



NOTRE DAME SCHOOL

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May 2021 SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Message from the Principal



Dear Parent(s) & Guardian(s),
Wow, I can not believe spring is here and we only have two months of school left. It is a privilege to work alongside a dedicated staff, supportive parents and students who are respectful and compassionate. Every day at Notre Dame is a rewarding adventure.

I am impressed with the many volunteer hours that members of the School Council and Parent Support Group provide to us all. The activities the PSG sponsor have a very positive affect on school spirit at this time. We acknowledge the importance of their fundraising efforts and appreciate the way these funds are used to motivate students and promote learning.

The month of May, as we celebrate Mary our Mother, has been assigned the virtue of **Compassion**. The virtue of compassion enables us to share in the pain and suffering of other people. In a world where it is becoming particularly difficult to accept and understand other people's perspective may we practice the virtue of compassion. Remember that Jesus gave us a new commandment to love one another as he loved us. Compassion means caring: our friends will know that no matter what, they can depend on us. So when you're in your classroom, in the school yard or at home and in your neighbourhood, remember that showing compassion brings you closer to God. At Notre Dame we will be working on the virtue of compassion this month in the following ways; seeking to understand others by listening, forgiving others and celebrating God's love for creation. We also give thanks and praise to all mothers and grandmothers.

We are very proud of all of our students and their many accomplishments. May God Bless you during this beautiful month of our Dear Mother Mary.

God Bless, C. Richard



Important Monthly Dates

Thursday, May 6th – Wishbone Day

Dress in Yellow to support
Osteogenesis Imperfecta Day



Friday, May 7th - K Classroom Mass with Father Vener

Monday, May 10th – Class Photos (Outside)



Tuesday, May 11th – PSG Zoom Meeting at 6:30pm

Thursday, May 13th – Hat & Jeans Day bring a Toonie

Friday, May 14th – Gr. 7 Classroom Mass with Father Vener



Tuesday, May 18th – School Council Zoom Meeting at 6:30pm

Thursday, May 20th – Comfy Day, Wear sweatpants/sweatshirts/PJs for the day.

Friday, May 21st - Gr.6 Classroom Mass with Father Vener



Monday, May 24th –Victoria Day – No School



Friday, May 28th- Gr. 5 Classroom Mass with Father Vener



Monday, May 31st – Kindergarten Orientation Day



News From the Parent Support Group (PSG)

Hello Families of Notre Dame!

The next wave of Hot Lunch begins on May 11th and will run until June 17th. Thank you to all who supported the hot lunch program this year. We want to take a moment to thank the **Hot Lunch** team of volunteers. It has been a challenging year providing regular school programs in a safe way, and the coordinators and volunteers have been **EXCEPTIONAL**. The program would not be running if not for your hard work and dedication to the students. A **BIG THANK YOU** to the restaurants who participated this year. An additional thank you to the teachers and staff for your participation in ensuring protocols and safety were followed.

We wanted to announce the winners of the Easter Purdy's basket winners. There were two baskets awarded through a random draw of all students who returned orders. The two winners were Theo from Grade One and Ryder from Grade Two. Congratulations to them both.

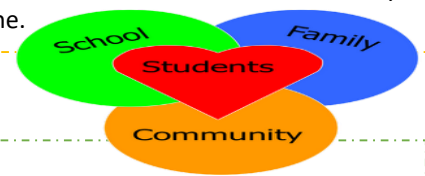
HUGE THANK YOU to all who families who participated in the various fundraising programs held in the previous months. The Make It Sow had a total of \$775.00 in sales. **THANK YOU** to those volunteers who put the time into developing, tracking, ordering and delivering product for the fundraising projects. Once again, without your volunteered time, we would not have these important programs taking place.

With spring now upon us, we wish you continued health, happiness and a wonderful final term of the school year. Thank you to our teachers, admin and support staff who work so hard to bring so much to our students, school and Notre Dame team.

The Notre Dame PSG

"Be somebody who makes everybody feel like somebody?"

Being a person who has the ability to **make** others **feel** good is a powerful thing that not only has a positive effect on others but can lead you to greater success and happiness than you could possibly imagine.



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>).

Hand Hygiene & Wear Masks

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. Following the Provincial COVID-19 Health and Safety Guidelines for K-12 Settings: "All students in Grades 4-12 are required to wear a mask or a face shield (in which case a non-medical mask should be worn in addition to the face shield) indoors in school and on school buses both within and outside of their learning group. Please ensure your child in Grades 4-7 has a face mask with them each school day. Exceptions are made for staff and students who cannot wear a mask for medical or other reasons; please contact Mrs. Richard if this pertains to you.



Dress Code

Nice weather has arrived and this brings warmer weather! A reminder that all students at Notre Dame School are to dress appropriately for school: students are not to wear short-shorts, or bare midriffs (i.e. belly shirts), grade 4, 5, 6, and 7: tank top straps should be a minimum of two-three fingers wide and fingertips must touch the fabric of shorts/skirts when their hands are naturally at their sides.

Please review Notre Dame's Parent Handbook for the full Dress Code guidelines with your child(ren).

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.



Registration for the 2021-22 School year is Ongoing

Notre Dame is still welcoming new registrations for the 2021-2022 school year. Any child who will be 5 years of age on or before December 31, 2021 may register for Kindergarten. The Registration Package for all grades is available on Notre Dame's school website and at the school office. Once the school receives the registration package from families, interviews with **new** families will be set up with the principal and our school priest, Father Vener.

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. **A safety concern is that students and parents are stepping out in front of the school bus. Oncoming cars can not see the students until they are in front of them.**

A crossing guard is paid and hired by the school for student safety. Please remind your child(re) the cross walk.

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.



School Safety Drills

We will continue to practice school safety drills over the next few months (e.g., fire drills, lock downs, etc.) Student safety is our first priority.



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