb 1st – Non-Instructional Day – **No School for Student**

Tues., Feb. 2nd - PSG Zoom Meeting at 6:30 pm

Thurs., Feb. 4th- Hat & Jeans Day bring a toonie 

Fri. Feb 5th – Gr.4 Prayer

Fri. Feb.12th - Gr.7 Classroom Mass with Father Vener & Dress in Red and/or Hearts 

Feb. 15th to Mar 12th – Gr. 4 & 7 Foundation Skills Assessments (FSA)

Mon. Feb. 15th – Family Day – **No School**



Tues. Feb. 16th – School Council Zoom Meeting at 6:30pm


Wed. Feb. 17th – Ash Wednesday



Wed. Feb. 17th & Thurs. 18th – Student Led Conferences – Early Dismissal (1:45)



Thursday. Feb 19th – 100s Day

Fri. Feb.19th - Gr.6 Classroom Mass with Father Vener 

Wed. Feb 24th – Pink Shirt Day

Thurs. Feb 25th – Spirit Day – Crazy Sock Day

Fri. Feb.26th - Gr.5 Classroom Mass with Father Vener



News From the Parent Support Group (PSG)

Hello Families of Notre Dame,

Welcome to February! The second round of Hot Lunch begins in the first week of this month. Thank you for the support during the first round of ordering. We are thankful to have the Hot Lunch program during what has been a different school year thus far. We are very happy to welcome Beans & Barley (a local business from within our school community) to the Tuesday program. We were blessed with the opportunity to provide each student wagon wheels as a treat during Catholic Schools Week. The Read-a-thon is underway and we are happy to hear of the students' interest and enthusiasm in regards to it. The PSG will be providing pizza parties for the TOP PRIMARY and the TOP INTERMEDIATE classrooms that raise the most money. The PSG will also be awarding the TOP PRIMARY and TOP INTERMEDIATE pledge earners a gift certificate to the Northern Toybox, and a ND logo hoodie. We thank all of the students, parents and teachers for your support and kindness. Have a wonderful month!

"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more you learn, the more places you'll go."

- Dr. Seuss -



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.

If a child becomes ill with any **'Key Symptoms of Illness' (excluding fever)**, the child should stay home for 24 hours from when the symptom started. If the symptom improves, you may return to school when you feel well enough. If the symptom persists or worsens, seek a health assessment.



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!



School Resources



If you find any school textbooks, novels or math resources that were sent home last year during the COVID-19 school closure time, please return them to school with your child. We appreciate your support in helping track down missing school resources and supplies.

Walk with Jesus our Living Hope

Notices and Reminders



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 child’s 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.



Student Safety

Cross Walk Safety: When having your child cross the road to meet you please encourage the students to use the cross walk for student safety.

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. Please park along the road** and walk to the gates or have your child meet you at the sidewalk. Thank you for your continued support in this safety issue.



Kindergarten Registration Still Underway

Notre Dame is still welcoming new Kindergarten students for the 2021-2022 school year. Any child who will be 5 years of age on or before December 31, 2021 may register. The Registration Package is available on Notre Dame’s school website and at the school office. At Notre Dame, Kindergarten establishes a strong foundation for lifelong learning, as the teacher provides dynamic, play-based opportunities to help each child grow and learn. We focus on the whole child socially, emotionally, academically, and spiritually.

Once the school receives the registration package from families, interviews will be set up. Interviews started the week of January 18th and will continue into February.

Update on the Administration of FSA Testing for Grades 4 & 7

The Foundation Skills Assessment is an annual province-wide assessment of all B.C. students’ academic skills in grades 4 and 7, and provides parents, teachers, schools, school districts and the Ministry of Education with important information on how well students are progressing in the foundation skills of Reading, Writing, and Numeracy. The Ministry of Education has postponed the administration of the FSA until **February 15 – March 12, 2021**.

Staying Connected to the Lily Pad



“Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.”

Ephesians 4:32

Walk with Jesus our Living Hope