



NOTRE DAME SCHOOL

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March 2021 SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Message from the Principal

Important Monthly Dates



Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

With the arrival of March we look forward to warmer weather and longer spring days. March Break (March 15-26) will soon be upon us and we will have the opportunity to rejuvenate to successfully complete the end of the second term. Third term will begin on March 29th and report cards for second term will be sent out on April 9th. We encourage you to continue to celebrate your child's successes.

We started our liturgical season of Lent with Ash Wednesday on February 17th. During Lent, we are asked to make a pledge to ourselves and to God – an act of some form of sacrifice that will remind us of God's love for us. The three traditional pillars of Lenten observance are prayer, fasting and alms-giving. Scripture teaches us that there is more joy in giving than in receiving (Acts 20:35). The culmination of Lent is Easter Sunday where we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. As we begin the forty days of Lent, just like the time period Jesus spent in the desert and was faced with temptation, may we all reflect on what would be a worthy act for the Lenten season for the next forty days. May we have a blessed and holy Lenten journey that brings each member of the school community closer to Jesus in their hearts and in their daily lives.

Everything depends on the attitude in our hearts. God only wants us to change the things we do if it will make our hearts, souls, and minds overflow with love for him and for our neighbors. The Notre Dame school team would like to wish you all an enjoyable Spring Break and we look forward to seeing you all at the end of March.

God Bless, C. Richard



Tues. Mar. 2nd – PSG Zoom Meeting at 6:30pm

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



Fri. Mar. 5th – Gr.5 Cohort Prayer



Fri. Mar. 12th - Gr.4 Classroom Mass with Father Vener



Mar 12th – Last Day for Gr. 4 & 7 Foundation Skills Assessments (FSA)

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

Mon. Mar. 15th – March 26th – Spring Break – NO SCHOOL

Mon. Mar. 29th -First Day Back to school from Spring Break

The Season of Lent



News From the Parent Support Group (PSG)

Hello Notre Dame Families!

The **2021 Read-a-thon** is completed and we are SO pleased to share that the total for pledges raised was **\$14,733!!!** This is **AMAZING** news for the levelled reader program. We want to extend our most heartfelt and sincere thanks and appreciation for all the students, families, and teachers who participated and helped contribute to the success of this year's Read-a-thon. We could not have done it without you!

The top students and classes are as follows:

TOP PRIMARY STUDENT is **Jolene Weingart** with a total raised of **\$2028.00**

TOP INTERMEDIATE STUDENT was a **Grade 4 student** with a total raised of **\$1290.00**.

TOP PRIMARY CLASS was **GRADE TWO** with a total class raised of **\$6688.25**

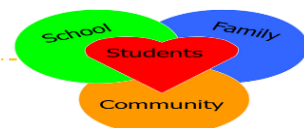
TOP INTERMEDIATE CLASS was **GRADE FOUR** with a total class raised of **\$2718.00**

Infinity Crafts has partnered with the NDPSG, and is hosting a fundraiser for some much needed improvements to the Library. They have put together some wonderful **CIY** (Create-it-Yourself) wooden craft kits that include everything you need (minus tools) to create the wooden keepsakes. They are great for your house or to give as gifts to family and friends! Kits are limited so be sure to return your orders in. Deadline to order is **March 8th**, with pick up being **March 12th** at the school. All proceeds will be directed to the School Library for Improvements.

Easter Purdy's Fundraiser has began! Feel free to share the website link with friends and family for some Easter goodies. All students who sell chocolates will have their name entered into a draw for 1 of 2 Easter Basket prizes. The deadline for all orders will be **March 12th, 2021**. Pickup will be on **March 30th, 2021** from 3:00-5:00pm at the gym doors. .

The next wave of Hot Lunch ordering will be out the first week of March. Please watch your emails for ordering information. We wanted to thank Beans&Barley for making the delicious cookies that the PSG handed out to all students and staff on Valentine's Day.

~The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.~ Eleanor Roosevelt



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. The Ministry of Education has worked with Public Health and the BCCDC to create a daily health check website and mobile app that students and parents can use to complete before heading to school in the morning (<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/covid-19-safe-schools#app>).

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.



Weather Conditions

Our weather has been a bit crazy lately! A reminder that all students are required to play outside at recess, and noon time, weather permitting. **When the temperature is -20 C or colder with the wind chill, students will be kept inside. Please ensure your child dresses warmly. There are also days that supervisors call for inside days due to icy conditions and student safety.** Please speak with your child about the importance of being prepared for outside activities each day and to wear appropriate warm winter clothing. 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

Crosswalk Safety: When having your child cross the road to meet you please encourage the students to use the crosswalk for student safety. **A safety concern is that students are stepping out in front of the school bus and oncoming cars cannot see the students until they are in front of them.** A crossing guard is paid and hired by the school for student safety.

Parking Lot Safety: **Thank you for your continued support in helping to keep our students safe!** The Notre Dame Staff Parking lot 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 with new families will be set up. Interviews started the week of January 18th and will continue as registrations come into the school.

Staying Connected to the Lily Pad



The proof of love is in the works. Where love exists, it works great things. But when it ceases to act, it ceases to exist.
- Pope St. Gregory the Great

Walk with Jesus our Living Hope