



NOTRE DAME SCHOOL

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January 2021 SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Message from the Principal

Newsworthy and Special Notice

Welcome to 2021! The start of a new year is an ideal time to reflect on the past few months. As I look back to the start as Principal at Notre Dame School in September, I am overwhelmed with all the support and wonderful events that the staff, students and parents planned in the midst of a pandemic. From many Virtual events such as: Meet the Teacher, Student-led conferences, Book Fair, a Christmas Concert, to the PSG team delivering fundraising events (Purdy's & Mabel's Labels) along with a Hot Lunch program to the students in a new way are just a few of the key events within the school during a pandemic.

The students, amongst all that is going on in the world, have and will continue to be the main focus at Notre Dame. Their education journey and wellbeing will continue to drive the planning and events within the school setting. We are excited to start a new year, 2021, with you all as we continue to celebrate the growth and relationships that are evolving within our school setting.

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

Prayer for the New Year

Give us the kindness to hear with compassion, to offer support, loving comfort and care.

Give us the courage to do what is needed, the wisdom to choose what is right and fair.

Give us the vision to see what is possible.

*Give us the faith that will help pave the way for a present that is hopeful, a future that is peaceful.
Give us a heart to bring joy to each day. Amen*



Kindergarten Registration

Notre Dame is excited to welcome 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 will start the week of January 18th into February.



Important Monthly Dates

Mon., Jan. 4th – First Day Back to School

Tues., Jan. 5th - PSG Zoom Meeting over Zoom at 6:30

Thurs., Jan. 7th - Hat & Jeans Day bring a toonie

Fri., Jan. 8th – Gr.3F Prayer

Fri. Jan. 15th - Gr.2 Classroom Mass with Father Vener

Wed., 18th to Fri. Feb. 26th – Gr. 4 & 7 Foundation Skills Assessments (FSA)

Tues. Jan. 19th – School Council Zoom Meeting at 6:30pm

Thurs. Jan. 21st – Decades Day –dress from your favourite decade

Fri. Jan. 22nd - Gr.1 Classroom Mass with Father Vener

Mon. Jan. 25th to 29th – Catholic Schools Week

Thurs. Jan 28th – Shining Student Day, 'Dress in Your Best'

Fri. Jan. 29th - K Classroom Mass with Father Vener

*Important
DATE!*

News From the Parent Support Group (PSG)

Hello Families of Notre Dame,

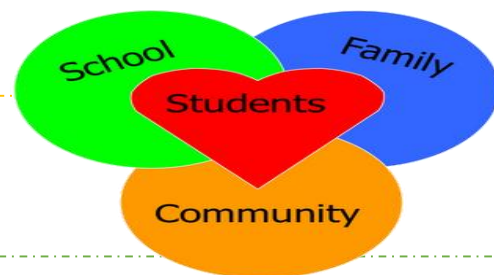
Welcome to 2021! We wish you joy and peace for the New Year, along with renewed strength and hope. We are extremely thankful for the opportunities we have had this school year to fundraise. Our **Purdy's** fundraiser was a HUGE success! As a school we had \$14,547.75 in sales, which raised \$3636.94. Our Top Two sellers were **Sawyer** from Grade 4 and **Jase** from Grade 3. Thank you to our volunteers who organized, sorted and handed out the largest chocolate order we have seen!

Our annual **Basket Raffle** was also a success! We thank all families for donating to the baskets and send our CONGRATULATIONS to each basket winner! We thank the volunteers who helped ensure that our traditional Christmas Fundraiser was a success. Additionally, we are thankful for all those who participated in selling tickets, helping make it a successful event.

We have the Read-a-thon starting up this month where students track reading for the month. In addition to reading, students collect pledges to raise money for **Nelson levelled readers** that are used across the grades. Checklists will be coming home mid month and are checked weekly so that students can have a chance to enter their name into weekly draws for prizes, both intermediate and primary. Please remember to have fun with it. Last year as a group we raised \$8000!

The next session of Hot Lunch ordering will be **this month**. The next session will start in February. We are extremely thankful to the Hot Lunch team for organizing and making it available to us this year. Please watch for an email with ordering details later this month.

The Notre Dame PSG



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 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



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.



Christmas Basket Raffle 2020 Winners:

Feeling Blue Basket – Tarah McGhghy

Pretty In Pink Basket – Tri Nguyen

Handsome & Handy Basket – Ashley Herman

Martha Mayhem/Lucky lady Basket – Laurette Norman

Busy Basket – Doreen Alfonso

Paws & Claws Basket – Michelle Braaten

Family Night Basket – Diana Brussow

Gift of Giving Basket – Michelle Taylor

It's All Good Basket – Karen Herman



Staying Connected to the Lily Pad



DO GOOD, LEND AND EXPECT NOTHING IN RETURN AND YOUR REWARD WILL BE GREAT.

Luke 6:35

Walk with Jesus our Living Hope