



St. John the Baptist School

October Newsletter

October Newsletter

Parents and Students,

What a busy and exciting first month it's been at St. John the Baptist School! We have welcomed many new staff and students and worked very hard at working together as a school community. Our staff and students have already been engaged in an incredible variety of learning activities. It is definitely a clear sign that St. John's continues to be a great place to learn and grow!



A big part of September at St. John's School involves the start of the extra-curricular season. We have several CYO sports teams running already. We have flag football, junior girls' basketball, and much more. Our cross country team had a wonderful wet day at Marydale Park. We had several students place in the top 20. Congratulations to all students who ran. You have represented our

school well. I am very proud of the dedication that St. John's athletes give to teams at our school. The St. John the Baptist CSC also met this month – the minutes from this meeting are available on the school website. Although the CSC contributes significantly to school events and fundraising endeavors, they also create opportunities for collaborative learning to occur between students and community members. If you would like to join us for a meeting and participate in this kind of work, our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 17th at 6pm. As the school year progresses, I want to emphasize that the most important focus of our school is student learning. Our school goals, division goals, and individual goals are all aimed at improving the learning environment and providing

students with the outstanding opportunities that they deserve. We invite parents to join us in this work and take the time to be highly engaged in what your children are learning. Specifically, we ask parents to:

- Ask specific questions about what their child is learning in school – focus on a specific subject, topic, or teacher to help them strengthen the connections to what they have learned.
- Read with their children. We will be initiating an at-home reading program for several grades, but ask that all parents take time to promote reading outside of the classroom.
- Stay informed about student accomplishments and challenges. Even though teachers will communicate frequently with parents, do not hesitate to ask questions about your child's learning or how to help them improve.
- Emphasize the need for respect. At the start of the year I spoke to students about respect being the most important thing in our building – we appreciate the support provided at home in helping us to encourage respectful behaviour.

Please continue to use the school website to stay up-to-date on things that are happening in our school, and do not hesitate to let me know if you have questions or concerns. It seems like September flew by, and I can't wait to see what the next 9 months have in store!

Have a great October!



SPOOK-A-THON October 31st

Our second annual Spook-a-thon is fast approaching. This will be our school fundraiser for the year. Students are encouraged to collect pledges while they dance the day

away in the gym with their peers. Great prizes to be won. Such as “Ultimate Video Gaming Party”, “Civvies and Pizza Party for the Class”, \$100 gift card from Toys’R’Us and much much more. Pledge envelopes will be distributed by October 9th and due back to the school by Oct 30th.



Grade 8 Fundraiser



The Grade 8 students will be selling popcorn for \$2.00 a bag beginning this Wednesday at lunch. All flavours will be available such as butter salt, caramel, white cheddar, ketchup, salt and vinegar, and dill pickle.

Federal Elections

The school will be a voting zone for the Federal Elections on Monday October 21st. Please ensure that you come to the London Street doors if you are picking up your child because the entrance will be locked to proceed through the school.



PARISH NEWS

We would like to invite parents and children to Sunday Mass at 9:30 a.m. at St. John the Baptist. Fr. Andrew is amazing, and the children’s liturgy is taught in a way that the children will understand.

We are also looking for Altar Servers, boys and girls, from grade 4 and up. Please get in touch with the Rectory at 905-544-2100.

Mass Times:
Sunday at 9:30 a.m.

Confirmation Volunteer Hours

Just a reminder to students in Gr. 7 and 8 that need to complete their volunteer hours for Confirmation. Classroom teachers have the forms for completion. Students need 10 hours of volunteer work, this includes, assisting at the parish events, walking in the HWCDSB Pilgrimage, and another volunteer experience completed.

Brownies and Sparks

Thursday evenings 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the Church Hall



School Photo Day

Monday, October 28th, is school photo day. Students will be in their school uniform for the photos.

Please ensure to bring your smiles that day. ☺

Confirmation Meeting

Just a reminder to parents of the grade 7 students who will be making their Confirmation this year that our parent meeting with Father Andrew is Thursday, October 10th at 7:30pm. We look forward to seeing you there.

